



Dear Parishioners,

This is the concluding article about our journey to Haiti last month. In my last 2 Pastor's Corners, I described our impressions of the earthquake aftermath, our visit with the handicapped children at Little Children of Jesus Home, releasing prisoners in Cap-Haitien, harvesting tilapia, planting seeds, trudging through the Prolonge Swamp, visiting Nativity Village at Prolonge, meeting with Archbishop Louis Kebreau, descending into the hell of Shada, breaking ground on Nativity Village 6, visiting earthquake victims in Chastenoye, and some of the numerous other activities and experiences of our pilgrimage. In a word, WE WERE PRESENT TO OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN HAITI. When asked what is the most significant thing we can do to help Haiti, Archbishop Kebreau answered, "Continue to give the gift of your presence. Sometimes this is the most important gift we can give – our presence."

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

DAY FOUR (con't.)...

Last week, I described the events of Thursday morning, Day 4 of our journey. We started the day in the horror of Shada, where 3,500 families live in filthy, disease-ridden destitution. For us, it was challenging and uncomfortable to be present to these people, but nothing like the ordeal of daily survival that they endure. We clung to the thought that at least some of the families we met will soon breath the fresh air of Nativity Village at Chastenoye. From Shada, we drove to Chastenoye to plant a row of fruit trees and break ground on our next Nativity Village project. While there, we visited with earthquake refugees who had been relocated to new Food For The Poor housing.

Leaving Chastenoye, we made a brief stop at a Food For The Poor orphanage. Jim McDaniel urged us to use the bathroom facilities, but not to linger with the children because it would delay our schedule – always the taskmaster! But once the cute little kids with their brightly colored hair beads and big smiles greeted us with song, and we started handing out Sillybandz, playtime began. Brittany Felschow had her hair brushed out, photos were taken, and we grouped together to sing "Do, Re, Mi..." This was a light moment, much-needed. The next event was certainly personally rewarding for me and my family. This afternoon we blessed and dedicated the "Georgette Martin Sewing Center" in Nativity Village at Demier. When my Mom died on December 27, 2008, our family suggested, in lieu of flowers, that donations be made to build a sewing co-op in Haiti to train young people in garment design and fabrication. This would honor my Mom, who taught sewing, with a legacy that leads to small business opportunities for Haitian young people. Today, that legacy has begun to provide self-sustaining job skills to people in need. We blessed the building, cut a ribbon, and celebrated mass in the new sewing center. The community made us a wonderful lunch, with homemade cake decorated with tropical fruit. Our parishioners and friends had previously shipped 600 lbs. of fabric and sewing supplies, along with first communion dresses, in a Food For The Poor container. These items arrived just 2 days before our visit and were distributed to the Georgette Martin Sewing Center and to our sewing co-op in Nativity Village at Prolonge. Today, we brought several additional bags of sewing items that we had taken in our luggage, and made a monetary gift, courtesy of one of our parishioners.

Following the celebration, we emptied several barrels of fingerling fish into the lake at Demier. These Pangassia fish will grow quickly and provide a needed source of protein for the people of this Nativity Village. Today was a long day. We traveled from an abyss of anguish in Shada to a promise of paradise in Chastenoye and Demier. This is Haiti – land of paradox. This is Operation Starfish – making a difference, one at a time.

DAY FIVE...

Our last day in Haiti, Friday, July 2nd, began early. We left Cap-Haitien on a 7 a.m. charter flight to Port-au-Prince. Our friends at Food For The Poor's Haiti HQ again had a nice breakfast waiting for us. We then went to visit Food For The Poor's HIV/AIDS clinic at the University of Miami Field Hospital in Port-au-Prince. We met with Dr.'s Jerry and Marlon Bitar, Haitian twin brothers and surgeons, who were doing 15-20 amputations a day during the month following the quake. I held both of them in my arms and blessed them for saving so many lives. As we made our last drive through the ravaged city, I was overwhelmed with conflicting emotions. I prayed for the repose of the souls of the 250,000 killed in the earthquake; I prayed for healing for the injured and for the families who are grieving; I prayed for the 1.3 million people still living in tents; and I thanked God for this beautiful group of people on the bus with me, knowing that He is at this very moment stirring their hearts, touching their very souls. This group of 18, along with those who have gone to Haiti with us in the past, and all the good people of Nativity Parish will continue to activate prayer with action. We at Nativity are firmly committed to the Gospel call to serve the poor. We have done everything asked of us in Matthew 25:34-36 (*Then the king will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me"*)

And with every fiber of my existence, I know that our Nativity community will continue to follow the Gospel in service to those in need, across the street and around the world. Our very essence as a parish community is found in the scripture (James 2:14-17) that I had printed on my prayers cards at my ordination to the priesthood on May 14, 1966: (*What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.*)

Participants on this latest mission trip to Haiti: Delane Bailey-Herd, Lesly Clervil, Nancy Clarke, Meredith Lee Dauksz, Kathy Deprenger, Brittany Felschow, Gianina Ferraiuolo, Laura Grace, Linda Lenertz, Rev. Richard Martin, Cynde Mausolf, Joshua Mausolf, Lauren Mausolf, Jim McDaniel, Jim Scott, Dennis Staszak, Maria Werries, and Ian Wood

Have a nice week!





Monday, August 2

Special Intention for
Michael Hoeneffer.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Tuesday, August 3

Helen Large.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Wednesday, August 4

Pastor Daplas.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Thursday August 5

Emogene Donnelson.....7:30am - Fr. Korpi

Friday, August 6

Ferdinand Ferrer.....7:30am - Fr. Korpi

Saturday, August 7

Dr. Orest Mryszuk.....9:00am - Fr. Korpi

Ileana Milagros Ferrer.....5:00pm - Fr. Wilson

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

Sunday, August 8

Jenevieve & Donald Valentine7:30am - Fr. Juan Pedro

Shirley Conary.....9:00am - Fr. Korpi

Richard Sarnoski.....11:00am - Fr. Korpi

Bernice Arico.....12:45pm - Fr. Wilson

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>.

PRO-LIFE CORNER



Regarding abortion and euthanasia: Unless liberty is devoted to the defense of life, neither life nor liberty can survive. Choose Life Today. Choose Life Tomorrow. Pray Always. We Must Do No Less.

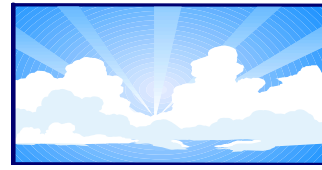
Please support the **TEPEYAC FAMILY CENTER**, 11135 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030, 703-273-9440 x 107, with your prayers and financial resources. Info on this pregnancy resource center can be found at www.tepeyacfamilycenter.com

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



In Loving Memory of
Marie P. & Thomas N. Morrissey, Sr.
Love, Patty, Tommy & Michael
And for
Manuel Edgard



EARN HEAVENLY REWARDS!!

The Religious Education Program has opportunities for you to **earn Heavenly Reward Points that are out of this world!!** Help Nativity's children learn about the Catholic Church and God's Good News of salvation. Teachers and assistants are needed in various grades during different time sessions. For details and/or to volunteer, call the Religious Education Office today at 703-455-0372!!

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 enroll in the Religious Education Program, 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; on the Nativity CCD tab click on Student Registration.

WOMEN OF NATIVITY CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST

The Women of Nativity will be collecting school supplies after all Masses during the weekend of August 14-15 for its annual **Christmas in August Project**.



Items needed include: loose-leaf paper, 3-ring binders, spiral notebooks (single and multiple subject), pens, #2 pencils, fiskar scissors, large glue sticks, thin Crayola markers, 12" rulers, pencil cases and school backpacks. Supplies will only be collected on the scheduled dates because of delivery arrangements. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. For further information or questions, please call Kathy McHugh at 703-239-2198 or Debby McLernon at 703-250-6869. Thank you in advance for your generous contributions.

“The Ministers Of Our Parish Are The Entire Congregation”



These words can be found below the picture on the front of our parish bulletin. Since the past few weeks have been devoted to some of our parish Liturgical ministries, it might be fitting to look at all of us in light of this bulletin statement concerning “ministers”. So what does this statement say of each one of us? What do these words call us to be or do? In terms of Liturgy, it calls us to full participation by responding by word and song. In terms of our parish and society, it calls us to embrace what we do at Mass and take it out into our everyday world. Keeping in mind that “ministry” is work that is done, with Jesus Christ as its foundation, for the purpose of serving others, we can see that these words call us to strive every-day to do what is best for others with the love of Christ in our hearts. No deep theology here, just simple and sincere effort. Hopefully this is good Food for Thought during the week.

JustFaith Questions

If you attended college, then you know that two semesters of coursework can go very quickly, especially when the subject matter is attention-grabbing. If you are ready to commit to two semesters dedicated to deepening your faith, then **JustFaith** is the program for you. **JustFaith** offers an intensive study of the Christian’s call to address the needs of the world. The thirty-week program includes weekly meetings in a small faith community, regular reading, retreats and immersion experiences. 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>

The Nativity Mom & Me group welcomes you to join us on Wednesday mornings from 10:00-11:30 at the following playgrounds this summer:

- JULY: South Run Recreation Center
- AUGUST: Hidden Pond Nature Center



If you have any questions, contact Beth Werner at 703-942-5269.

THE WEEK AHEAD IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, August 1 ECHO

2:00 pm.....Baptisms (CH)

Monday, August 2

12:00 pm.....CYO Summer Activity (APR)

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

Tuesday, August 3

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

Wednesday, August 4

12:00 pm.....CYO Summer of Service (APR)

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

7:00 pm.....Knights of Columbus (PH)

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

Thursday, August 5

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

7:30 pm.....Hispanic Baptism Class (Room 6)

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

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

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

7:30 pm.....Grief Support Group (S)

Saturday, August 7

9:30 am.....First Saturday Devotion (CH)

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

SHARING HOPE, a support group for men and women going through separation and divorce, will meet this Saturday, August 6th, at St. Mary of Sorrows Historic Church Hall, off Rte 123. The topic will be “Learning From Past Mistakes”. Newcomers are warmly welcomed and there is no fee. For further information, directions or encouragement, please call Barbara at 703-425-5467 or Maureen 703-978-6318.

GOING ON VACATION?



TheCatholicDirectory.com will help you locate Mass times, contact information, and download Church Bulletins while on vacation.

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



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.



SECCIÓN en ESPAÑOL

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

PENSAMIENTO PARA EL DÍA

Cuidado con las metas sin visión

¡Necio! Esta misma noche te van a reclamar tu alma. ¿Quién se quedará con lo que has preparado? Lucas 12:20

LOS NECIOS DE LA BIBLIA, que el statu quo suele considerar sabios, dedican gran parte de su tiempo y energía a amasar poder o posesiones; luego, cuando alcanzan sus metas, deben averiguar cómo salvaguardar lo que han conseguido. El necio rico en la parábola de Jesús decidió construir graneros más grandes para amontonar sus reservas. Si viviera en esta época habría blindado el granero, instalado un sofisticado sistema de seguridad, contratado un par de guardias y comprado una costosa póliza de seguro. Su insensatez no consiste en poseer riquezas sino en considerarlas absolutas. En vez de compartir sus bienes, los amontonó para satisfacer sus caprichos en el futuro. Nunca pensó que no viviría para disfrutar el fruto de su trabajo.

Cuando nos obsesionamos con metas o bienes al punto de olvidarnos cuál es el sentido de la vida, nos convertimos en necios impíos y nos alejamos de nuestra fuente divina. Que la parábola del necio rico sirva como lección, no sea que nos distraigamos del propósito único para el que hemos sido creados.

Elizabeth-Anne Stewart

Eclesiastés 1:2; 2:21-23...Salmo 90:3-6, 12-14, 17

Colosenses 3:1-5, 9-11...Lucas 12;13-21

Thought for the Week

“You know it is summer in Ireland when the rain gets warmer.”

Hal Roach

Equipment for Disabled Persons....Are you or someone you know disabled and in need of equipment? Catholic Charities Disabled Persons Services provides used walkers, wheel chairs, canes, crutches & visual aids to disabled persons in need. To make a donation or find out what equipment is currently available, call Harry Burke at 703-841-2531, ext. 12

“One’s life does not consist in abundance of possessions.” If simplicity of life and the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience especially attract you, discover that life as a priest, deacon, sister or brother. Call Father Brian Bashista 703-841-2514 or write b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org.

A Healing Mass will be celebrated by Father Stefan Starzynski at St. Mark parish in Vienna on Monday, August 9th at 7:30pm. All are invited to attend and learn if “miracles are still possible in our broken world.” Visit www.fatherstefan.com/About_Him.html or contact Dick Reda at 703-938-6371.