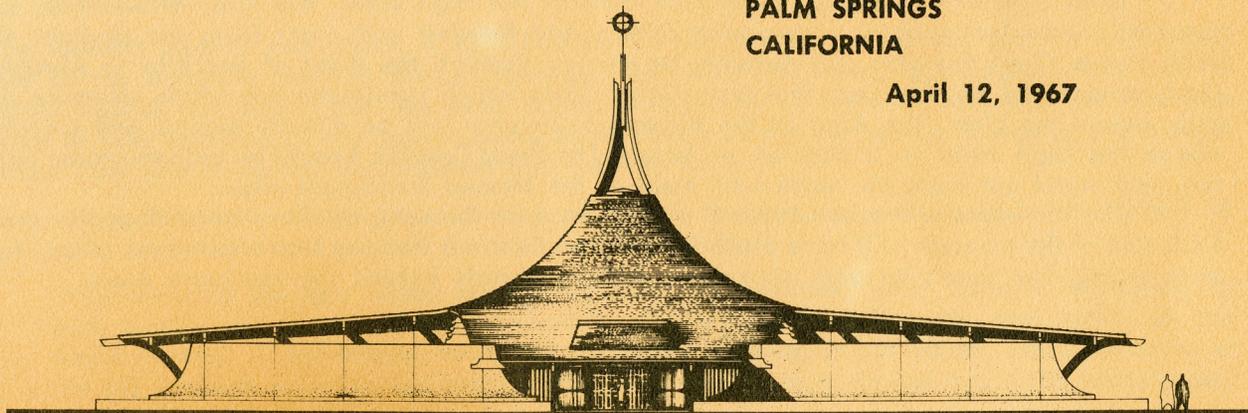


The New St. Theresa's

ST. THERESA'S CHURCH
EAST RAMON ROAD
PALM SPRINGS
CALIFORNIA

April 12, 1967



South Elevation (facing Ramon Road)

“THIS IS NONE OTHER THAN THE HOUSE OF GOD”

On Friday, Mar. 27, 1967, His Excellency, the Most Rev. Bishop Furey of San Diego, signed a contract with Mr. William Foster, a Palm Springs contractor, for the construction of the beautiful new St. Theresa's Church. The actual construction began on Monday, April 17. The church, designed by Mr. William F. Cody, FAIA, well-known local architect and member of St. Theresa's Parish, will be in contemporary design with a seating capacity of more than 900 people. Designed to be compatible with the environment of the Great Colorado Desert the church will be the focal point of the ten-acre parish facilities comprised also of convent, rectory, school and parish center. Recent revisions in the Divine Liturgy inspired by Vatican Council II are provided for in the structure.

The plan, cruciform in shape, provides easy access to the adjacent parking areas and will be surrounded by a curved gunnite concrete wall, 10' 6" high. This wall provides exterior court areas in four locations, to be used as outdoor shrines. One of these shrine areas will be dedicated to St. Theresa, the Little Flower of Jesus, and one to Our Lady of Fatima. Still another will comprise the "Garden of the Bible" and will so constitute a permanent object lesson in Bible History.

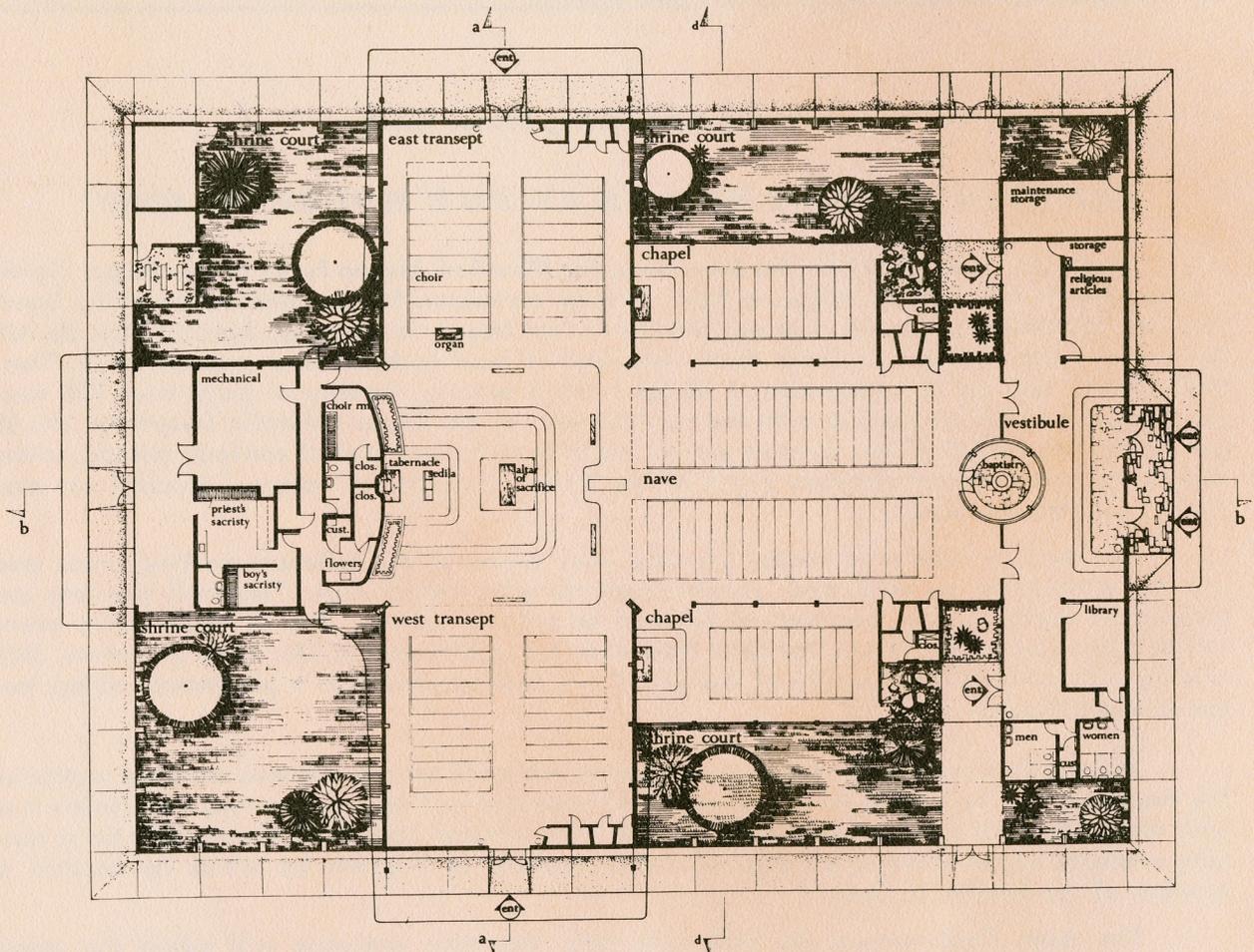
The parish library and religious goods store will open off the spacious entrance vestibule. The Baptistry will be placed near the main entrance and will be recessed two steps below the floor level. The position of the Baptistry, flooded with natural light from above, will be a constant reminder to the entering worshipper of the meaning of baptism by which he became a member of the Family of God.

The main Confessionals on each side near the main entrance will admit the priest from the side opposite the people so that the anonymity of the penitent will always be preserved. Between the two penitents doors of each confessional will be floor-to-ceiling mosaic designed by local artist, Mrs. Jeanne Anguiano, and executed by Mrs. Alice Scully, also a talented parishioner.

As one advances toward the High Altar you notice the two side chapels, one dedicated to Our Lady and reserved on Sundays for families with small children, the other dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The "Lady" Chapel will have a separate air-conditioning system, so presumably will normally be used for daily Mass. The Sacred Heart Chapel will be used, when necessary, as a Funeral Chapel where the remains of the deceased may be brought for the Rosary and left in that sacred place overnight and until the funeral on the following morning, should the family so wish.

One's eyes will inevitably be drawn towards the High Altar, the Altar of Sacrifice, surmounted by the tremendous, upsweeping ceiling and flooded with light from the skylight directly above. One's thoughts will certainly be carried through the Altar of Sacrifice to Almighty God represented by the beautiful iron Celtic Cross which surmounts the whole structure directly above the altar. The Altar of the Blessed Sacrament will be directly behind and elevated above the High Altar in a position of honor. The great Crucifix, backlit by hidden-source lighting, will stand out from the niche wall back of the Blessed Sacrament altar.

The transepts will accommodate a large part of the congregation, as well as the choir. Each side of the transept will have a confessional and shrines housing representations of our favorite saints. The Sacristies and workrooms will be directly behind the sanctuary area.



This Is the Floor Plan of the Church. Please turn sideways to get a good view . . .