

## **Our Lady of Good Counsel**

RN: I'm a catholic. And OLGC School was there, but no church. And the idea was to build a church. So a bunch of us got together and we raised money and so on. And Vienna was part of the Bishop of Richmond's territory. So our bishop was from Richmond. That's not true now. There's a bishop in Northern Virginia. But, we thought we did pretty well as far as raising money was concerned. And the bishop comes down, and he tears us apart! He said, "why do you need a bell tower in your church? The bell from the school can be heard." And he had a couple young guys with him, with computers. "How many people can't hear the schoolbell, after on the town?" No, so out comes the bell tower. He said, "what do you mean you need eight hundred people to be able to sit in at mass? If you have five hundred people that sit in a mass, you gotta have two more masses." And that was the conversation we had.

SA: When was this?

RN: What?

SA: When was this?

DS: Must've been mid-sixties or something, what do you think?

RN: I would say either the late sixties or the early seventies.

SA: They came with computers?

DS: Well...

RN: A couple of them were priests - were already scientists. And they had little computers -

DS: Maybe calculators or something.

RN: Right! They had calculators, not a computer.

DS: Probably a better description, yeah.

SA: But what was your involvement? Were you asking for the bell towers?

RN: Well, I was on committee to build it. And I also built the - what's now the community center at the same time.

DS: Oh, that's interesting.

SA: Did you join the committee as soon as you got to Vienna?

RN: I'm not sure when I got there, but I go onto it very quickly.

SA: So you were pretty involved right from the beginning.

RN: Yeah, I was involved right from the beginning. My office was in Watergate, and when I first started to commute from Vienna to Watergate, you could do it in twenty minutes. [Laughs]. At the end, it took over an hour! Tyson's Corner with Route 7 and 123, there was a gasoline station there! [Laughs]. No nothing.