

**100 Years**  
**St. Mary's Episcopal**  
**Church**  
**1902-2002**

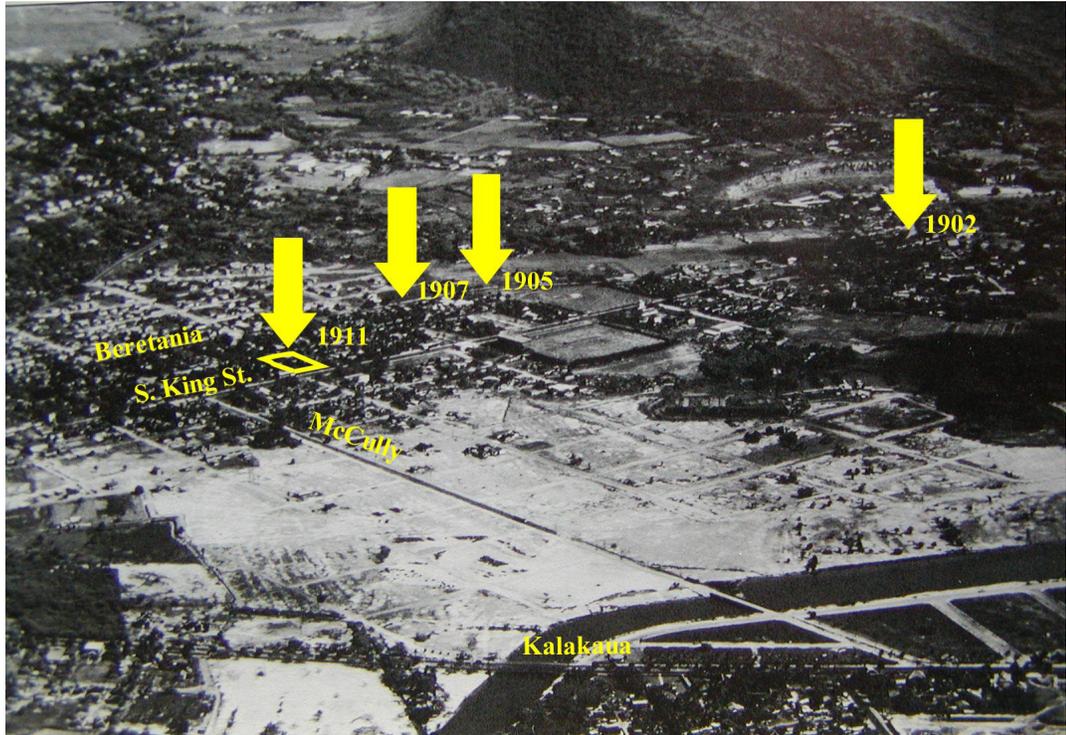
**Written by**  
**Shurei Hirozawa**  
**Research and editing by**  
**Jane Oki**  
**and**  
**Bernice Tawarahara**

Copyright © 2002  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
2062 S. King St.  
Honolulu, HI 96825

Printed by Printa-Quick, Honolulu, HI

# Contents

Acknowledgements .....	5
Foreword .....	7
Origins .....	9
1904.....	11
The Rev. Kong .....	13
1907-08 .....	15
A Vision for Mission: A day school .....	17
1911: Purchase of land .....	19
A chapel is built.....	21
Vision of Mission: A Home for children.....	23
1920's: expansion of the home.....	25
Death of Sara Chung .....	29
Depression years .....	29
War years and the end of orphanages.....	31
Annabelle Yamaguchi .....	33
Deaconess Sarah Frances Swinburne - 1899 - 1991 .....	37
Vision of congregational life: Bp. Kennedy .....	37
Congregational life:	
The Rev. Caton.....	39
1958: Laying the cornerstone .....	41
The Rev. Kaneshiro: 1950's .....	43
1960's: Dee Dee's 100th birthday.....	45
Exhibit: the calling of the first rector .....	46
The Rev. R. Duncan .....	47
Renewal of mission & Fr. McGlynn .....	51
Missionaries: Hugh & Chris .....	55
The Rev. Richard Lipka.....	56
Interim: Dcn. Erni .....	61
The Rev. John Longo .....	65
Interim .....	67
The Rev. Dale Hathaway.....	73
A Vision: John Okutani.....	77
Appendix A: Pastoral Leadership of St. Mary's.....	78
Appendix B: Memorials given to St. Mary's.....	80



*Picture of early McCully - Moiliili*

1902 - Miss Madge Maroni started a Sunday School in Moiliili, present site of Kuhio School

1906 - A move to Japanese Camp in Moiliili

1908 - A move to Beretania St.

1911 - The present site at 2062 S. King St.



---

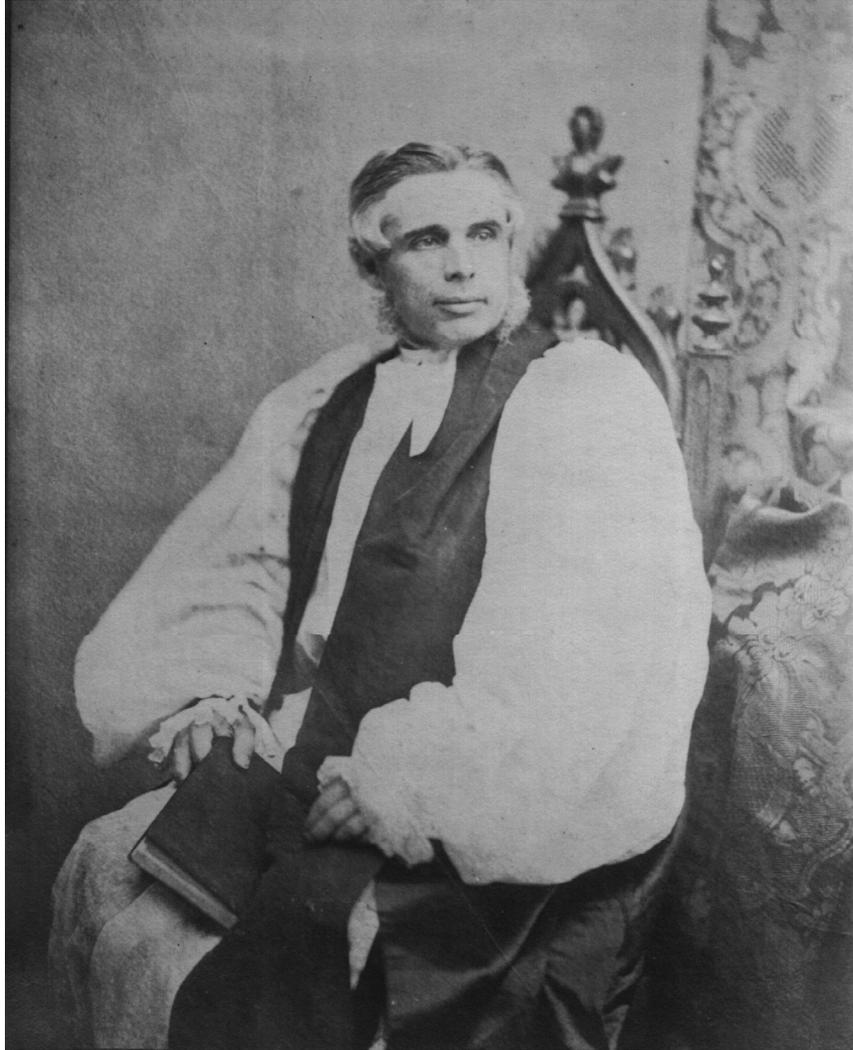
## Acknowledgements

### Centennial Committee

Bernice Tawarahara, Chair  
John Afong  
Pablo Cortez, Jr.  
Renee Hamatake  
Fr. Dale Hathaway  
Shurei Hirozawa  
Jan Horimoto  
Hugh Kaiser  
Lauri Lee  
Bill Mok  
Jane Oki  
Amy Ushijima  
Ruth Yoshioka

*Thanks and appreciation are extended to Fr. Dale for the preparation and organization*

*in getting our St. Mary's book ready for the press. Special thanks also for the contributions of Printa-Quick, owners Joe and Thelma Pang.*



*The Right Rev. Thomas Nettleship Staley, first bishop of Honolulu, for what was then called the "Reformed Catholic Church"*



---

## Foreword

The story of the first 75 years of the mission that became St Mary's Church— which had its beginning in December, 1902— is based largely on the research of the late Rev. Kenneth D. Perkins, who was appointed historiographer of the Diocese of Hawaii after his retirement from the active ministry. The detailed history of the early mission would have been lost but for the work of the Rev. Perkins. Father Perkins divided the mission that became a church into four time periods: the school, the home, the mission, and the parish. St. Mary's own records beginning in the 1940s provided farther details of the work that advanced the mission to parish status in 1971. The story of the past quarter century is almost entirely from the records of the church.

St Mary's Episcopal Church celebrated its Centennial in December, 2002, with the Rev. Dale Hathaway as its rector. The mission that became the parish of today started in humble circumstances in the heart of Moiliili. The early mission moved several times and expanded its work with each change of address. The final move was necessitated when the building in which the mission rented space was put up for sale. A piece of property on King Street became available in April, 1910. The address was posted as 2062 South King Street That became the church's permanent address after financing was arranged for the purchase of the land.

This centennial history was produced by the church's Centennial Publication Committee, consisting of Shurei Hirozawa, writer; Bernice Tawahara, Centennial Committee chair and researcher; Jane Oki, researcher; and Hugh Kaiser, Centennial video producer.



Miss Hilda Van Deerlin, St. Faith's School





## Origins

The history of St. Mary's Episcopal Church began in 1902, the year when the work of the Anglican Church in the Hawaiian Islands was turned over to the American Episcopal Church. This transfer followed by four years the annexation of Hawaii in 1900 by the United States when the islands attained the status of a Territory of the U.S.

The Right Reverend Henry B. Restarick arrived in Honolulu in 1902 to become the first Bishop of the Honolulu Missionary District following the transfer of jurisdiction to the American Episcopal Church. Preceding him was Bishop Alfred Willis, the last bishop of the Anglican Church in Hawaii.

Soon after Bishop Restarick's arrival. Miss Madge Maroni, a teacher in the Moiliili public school, went to see him to tell him about the afternoon Sunday School that she had been holding for her pupils. She had been doing this work voluntarily as a faithful church-woman. She asked the Bishop if he would appoint a replacement for her as she was unable to continue due to her advanced age and failing health. The Bishop agreed to appoint someone to continue the Sunday School as a

worthy mission in the Moiliili district.

As most of the students were Chinese, Bishop Restarick tapped the Rev. Kong Yin Tet of St. Peter's Mission to take over the Sunday School. With the help of his mother and his leading layman. Yap See Young, Father Tet opened the Sunday School in a vacant store in Moiliili, near the present day Kuhio School, on December 6, 1902.

When a Saturday sewing class was added to the Sunday School, Charlotte Teggart and Hilda Van Deerlin, both of St. Andrew's Priory School, volunteered to help with the expanded work in Moiliili. The mission came to be known as St. Mary's at the request of Miss Maroni, whose late sister was named Mary.



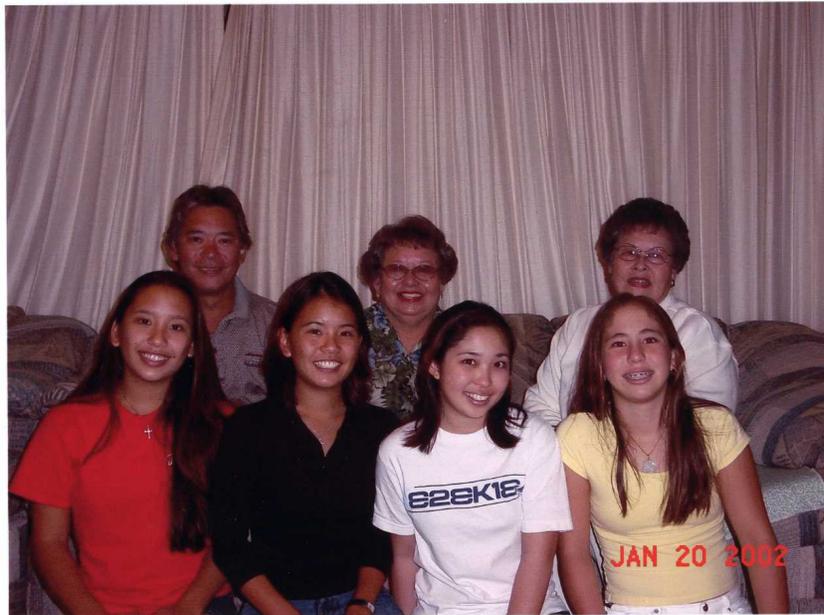
*The Rev. Kong Yin Tet of St. Peter's Mission*



MRS. KONG IN CALIFORNIA.



*Timothy L. S. Liu, an early convert*



*Three generations of his family are active members, Front: Julie and Jessie Afong, Ashlee and Dara Tawarahara Back: John Afong, Bernice Tawarahara, Amy Chong*



## 1904

In 1904, the bishop appointed Louise F. Folsom, matron at the Priory school, to take over the work at St. Mary's. With her adopted daughter Florence Blake, Mrs. Folsom went to live in a run down house near the Japanese Camp in Moiliili so as to be near her work.

Mrs. Folsom started a night school in September of that year after repeated requests by several Chinese young men. One of the first students was Timothy Len Shin Liu, who became a devoted churchman. Today, three generations of his family are active members of St. Mary's Church—his daughters, Bernice Tawarahara, Centennial chair, and Amy Chong; his grandson, John Afong, who has served several terms as junior warden, and his great granddaughters, Jessie, Ashlee, Julie and Dara, who have all served as acolytes and two as lectors.

Expansion of the work under Mrs. Folsom created needs that could not be fulfilled. To help this new work, the Anglican Church Chronicle carried appeals for help from the

established churches. One appeal was for \$3 for prayer books so as to conduct services in Chinese. Another request was for pledges for rent and a small sum to repair the organ as "the rats seem to be as musical as the rest of us." In January of 1905, the Chronicle carried appeals for larger quarters including children's chairs and clothing for children who were ashamed to attend Sunday School for lack of decent wear.

Mrs. Folsom transferred the work to a three-bedroom house in the Japanese Camp near where she lived. The owner removed most of the partitions to make the space large enough for the mission's activities. The kitchen was retained and gifts of chinaware and silverware were presented so that an occasional social event could be held. That August, the Junior Auxiliary of the Cathedral presented the mission with the children's chairs it needed. A children housekeepers' class was started.



*Institute for Human Services volunteers, Frances Liu Hill and Bernice Tawarahara working with other members of St. Mary's and Risen Lord churches.*



*Altar of Beretania Street Church*



*Beretania Street Church*



## The Rev. Kong

The Rev. Kong Yin Tet received his theology degree in China. He came to Hawaii to attend Iolani School to perfect his English language skills. After graduating, Bishop Willis ordained him at St. Andrew's Cathedral and appointed him rector at St. Peter's church, where he served 31 years until his death on August 1, 1927.

He helped to start St. Mary's Church in Honolulu, a church at Kula, Maui and a Chinese church in Kohala, Hawaii. The people of these congregations spoke little English, so sermons and services were conducted in the Hakka dialect. Years later, the Rev, Kong

asked Bishop Restarick to allow him to attend Columbia University in New York for further studies, as he wanted to keep up with the younger generation of doctors, lawyers and professional men.

St. Peter's church, according to his daughter Kathenne, was a lively church with a male choir, large Sunday school and a Chinese school taught by the Rev. Kong and his wife Chun Yuet Jin.

The Rev. Kong has been memorialized in a stained glass window at St. Peter's Church.



*Fr. Philip Fukao, assisting in the Beretania Street Church, before his ordination.  
Mrs. Folsom? at the organ.*



*Sarah Chung and Hilda "Dee Dee" Van Deerlin*



*Sara Chung, Hilda Van Deerlin, with children of the early school, next to Dee Dee is Sumiko Nishimura*



## 1907-08

Religious instruction began taking a more important activity as the number of Japanese and Hawaiian members grew. The Bishop appointed Philip Fukao of Trinity Mission, not yet ordained, to be in charge of the growing Japanese membership.

Philip Dodge, a lay reader of the Hawaiian Congregation at St. Andrew's Cathedral, began offering an evening service with his wife as organist. He used an Evening Prayer leaflet, which had the text in English paralleled by the words in Chinese and Japanese.

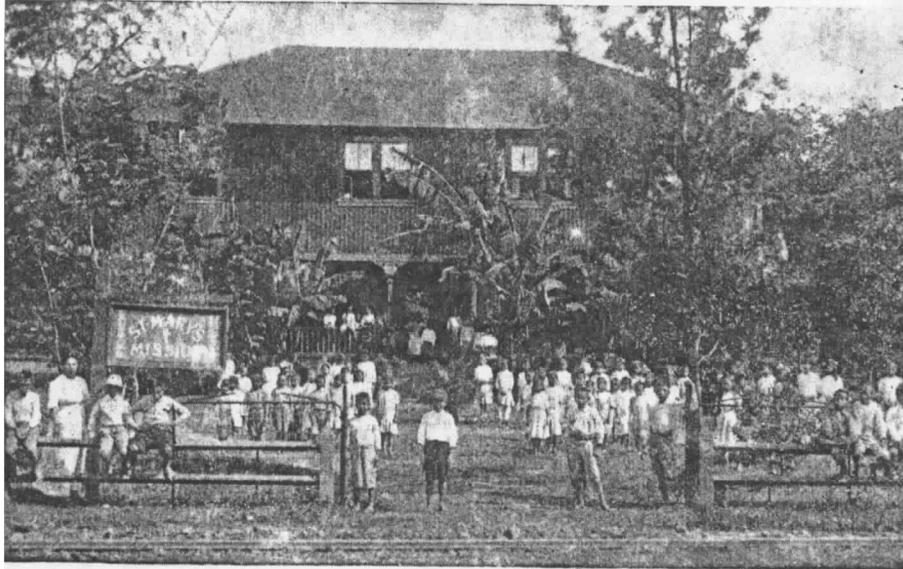
In 1907, Mr. Dodge transformed the space into a more church-like atmosphere by building an altar of koa wood with a triptych reredos. Later another reredos for the altar was presented to the mission by Mrs. C. Montague Cooke Jr., in memory of Alice Mackintosh. Mrs. Connelly of New York gave the altar cross, Mrs. B. L. Marx presented two brass vases, and Canon Potwine of St. Elizabeth's Mission donated the altar book. The font was presented by the

Babies' Branch of the Women's Auxiliary. Both reredos have long since disappeared but the altar has been in continuous use at St. Mary's. The furnishings were described at that time as "worthy of a more pretentious building than the plain little white-washed room..."

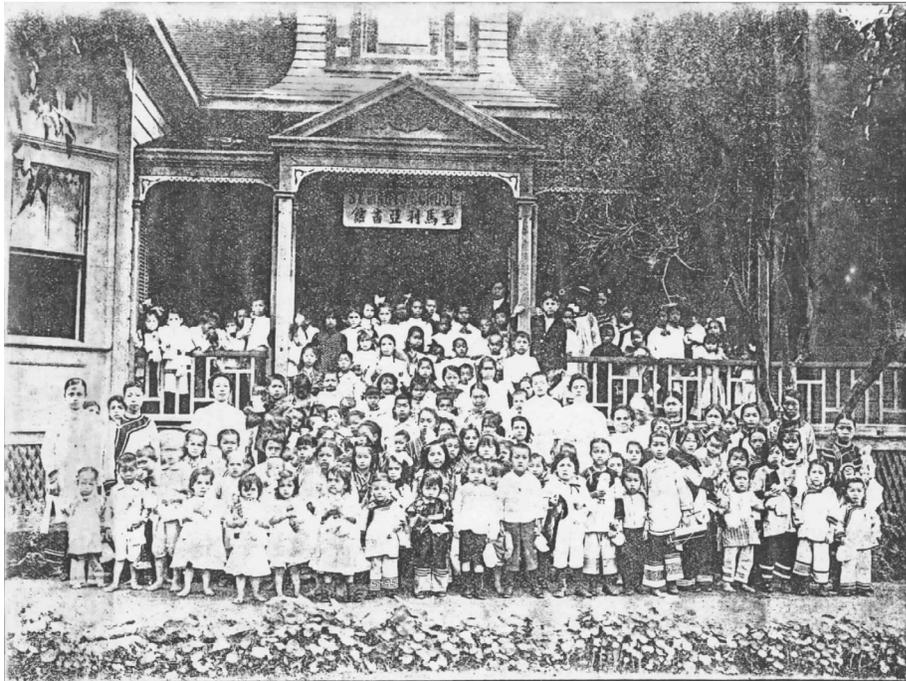
The departure of the Dodges in the latter part of 1907 was a great loss for the mission. But before they left, Mr. Dodge with Mrs. Folsom found a new location for the rapidly expanding work of St. Mary's. More important, he was able to raise sufficient funds to cover a year's rent for the dwelling they had secured on Beretania Street not too far from the previous location. The furnishings were brought over from the former building and rearranged in one of the rooms in the new premises. The room was fashioned into an attractive chapel. The other rooms in the building provided classroom space and living quarters for the staff.



*Children at Beretania St. Church chapel*



ST. MARY'S MISSION, MOILILI, HONOLULU



July

CHILDREN AT ST. MARY'S, 1910



---

## A Vision for Mission: A day school

A new program was started in July, 1907, in the form of a day school for Chinese girls whose conservative parents kept them out of public school. The humble beginning of this class was evident in the boxes, benches and chairs set out on the lanai. But the unique provision was the introduction of a school lunch which was made possible by friends contributing rice, meat and vegetables. The school was soon expanded when admission was opened to Japanese children. This was made possible by the contribution of a year's salary for a Japanese teacher-interpreter by the women's auxiliary of St. Clement's Church. The women's auxiliary also helped to remodel a shed on the grounds into a classroom in order to provide space for the pupils. The auxiliary, together with Mrs. Hoste Harrison, provided swings and see-saws for the playground.

Hilda Van Deerlin and Sara En Leong Chung were assigned to take over the work at St. Mary's in 1908 when Mrs. Folsom was transferred to the mission in Hilo, Hawaii. Both had been trained at St. Faith's School for Deaconesses in New York City. Although they worked very long and difficult hours, their salaries were small, being provided by the United Thank Offering. Miss Van Deerlin started a dispensary for women and girls as she had had hospital training on the Mainland before coming to Hawaii. Miss Chung's contribution was her ability to converse with the Chinese in their own language about matters of health and cleanliness. Their days were not only filled with their regular work but they received

unexpected calls day and night. The neighborhood soon considered St. Mary's as their second home. Children came hours before their classes or services started so they could play on the grounds. Bishop Restarick wrote of the two ladies, "They were always hopeful, never complaining, ever progressive."

By November of 1908, the activities included day and night schools and Sunday School with a total of 104 children enrolled. They were of Chinese, Japanese, Black, Portuguese and part-Hawaiian backgrounds.

Father Kong Yin Tet of St. Peter's and Philip Fukao of Holy Trinity were in charge of the religious program. They were assisted in their work by Yap See Young of St. Peter's and Samuel Lee of St. Elizabeth's. Also helping out were the Cathedral Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew and what was termed as a Japanese Biblewoman.

At about this time, there was a cholera epidemic in Honolulu and the government had St. Mary's dispense poi to people of the Moiliili area. Miss Van Deerlin reported that "the health authorities had barrels of poi sent to St. Mary's for distribution. As the poi fermented, the odor was unpleasant and the insects were numerous, but we had the only supply of poi in this area."



3.

Sara Chung went to live at St. Mary's.  
Sept. 12, 1908, a dispensary was added. In  
1911 Paloma Settlement took over the dispensary  
work at St. Mary's with weekly visits from doctors  
and nurse. In 1910 a large lot on King St.  
was bought for \$2800. Mrs Resteruck and Mrs  
Edward Davis with the help of the Woman's Auxiliary  
raised \$8000 for the Mission building which was  
dedicated May 20, 1912. The lower floor consisted  
of 3 school rooms, one of which was used as a Chapel.  
The upper floor was the living quarters for the workers.  
Mrs. Davis died shortly before the building was  
finished. Her husband General Edward Davis  
built the church in memory of his wife, Margaret. Her  
son, Colonel Alexander Davis gave the Silver Communion  
Set. Her daughter, Mrs. Harrison gave the Altar  
Cross. In 1917 Margaret VanDeerlin joined in the  
work at St. Mary's. She had a Kindergarten with  
many children in attendance. She also was Captain  
of a Girls' Scouts at St. Mary's.

Written by Hilda Van Deerlin



## 1911: Purchase of land

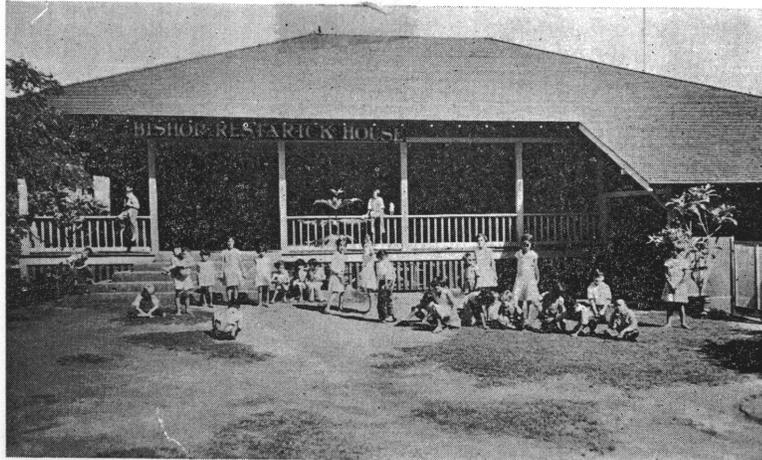
In the spring of 1909, St. Mary's learned that it had to move again for their rented property was going to be put up for sale. In April of the following year, a piece of property on King Street was placed on the market. It was about an acre in area and, if purchased, would provide for future expansion of the work in Moiliili-McCully. But more important, the mission would never have to move again if the land were purchased outright. Entering the picture at this point were Guy Buttolph and James Wakefield, described as leading laymen of the church at that time. They arranged for the purchase of the land for \$2,800. The address of this frontage on King Street was to become 2062 South, finally the permanent home address for St. Mary's Mission.

Several issues of the Hawaiian Church Chronicle in early 1911 reported on prospective plans for the construction of a mission house on the new property. The building would be able to accommodate the schools, services, staff living quarters, and a dispensary that would be maintained partially by a Palama Settlement nurse.

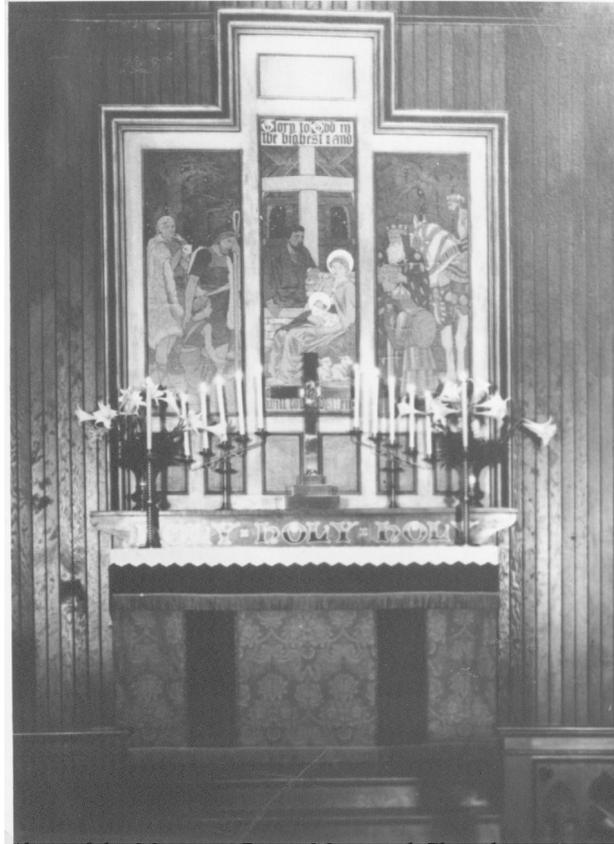
By September, 1911, more than \$2,000 had been raised, a sufficient amount to warrant the start of planning for the building. The

ground floor was to have three classrooms. The second floor was for staff quarters with a sitting room, a dining room, kitchen, and three bedrooms. The contract for the construction went to Lum King, who was described only as one of the first to be baptized at St. Elizabeth's Mission. He had to move a structure already on the property to the back, which was used as a temporary chapel.

Bishop Restarick laid the cornerstone on December, 1911 before a large gathering. Construction began soon after that consecration. By April of the following year, Hilda Van Deerlin and Sara En Leong Chung were able to move into their quarters. There was a third teacher that was provided by the Mary Castle Trust. The bishop dedicated St. Mary's Mission with a simple service on Pentecost, 1912. As guests there were Mrs. Folsom and Mrs. Kong, who had been active in the early work of the mission. As the guest of the Bishop was Alfred Willis of Tonga, who was the previous bishop of Honolulu.



THE BISHOP RESTARICK MEMORIAL HOUSE AT ST. MARY'S 1934



*Altar of the Margaret Davis Memorial Chapel*



*Children of St. Mary's Mission*



## A chapel is built

The mission now needed a suitable chapel to expand its work in the area. During the dedication of the Mission House, a suggestion was made that a chapel, when built, should be a memorial to the recently deceased Mrs. Margaret Davis, who with her husband, Brigadier General Edward Davis, had been instrumental in the development of Mission House. Construction of the chapel was completed on May 27, 1917. The first service of Holy Communion was celebrated on July 15 of that year. However, the consecration of the chapel did not take place for another two years.

The chapel for the most part was a gift of General Davis. Although the General did

not make any request as far as the chapel was concerned. Bishop Restarick wrote that "it is a matter of loving remembrance and justice that it should be a memorial to his wife. We wish it to be known as the Margaret Davis Memorial Chapel." The chapel was consecrated on May 29, 1919. Hoste Harrison, a son-in-law of the Davises read the Instrument of Donation. The Rev. Kong Yin Tet read the Sentence of Consecration, and Canon William Ault of the Cathedral was the preacher. Opening of the chapel freed a school classroom that had been used as the chapel.



*Margaret Davis Memorial Chapel*



*Baby clinic*



*Rear of St. Mary's Mission*