

**P R E S S R E L E A S E F R O M
L E G I S L A T O R J O H N M . K E N N E D Y , J R .**

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50TH BIRTHDAY FOR CHRIST THE KING PARISH

Oct 24- More than 200 parishioners of Christ the King gathered at the Thatched Cottage in Centerport to celebrate the 50 year Anniversary of ministry for the parish. Founded when Suffolk County was just beginning to experience the building boom, Bishop Walter Kellenberg of the Diocese of Rockville Centre authorized the creation of a first parish, Christ the King in Commack. In its earliest days, Father Foley, the founding pastor, offered Mass at the Mayfair Theatre (now Ciao Baby and Good Luck Chinese Restaurant).

The parish went on to thrive, opening an elementary school, auditorium and convent in July of 1963, just four years after the parish was first established. Over 1200 families had pledged building funds, and through their efforts created a place of learning for thousands of children.

On hand to celebrate this special occasion was Legislator John M. Kennedy, Jr. delivering a proclamation, to Father Joseph Daranzo, on the behalf of himself and Legislator Lynn Nowick. In his remarks, Legislator Kennedy commended the Parish for all its good works, and noted that he and his wife Leslie were married by Father Sheridan at Christ the King more than thirty years ago.

Proclamations and letters of congratulations were read by the moderator, and a spirited day was had by all. It truly was a blessed event.