



Dear Parishioners,

In last week's Pastor's Corner, I talked briefly about our trip to Haiti earlier this month. Over the next couple of weeks, I'd like to provide a little more detail about our journey of presence to the poor.

### **BEING PRESENT TO THE POOR – PART I “The Journey Begins”**

*“Standing with the poor, being present to the poor, seeing the world from the perspective of the poor, working with the poor, advocating for the poor, this is essential to being a follower of Christ. Christians stand with the poor because God stands with the poor.”* (J Milburn Thompson, Justice and Peace: A Christian Primer p 201)

For 5 days, 18 of us literally stood with the poor, in their world, working side by side, seeing Christ in each other. It was a journey that brought another Nativity group to Haiti, our 15<sup>th</sup> Operation Starfish pilgrimage trip since 1999. This group included more young people than any previous mission trip. Our ages ranged from 19 to 76. While some of us “older folks” showed fatigue after several hours of serving meals in a prison, we had no trouble dancing to the drums in a “Conga Line” at dinner.

Indeed, aching muscles and hard work went hand in hand with joy and laughter. Hurting hearts and stinging tears were followed by celebration and warm hugs. *“Haiti is a land of contradiction,”* said one traveler. Our senses and emotions were on a see-saw all week long.

**DAY ONE** ... On Monday, June 28, 2010, we started our day at Food For The Poor Inc. (FFP) in Coconut Creek, Florida. CEO Robin Mahfood and Executive Director Angel Aloma briefed us on conditions in Haiti, we met with staff and toured FFP's headquarters and warehouse. Lauren Mausolf recalls, *“While there, we met a different group who would be traveling to Jamaica. This group was the family and close friends of Stephanie Crispinelli, a Lynn University student who died in the Hotel Montana during the January 12th earthquake. Although she died in Haiti, her heart belonged to the people in Jamaica; and so with FFP's help, they were traveling there to build a school in her honor. As I sat there looking at this group of 30+ people, most of them quite young, I recognized their painful situation. To lose somebody you love tragically, unexpectedly, and violently is something you never get over.”* That night most of us were in bed early – we had a 3:30 a.m. wake-up call.

**DAY TWO** ... Leaving the hotel at 4:30 a.m. was not an easy task. Leaving the U.S. for the poorest country in the western hemisphere filled us with anxiety. By 6:45 a.m. we were airborne and already adjusting to the sense that we were strangers. Haitians and Haitian-Americans filled the plane, with a scattering of mission groups like ours. One woman was wearing 6 hats stacked neatly on her head – taking them home to sell in the street markets.

Toussaint L'Ouverture International Airport in Port-au-Prince was severely damaged by the earthquake. The control tower is abandoned; air traffic control is handled by the U.S. Air Force from a temporary facility near the runway. The terminal building cannot be used, so temporary tented structures handle passengers and baggage. We were met by FFP's Haiti staff and a security team, who got us safely onto a bus for the short trip to FFP's Port-au-Prince complex.

Driving through the city we were shocked by the piles of rubble everywhere. Streets were blocked, buildings partially collapsed, bodies still buried deeply under concrete. *“Where are the bulldozers and dump trucks?”* we asked. Even more disappointing were the tent cities – thousands of blue and white tents covering every open space, park, and even some road medians. According to ABC News, 2 million Haitians remain homeless 6 months after the earthquake.

Even though many FFP employees suffered terrible losses, and the complex was damaged, they were back to work a day after the quake and had the main feeding center up and running within a couple of days. Some 15,000 people are fed from the facility every day. We pitched in and served rice, beans and stew to hungry families who brought pails and other containers to be filled. We also heard from Bernard Chauvet, who manages FFP's fishing village program, and FFP engineer Clement Belizaire, as they told their personal stories of experiencing the "sinister," as Haitians call the earthquake.

At FFP's Haiti office, we also met with Fr. Jean Printemp, the parish priest at Nativity Village at Merger, Nativity's first village development. We were unable to go to the village because of security concerns – it is very close to Cite Soleil, a large slum where violence is on the increase. Last November, we visited this village and went into the slum, but during the January earthquake some 5,000 prisoners escaped and many have set up gangs in Cite Soleil. In the midst of this unsettled situation, Fr. Printemps is trying to provide trauma counseling and activities for more than 800 children. Many are still afraid to sleep indoors, fearing another quake. Dr. Sara Amodio, a former Nativity parishioner, has produced a Creole teachers guide and student workbook to assist with post-trauma stress, and we were able to provide this resource to Fr. Printemps, along with some funding assistance.

Our next stop today was the Little Children of Jesus Home in Santo. The staff at this orphanage cares for profoundly physically and mentally handicapped children. Nativity had rebuilt this orphanage as an Operation Starfish project in 2000, following a fire. It was subsequently relocated and expanded.

Last November, parishioner Linda Lenertz met a 12-year-old blind boy here. He was playing an old broken keyboard during mass. Linda was moved by this boy's talent and determination and she worked with FFP to purchase a new Yamaha keyboard and sound system. She also searched for Braille sheet music – not easy to find. As we entered the pavilion at the orphanage, Linda's friend started playing a beautiful Andrea Bocelli song on his new keyboard. There wasn't a dry eye in our group.

We had arrived at lunchtime, so everyone took up bowls and spoons and fed the children. Fans and new kitchen equipment, courtesy of Fr. Sikora Council 7992, K of C, were making the task of feeding the children easier. Lauren Mausolf commented on the Little Children of Jesus Home, *"This place is an oasis – kids have beds, clothing, food, sanitation, a safe place to live, people who care about them... you could see Christ in there. Not only in the kids themselves, but in the people who cared for them."*

By late afternoon, we were exhausted, but we still had another flight to catch. We took a small chartered turboprop to Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second largest city. There, we were met by Fr. Duken Augustin, Food For The Poor's liaison for northern Haiti. It was a wonderful reunion for Fr. Martin ("big brother") and Fr. Duken ("little brother"), and for all of us who have known and worked with Fr. Duken over the years.

#### **NEXT WEEK:**

#### **BEING PRESENT TO THE POOR – PART II "Breaking The Shackles of Poverty"**


Have a nice week!



The sign of a good heart is a thoughtful countenance.  
(Sir 13: 25a)



Remember to pray for our military in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world and their families.

Nativity's Charismatic Love is Given Prayer Group meets every Thursday night from 7:30 to 9:00 pm in the All Purpose Room for an evening of Spirit-filled faith sharing, praise and worship and prayer in a Christ-centered community. For more information call Anne Rother at 703-644-1278. 

#### *Thought for the Week*

Lord, sow the seeds of faith in me, no matter what field I'm in.

Julia DiSalvo  
Living Faith



Monday, July 19

Ann Murgia.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Tuesday, July 20

Doctor Will Manuel.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Wednesday, July 21

Souls in Purgatory..... 7:30am - Fr. Martin

Thursday July 22

Thomas Condon.....7:30am - Fr. Korpi

Friday, July 23

Federico V. Recio.....7:30am - Fr. Korpi

Saturday, July 24

Teresina Fazaker Ley.....9:00am - Fr. Korpi

Parishioners.....5:00pm - Fr. Martin

Spanish Mass.....7:00pm - Fr. Wilson

Sunday, July 25

Laura Williams.....7:30am - Fr. Wilson

Special Intention for

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hay.....9:00am - Fr. Korpi

Engracio Batac.....11:00am - Fr. Korpi

Bonifacia Lopez Baños..... 12:45pm - Fr. Wilson



**REMINDER: WOW!! IT'S ALMOST HERE!!**

Nativity's Annual Yard Sale for Charity  
Saturday, July 24, 2010, 9 AM - 3 PM

Please donate your no-longer needed and usable treasures and help Nativity Parish and the Knights of Columbus in their many charitable efforts. Final Collections at Parish Hall, Sunday, July 18, 2 - 5 PM, and Monday - Thursday, July 19 - 22, 5:30 - 9 PM

FOR INFORMATION CALL 703-919-6549 OR  
703-451-3802

FURNITURE PICK-UP ONLY: 703-866-5217  
Need info flyer on what is acceptable/unacceptable?  
Email [GK7992@VAKOFC.ORG](mailto:GK7992@VAKOFC.ORG) and place  
"KOC Flyer Request" in subject line



**The Altar Flowers this week are**  
In Loving Memory of  
Gabrielle and Zachary Caussin Pike  
From  
Judy Fenaro

**PRO-LIFE CORNER**

These little Pro-Life thoughts usually are kept to about 70 words or less. An average time to read them and think about their message takes about one minute. During that one minute, over two more babies have been killed from abortions. One baby dies every 24 seconds in this country from surgical abortion. **Choose life Today. Choose Life Tomorrow. Pray Always. We Must Do No Less.**



The **GABRIEL PROJECT** supports women who are facing a crisis pregnancy and need help. Contact 1-866-444-3553 or [gabrielproject@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:gabrielproject@arlingtondiocese.org). You are not alone! (Gabriel Project is a crisis pregnancy program open to all and sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Arlington.)

**Pro-Life Rosary** - A prayerful, peaceful and public gathering of friends and neighbors who pray the rosary for one hour takes place on Saturdays at 10:00 AM on Rolling Road across from Kings Park SC Giant Food. Please call Jane Hamilton, 703-646-5051, for more info.

Pregnancy Resource Centers Phone Numbers:  
Catholic Charities National: 1-800-CARE-002  
Catholic Charities Local: 703-425-0100  
A Woman's Choice: 703-538-4305



**Don't delay!! Call 703-455-0372 to volunteer. Nativity's Religious Education Program needs teachers and assistants.** Some classes are without any

teachers, leaving Nativity's children without instruction. Please consider volunteering and helping the children of Nativity grow in their faith.

Students enrolled **by** September 7, begin religious education classes the week of September 19.

Students enrolled **after** September 7, begin religious education classes the week of September 26.

To register turn in a completed student registration form to the Religious Education Office along with payment and a student's baptism certificate (unless it has been previously submitted). Class placement is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Forms are available in the Religious Education Office, on the community board in the church vestibule, or at [www.edu.nativityburke.org](http://www.edu.nativityburke.org); on the Nativity CCD tab click on Student Registration.

**FOUR THINGS TO THINK ABOUT**

The stone after the throw.  
The word after it's said.  
The occasion after it's missed.  
The time after it's gone.  
Those who trust in the Lord shall soar with eagles wings.

Found in the Bulletin of St. Clement Church, Dover, NJ

**The “Behind the Scene” Ministers**

Throughout these weeks of summer, we are taking a closer look at various ministries which are so much a part of our baptismal calling and our church community. Some, like ushers, musicians, Eucharistic ministers, are very visible each week, others work quietly behind the scenes. This week we will take closer look at a ministry that is mostly unnoticed, but whose work is extremely important, the Altar/sacristy ministry. The care of the sanctuary and the altar linens used at Mass is a ministry that has come down through the centuries. Always there were the women in the convents who made, washed, and mended the linens. These hard working prayerful individuals devoted their lives to taking care of the clergy vestments and special linens. Now times have changed and while there still are convents where vestments and altar linens are made, the daily care of these items in parishes is done by members of the Altar Guild or the Altar Society. Each week the linens used at Mass are taken home, washed, ironed, and then returned to be used at liturgical services here in the parish. And so quietly and efficiently the work of the church goes on. Just like centuries ago, many find this to be an excellent opportunity for prayer and meditation. This ministry is open to all parishioners for whom ironing is not a chore. Our thanks to all who give so generously of their time and talents in this work.



**JustFaith Questions**

When was the last time you had an experience that was “soul satisfying”? If you are looking to encounter your faith in a way that challenges you and how you are to live as a Christian in today’s world, then **JustFaith** may be the program for you. For thirty weeks you journey with other seekers using books, videos, conversation and encounters with those who live at the margins of society. The program runs from September to May. Information packets are available on the top shelf of the table between the doors on the left as you exit the lobby and on the “Community Outreach” page of the parish website:

<http://www.nativityburke.org/parish/CommunityOutreach.php>

“Mary has chosen the better part.” Does a life of prayer and service as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life attract you? Call Father Brian Bashista 703-841-2514 or write

[b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org)

Please keep the CYO in your prayers this week as we travel to Greensboro, NC for workcamp! We are all very excited. We would like to thank everyone for all of the generous donations and prayers that we have received leading up to workcamp. We are proud to represent Nativity and each one of you as we go out to serve Our Lord.

**THE WEEK AHEAD  
IN OUR PARISH**

**Sunday, July 18**

2:00 pm.....Baptism (CH)  
2:00 to 5:00 pm.....KofC Yard Sale Collection (PH)

**Monday, July 19**

5:30 to 9:00 pm.....KofC Yard Sale Collection (PH)  
8:00 pm.....AA Meeting (APR)

**Tuesday, July 20**

9:30 am.....Bible Study (APR)  
5:30 to 9:00 pm.....KofC Yard Sale Collection (PH)

**Wednesday, July 21**

5:30 to 9:00 pm.....KofC Yard Sale Collection (PH)  
7:00 pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group (SC)  
7:00 pm.....Knights of Columbus (PH)  
7:30 pm.....Legion of Mary (APR)

**Thursday, July 22**

9:30 am.....Craft Group (APR)  
5:30 pm to 9:00 pm.....KofC Yard Sale Collection (PH)  
7:30 pm.....Prayer Group (APR)  
7:30 pm.....Venture Crew (Room 4)

**Friday, July 23**

5:30 pm to 9:00 pm.....KofC Yard Sale Collection (PH)

**Saturday, July 24**

**9:00 am.....Yard Sale (PH)**

**PRIME TIME SINGLES - EVENTS FOR AUGUST**

**Every Monday...**10:00am join a small group for social Golf at the Par 3 Burke Lake Golf Course, call Rose at 703-644-4841 (except holidays)  
**Sunday, August 1...**3:30pm, Movie & Dinner in Kingstowne, call Mary 703-912-6441  
**Saturday, August 7...**7:00pm, Pizza and a DVR movie at a home in Arlington, call Bob 703-549-7366  
**Sunday, August 8...**9:15am, Mass and Brunch at Ft. Belvoir, call Celeste 703-560-8547  
**Saturday, August 14...**6:30pm, Dinner and possibly Mini-Golf in Kingstowne, call Tom 703-313-8388  
**Sunday, August 15...**5:00pm, Dinner and Dance at the Elks Lodge in Fairfax, call Delores 703-391-8426  
**Saturday, August 21...**5:00pm, Game Night and Pizza at a home in Arlington, call Andy 703-820-5156  
**Saturday, August 28...**4:30pm, feed the Homeless at Christ House in Alexandria, call Diane 703-941-4350  
**Sunday, August 29...**5:30pm, Dinner at Red Lobster in Alexandria, call Tom 703-313-8388  
Anyone interested in PTSC may call Jack at 703-975-8665 for more information.

**SECCIÓN en ESPAÑOL**

Actividades de la Comunidad Hispana  
Iglesia de la Natividad 6400 Nativity Lane-Burke, VA 22015  
Telephone 703-455-2400 Rev. Cedric Wilson

**SANTA MISA EN ESPAÑOL:** Todos los sábados a las 7:00pm

**CONFESIONES:** Los sábados antes de la Santa Misa de.  
6:15pm a 6:55pm

**Catequesis Para niños y Jóvenes:** Sábados de 5:00pm a 6:45pm Informes: 703-455-2400, ext 116 o Sr. Ponciano 202-262-6659  
**Catequesis Para niños y Jóvenes:** Inscripciones para el año escolar septiembre 2010 a mayo 2011 están abiertas.

**Organización Católica Grupo de Jóvenes (CYO) de Nativity**

**Ofrece Escuela Bíblica de verano**

Pre-escolar (edades 3-5) a Grados 4to (5to y 6to grados se les acepta como colaboradores) Junio 28, 2010 – Julio 2, 2010  
9 a.m. a 12:30 p.m. – Lunes a Viernes. **Costo:** \$60 por niño y hermanos. Los colaboradores de 5to y 6to \$30 por cada uno  
Formulario de Inscripción están disponibles en la oficina de la Iglesia y en la página de web de la Iglesia ([nativityburke.org](http://nativityburke.org))

**Catequesis para adultos:** Bautismo, Comunión, y Confirmación, Sábados de 5:15pm a 6:15pm **Contacto:** Tito Pinto 703-912-9220

**Charla para el Bautismo:** Primer Miércoles del mes 7:30pm

**Sacramento del Bautismo:** Tercer Sábado del mes. 1:30pm

**Grupo de Oración:** Miércoles 7:00pm a 9:00pm. Están todos invitados. Marco Camacho 703-968-5585

**Grupo de Liderazgo Juvenil reuniones:** Domingo 11:00am-1:00pm aula 5 **Contacto:** Nelson Pineda 571-234-3664

**Reunión del Grupo de los Jóvenes Sébados:** a partir de las 5:00pm aula 4. **contacto:** Juan Carlos Chávez 703-473-6941

**Solidaridad Cristiana:** Mayor información Llamar a Mirian Ponciano 703-913-5494.

**Para mas información:** María Guevara 703-444-5716

**Anuncios para el boletín:** debe ser presentado por escrito el viernes a las 9 de la mañana (10 días antes de su publicación).

**Pueden enviar entradas por correo electrónico a [nativitybulletin@aol.com](mailto:nativitybulletin@aol.com)**

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**PENSAMIENTO PARA EL DÍA**

**Una mejor acogida** 18 de julio...16° Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

María ha elegido la mejor parte, que no le será quitada. Lucas 10:42

TRADICIONALMENTE, Marta y María han simbolizado la acción y la contemplación. Marta, la hermana ocupada, representa el servicio, mientras que María escucha en silencio. Marta, sin embargo, no es solo “activa”, sino también resentida. Ella cumple con su deber de ofrecer hospitalidad, pero lo lleva como una carga y le hace saber a todos que está sobrepasada de trabajo. La imaginamos quejándose mientras trabaja, poniendo una nube negra sobre los demás y hasta agrandando la comida

María, en cambio, es activa al escuchar. Su hospitalidad consiste en brindar su atención. No es que desatendiera las necesidades de su invitado, sino que tomaba el papel de discípulo y abría su corazón a cada palabra.

La hospitalidad es importante, pero exige más que un mero alimentar a los invitados. La idea que Marta tiene de la hospitalidad se limita a las tareas domésticas. María, en cambio, sabe que recibir a su Señor con bondadosa atención es la mejor acogida.

*Ven, Señor; quédate con nosotros para que podamos acogerte con amor.*

*Elizabeth-Anne Stewart*

**CURSO DE VERANO DE CATEQUESIS**

El Consejo de Catequesis del Apostolado Hispano les invita a los retiros de Catequesis

**Curso Básico:** 2-6 de agosto, **Costo** \$40.00  
**“El llamado de Dios a servir”**

**Lugar:** Saint Charles Borromeo Catholic Church  
3304 Washington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201

**Hora:** 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Impartido por: Rev. Luis Frernando Franco

**Curso Avanzado:** 9-13 de agosto, **Costo** \$40.00  
**“El Católico en la sociedad actual”**

**Lugar:** Saint Bernadette Catholic Church  
7600 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, VA 22152

**Hora:** 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Impartido por: St. Joaquín A. Trejo, Director Asociado,  
Prog./Entrenamiento, Ofic. Del Ministerio Juvenil, CYO  
de la Arquidiócesis de Washington..