

3-1-70

# It's Official: Holy Cross To Close

*Schools - Holy Cross - School*

Holy Cross High School will close at the end of the current term.

The decision by the Most Rev. Harry A. Clinch, bishop of Monterey, was announced Saturday night in a pastoral letter read at masses in the seven parishes served by the school.

The letter also will be read at today's services.

In the letter, Bishop Clinch reviewed the events of the past two months, including his statement of Jan. 28 and the recent meeting of the Diocesan Board of Education in Salinas.

Following that meeting, the board recommended that Holy Cross be closed.

Bishop Clinch stated he found it "painfully necessary to concur" in the recommendation.

Four factors were cited as being decisive, including the "impossibility to meet the mounting subsidy" required to keep the school functioning, the uncertainty of future academic accreditation due to inadequate facilities, the loss of three full-time and one part-time teaching sisters next year, and the proposed increase in sisters' salaries throughout the state.

He said that the question of continuing to provide instruction at the ninth grade level will be determined by local church authorities and the local lay board of education.

Bishop Clinch reiterated his statement of Jan. 28 that the diocese would continue to provide religious instruction for high school students through a newly-established office for that purpose.