

## 45 Years + in Santa Maria



*Le père Mark, josphite d'origine anglaise, parle de ses plus de 45 ans en Californie: 26 ans à St. Joseph High School à Santa Maria et 20 ans à la paroisse de St. Louis de Montfort.*

I am reminded of my years as a student at St. George's College, Weybridge, when the College was the only ministry available to Josephites in England. All of the priests and scholastics had spent all of their years of ministry in the one location.

I have been 45 years in Santa Maria. The big difference is that I spent 26 years at St. Joseph H.S. and am on my 20th in the parish of St. Louis de Montfort.

Spending many years teaching the same subjects in the same school means easier preparation of classes. But 20 years in the same parish makes the preparation of homilies more challenging.

Either way I don't think I could have been in a better location: wonderful people, very kind and generous in every way; mainly warm and dry weather with cool nights.

I have seen the area grow from about 30,000 to maybe 130,000.

Fr. Mark

