

## Mother's Day

It was during the Easter Season of 1988. My mother suggested that we visit our friend, Fr. Tom, who at the time was assigned to St. Mary Parish in Gilroy.

Fr. Tom proudly took us on a tour of the Church and its beautiful Easter environment.

Afterwards, we went up to Father's quarters in the rectory. To make herself comfortable, my mother slipped off her shoes. We had a lovely visit with Fr. Tom and his dog, Belle, yes, a beagle.

Time passed by quickly. Soon it was time to leave. My mother slipped back on her shoes. I noticed she was having trouble fastening the straps. She was still in the process of recovering from breast cancer surgery. I asked her if she would like me to help her. She sheepishly nodded yes.

This was a simple task for me. However, as I knelt before my mother fastening the straps of her shoes, I began to think of the many ways during the years she had cared for me, how, if you will, she "had fastened" the straps of my shoes.

That moment became a very sacred moment for me. One I shall never forget.

Happy Mother's Day, mama. I love you.

Happy Mother's Day to you all. You will have a very special place in my Masses and prayers.

Fr. Manny