



Dear Parishioners,

This week, I'm continuing to describe our journey to Haiti earlier this month. During the past week, the news covered the 6-month anniversary of the Haiti earthquake. Most reports echoed what we found in Port-au-Prince: piles of rubble still in the streets, and 1.3 million people trying to survive in tent cities. According to CNN, one of the successes has been the delivery of food and water and the construction of housing by Food For The Poor. At least we know where our money has gone when we see first hand the results of Food For The Poor's work in Haiti. Our Operation Starfish funds, administered by Food For The Poor, are making a difference in both earthquake relief and poverty reduction.

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

In last week's Pastor's Corner, I described our visit to Food For The Poor on Monday and our long day of travel on Tuesday, including much of the day spent in earthquake-ravaged Port-au-Prince. I talked about feeding the handicapped children at the Little Children of Jesus Home, and the new keyboard played by a 12-year-old blind child. We then flew to Cap-Haitien, on Haiti's north coast. There, we had a reflection meeting at which Cynde Mausolf handed out “prayer hearts.” On these little quilted hearts was written “*Made for YOU with LOVE and a prayer by St. Mark's, Springfield, VA.*” Our Lutheran friends at St. Mark's were our prayer partners this week. Operation Starfish has renewed the spirit of ecumenism in our community. Following dinner and a good night's sleep, we rose on Wednesday to begin a full day of activating our prayers for the poor.

**DAY THREE...** We started the day at the Nativity Tilapia Farm at Petit Anse. Rippling muscles and rippling water combined to produce a net full of tilapia – some as long as 14” – as one of the 5 ponds was harvested by hand-dragging the net across its 100' diameter. Following the fish harvest, we planted containers with fruit tree seeds to start the nursery process for providing fruit trees to our housing villages.

From Petit-Anse, we drove back to Cap-Haitien, where Fr. Duken had arranged a prisoner release. Nativity parishioners had visited this prison last November for the first time, and today we returned to feed the 500+ men, women and children (yes, there are children in this jail!). We also distributed shoes and toiletry kits to all of them. It was 3 solid hours of hard work in 100 degree heat and no A/C!!! The highlight of the visit was our ability to release 7 non-violent offenders. One man had taken a small refrigerator that had fallen off a truck, and he was locked up for 8 months waiting to have his case heard. Others had stolen food for their hungry families. Fr. Duken and Fr. Martin gave these men a pep talk and a hug; we fed them a hot meal, gave them some supplies and a little money, and walked them out the gates to freedom.

We spent the afternoon in the swamps of Prolonge, visiting people who live at the mercy of mud and tides. Their houses are 8' x 8' shacks patched together with scraps of tin, wood and cardboard. And yet they try... One woman had a bright pink cloth hanging in the doorway to keep out flies – a splash of color in a sea of misery. The children here look like ragamuffins. Many are naked; those that have clothing wear dirty, torn rags. Many have bloated bellies and orange-tinged hair – signs of hunger and malnutrition. We saw abscesses, infected wounds, skin diseases and respiratory infections everywhere. Why must people live like this, we ask. Kids and adults alike, they all light up when we pass out Sillybandz – the new fad sweeping American kids at home. As tough as conditions are here in the swamp, the people are welcoming and joyful. They see our presence as a gift, a tangible sign that someone knows they exist, that someone cares enough to come to visit. They see our presence as a sign from God that they can allow themselves to hope for a better future. Their gift to us is their living example of the power of faith.

We walked a short distance to Nativity Village at Prolonge, where we have taken more than 350 families out of the swamp and moved them into decent housing, with access to clean water and sanitation. We were welcomed like heroes. These Nativity Village residents now have a school, solar street lights, a community center for meetings, Mass and vocational training, and the St. Anthony Health Center. They also have a sewing co-op, which we recently restocked with 600 lbs. of sewing supplies on our last Nativity sea container. We also brought several bags of needles, thread, etc. with us and handed it to the sewing teacher. Seeing the “before and after” of Operation Starfish side by side at Prolonge dramatically

emphasized the huge difference we at Nativity are making in the lives of the poor.

**DAY FOUR...** A tropical thunderstorm last night cleaned the air, but didn't dissipate the steaminess of another hot day. We wonder how the 1.3 million people living in tents in Port-au-Prince survive the almost daily downpours of the rainy season.

We descended into hell this morning as we wandered through the maze of dark, muddy alleyways in Shada. With FFP security close behind, we endured the stench and contamination of this warren of 3,500 families. It's just unbelievable that human beings have to live in these conditions. Here we met 3 families who have been selected for new houses in Nativity Village at Chastenoye, our 6<sup>th</sup> village development, funded with our 2010 Operation Starfish campaign. One of them, a woman with three malnourished, sickly children, already had her meager belongings packed in a plastic garbage bag. She wanted to be ready when Fr. Duken's staff came to take her to her new house. None of her children owned any clothing. Can you imagine being so poor, you don't have a scrap of cloth to cover your 3 children? All 3 were lying in the dirt at the door of their shack, too weak to move. We can only hope they survive until their house is ready.

Most of us had emotional problems with this stop. A touching moment saw Kathy Deprenger and Jim Scott, holding tight to each other, as the tears flowed. A bright spot brought together Gianina Ferraiuolo and a Shada woman, as they danced in the street to the sound of the World Cup theme music, coming from a jury-rigged radio. Josh Mausolf and Maria Werries captured much of what we saw through the lenses of their cameras.

Back on the emotional roller coaster, we traveled west to Chastenoye, to plant fruit trees and break ground on the next batch of houses, water wells and sanitation at Nativity Village at Chastenoye. This is a beautiful rural area, with arable land stretching for miles. The mountains at the Dominican Republic border are visible in the distance. Everyone took a turn with the hefty grub hoe, as we symbolically began construction of our next Operation Starfish project. Laura Grace takes the prize for "most effective hoe stroke."

At Chastenoye we visited with earthquake refugees who are now living in our new houses. One mother, who had lost a foot, has a 5-year-old girl whose left leg was amputated. Jim McDaniel carried this little girl on his shoulder like she was his own grandchild. She wanted us to see her new house. Our new village is caressed with fresh air breezes. There's an old mango tree filled with birds singing. The water from the well is cool and clean. The houses actually have indoor toilets. This will be like paradise for the families moving from Shada.

**NEXT WEEK:**

**BEING PRESENT TO THE POOR – PART III "Leaving Haiti With Hope"**

Have a nice week!

*J. Martin*



**The Altar Flowers this week are**  
In Loving Memory of  
Agnes Albrecht and Imogene Albrecht  
And  
In Memory of Our Mothers  
From  
Chuck and Jill Heagy

*Thought for the Week*

We should live simply so others may simply live.

Mother Teresa

**THANK YOU**

**GRÁCIAS**



A bountiful Thank You goes to all of our parishioners who so generously gave to the Josephite Fathers last weekend. They received \$11,434.00 for their mission work in Baltimore.

The Arlington Division of the World Apostolate of Fatima will sponsor a Eucharistic Holy Hour Sunday, July 25 from 3:00 to 4:00 pm at St. Thomas a Becket Catholic Church, 1421 Wiehle Avenue, Reston. We invite you to join us in prayer.



Monday, July 26

Joan Perry.....7:30am - Fr. Daniel

Tuesday, July 27

Francis X. Lunney.....7:30am - Fr. Daniel

Wednesday, July 28

Zachary & Gabriella Causin Pike.....7:30am - Fr. Daniel

Thursday July 29

Agustin de la Cuesta.....7:30am - Fr. Korpi

Friday, July 30

Mason Kier.....7:30am - Fr. Korpi

Saturday, July 31

Dorothy Fox.....9:00am - Fr. Korpi

Special Intentions for

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Hay.....5:00pm - Fr. Korpi

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

Sunday, August 1

Sofia Gutierrez.....7:30am - Fr. Korpi

Parishioners.....9:00am - Fr. Martin

Mary Cochran.....11:00am - Fr. Wilson

Wanda Forrest.....12:45pm - Fr. Martin

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



**PRO-LIFE CORNER**

To be Pro-Life demands that we assist women who have had abortions to find God's forgiveness, healing, and peace. If the Pro-Life movement is not a movement of love, it is nothing at all. But if it is a movement of love, then nothing will stop it, for "love is more powerful than death."



Are you suffering from an abortion experience? **PROJECT RACHEL** offers spiritual and psychological healing. Call 703-276-0373 ([projectrachel@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:projectrachel@arlingtondiocese.org)) for a referral for private, sensitive and confidential counseling and/or reconciliation. (Project Rachel is a post-abortion healing 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  
 Gabriel Project 1-866-444-3553

**Thank You and Farewell**



I am sorry this is late. I had hoped to get it in last week's bulletin, but moving got in the way. I wish to thank all of those who said "farewell". It was hard to leave Nativity. I was there for 9 years and had gotten to know quite a few people. The recently graduated 8th graders, the principal of the school, Ms. Maria Kelly, and I all started together. I will really miss all of you. Thank you to the anonymous benefactors who had picked up my bill at Spartan's, Villa Bella, Pane E Vino or Friendly's. Your generosity is seen throughout the parish. I do wish to apologize. I did not return all of the phone calls. I returned as many as I could, which was a good amount. Some asked me to call back and did not leave a phone number. Some left their number, but they said it so fast that I could not hear all of the numbers. Some were "stepped on" because their cell phones cut out. Remember, even though electronic advances have brought us some wonderful tools, they don't always work well. If the call is important and I (we) do not return the call - call back, please. Again, thank you and please keep me in your prayers as I serve the people of Our Lady of *Farewell* Angels.



Pick up the phone and call the Religious Education Office at 703-455-0372 to volunteer. Teachers and teacher assistants are still needed. Help Nativity's children learn about the Catholic Church and God's Good News of salvation.

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 baptismal 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.

**SAVE THE DATE!** The Justice and Peace Commission of the Arlington Diocese will sponsor a conference on Immigration at St. John Neumann Church on Saturday, September 11 from 8:30 to noon. The keynote speaker will be the Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, bishop of Brooklyn. The Most Reverend Paul Loverde, bishop of Arlington, will preside at the opening liturgy at 8:30 AM. All are invited.

**Ministry: Work that is done, with Jesus Christ as its foundation, for the purpose of serving others.**



Over the past few weeks we have looked at some of the various ministries in the church. As I read this weekend's bulletin, I counted the number of inserts and this brought to mind all the efforts of those who put all those papers into the bulletin, in other words, the "bulletin stuffers". Each Saturday morning, following the 9 a.m. Mass, members of this special ministry gather in the church workroom, and over coffee, donuts, and camaraderie, insert the various papers that we find each weekend in the bulletin. While this is a great opportunity to foster parish community spirit, it also is a most valuable ministry. Without it, the various parish functions might not be as well attended or receive the great support that they do. Without that support, the poor and those in need might not receive all the help that they need. And so once again, quietly and efficiently the work of the church goes on. We take this opportunity to thank all who give of their time and talents to help our parish be the special place that it is. This ministry is open to all parishioners.

**JustFaith Questions**

Do you find yourself wondering how to live your faith in today's complex world? Living our faith and understanding today's challenges takes reflection, study, prayer and community. All of these are offered in the **JustFaith** program, an intensive thirty-week program that helps to answer these questions. Consider joining a group that starts this September. 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>

"Give us this day our daily bread." Are you being called to help feed the people of God as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call Father Brian Bashista 703-841-2514 or write [b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org)

**GOING ON VACATION?**

[TheCatholicDirectory.com](http://TheCatholicDirectory.com) will help you locate Mass times, contact information, and download Church Bulletins while on vacation.



If you're yearning for a closer relationship to our Lord, come to the next Woman's Cursillo Weekend from August 5-8 in White Post, VA (near Winchester). For further information, contact Kathy Scott at 703-922-8745 or go to <http://arlingtoncursillo.org/Default.aspx>.

**THE WEEK AHEAD  
IN OUR PARISH**

**Monday, July 26**

8:00 pm.....AA Meeting (APR)

**Tuesday, July 27**

9:30 am.....Bible Study (APR)

**Wednesday, July 28**

7:00 pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group (SC)

7:30 pm.....Legion of Mary (APR)

**Thursday, July 29**

9:30 am.....Craft Group (APR)

7:00 pm.....BSA Troop 1100, Board of Review (Room. 6)

7:30 pm.....Prayer Group (APR)

7:30 pm.....Venture Crew (Room 4)

7:30 pm.....BSA Troop 1100 (PH)

**Saturday, July 31**

10:00 am.....Dog Obedience (PL)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** Nativity Catholic School & PTO's First Annual Golf Tournament & Fundraiser-Help support our parish school while enjoying a morning of 18 holes of golf and lunch!!! Shotgun starts at 9:00am on **October 7, 2010, at Laurel Hill Golf Club in Lorton, VA**, ranked 15th in Golfweek's 2009 list of the nation's 50 best municipal courses. Not a golfer??? Sponsors, advertisers, and donations for the raffle are needed. If you can help or participate in any way, please email Jean Lewis at [lewis\\_jean@bah.com](mailto:lewis_jean@bah.com) or call Jean at 703-426-8735. Registration begins September 1, 2010. More details to come!!!

**Food for ECHO and the POOR CLARE SISTERS**



The monthly food collection will take place next Sunday, August 1st. Please bring non-perishable foods to the foyer of the church. In this time of need, food pantries are being rapidly depleted. Canned fruits and vegetables, canned meats, dry products (cereal, pasta, pancake mix, etc.), pancake syrup, vegetable oil, tuna helper, powdered milk, crackers, concentrated juices, quick oats are much need items.

ECHO also accepts small appliances such as toasters, blenders, table lamps, pots and pans, microwaves, new and used clothing. For more information pick up a brochure in the bookrack by the sacristy or call 703-569-9160. ECHO Center is located at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road. Thank you!

Nativity Catholic School is still accepting registrations for the 2010-2011 school year. Please inquire in the school office either by calling (703) 455-2300, ext. 119 or email to [apaulson@nativityschool.org](mailto:apaulson@nativityschool.org).



SECCIÓN en ESPAÑOL
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Actividades de la Comunidad Hispana  
Iglesia de la Natividad 6400 Nativity Lane-Burke, VA 22015  
Teléfono 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.

**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, aula 8

**Sacramento del Bautismo:** Tercer Sábado del mes. 1:30pm Contacto: Deacon Pardo 703-455-2400

**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 Sábados:** a partir de las 5:00pm aula 4. contacto: Juan Carlos Chávez 703-473-6941

**Solidaridad Cristiana:** Mayor información Llamar 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

**Porque todo el que pide recibe, el que busca halla y al que llame a la puerta se le abrirá.** Lucas 11:10

UN TEMA COMÚN DE LOS cuentos de hadas es la concesión de tres deseos a una persona relativamente pobre. Sea que un genio surja de una botella o un hada madrina agite su varita mágica, la fórmula es la misma: a una persona con pocas posibilidades en la vida, de pronto se le presenta la de pedir lo que más desea. Algunos desperdician sus deseos en trivialidades, otros buscan la venganza, otros hasta aspiran a ser como Dios y pagan caro su orgullo. Pocos son capaces de elegir sabiamente.

Lo mismo sucede con la oración. Demasiado a menudo nuestras obsesiones rigen nuestras peticiones. Si pensamos que un determinado objeto, logro, relación o resultado nos traerá felicidad perdurable, asaltamos el Cielo con nuestras súplicas, recibiendo a veces precisamente lo que hemos pedido. Solo cuando descubrimos nuestra desilusión comprendemos que el mejor modo de rezar es pedirle a Dios que decida qué necesitamos, ya que no sabemos lo que de veras nos conviene.

*Enseñanos a pedir, Señor, que tu voluntad se haga en y para nosotros.*

Elizabeth-Anne Stewart

Génesis 18:20-32, Salmo 138:1-3, 6-8

Colosenses 2:12-14, Lucas 11:1-13



### **Comida para ECHO y las Hermanas Clarisas**

La colección mensual de comida se llevará a cabo el próximo domingo, (julio 31). Por favor traigan comidas no perecederas a la entrada de la iglesia. En estos momentos de tanta necesidad, las despensas de las caridades locales se están vaciando rápidamente. Los productos muy necesitados son frutas y vegetales en lata, carne enlatada, productos secos (cereales, pasta, harina de panqueques, etc.) sirope de panqueques, aceite de vegetal, pasta para mezclar con atún (tuna helper), leche en polvo, galletas, jugos concentrados y avena instantánea. ECHO también acepta pequeños aparatos eléctricos tales como tostadoras, licuadoras, lámparas de mesa, cazuelas y sartenes, microhondas, y ropa nueva o usada. Para mas información tome un folleto de los estantes al lado de la sacristía o llame 703-569-9160. El Centro ECHO está en calle Old Keene Mill Road, número 7205. Gracias!