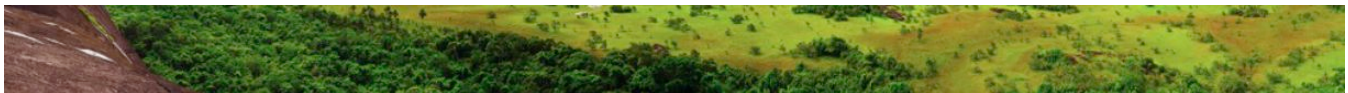




03 JUNE 2011, GEORGETOWN, GUYANA.



Standard Ltd, 222 South & Wellington Sts, G/town. Tel 226-2195, Fax 226-2192.
Editor: Mr. Colin Smith.

Bishops put free fair elections, gospel values, hopeful youth among region's priorities

Roman Catholic Bishops of the Caribbean, at the end of their annual meeting on May 14 last in Barbados, say that the region must move toward having free and fair general elections everywhere, electing leaders who conduct policies in harmony with gospel values and giving Caribbean youth hope in the future. The bishops came to this conclusion following reflection and discussion on the implications for the Caribbean of Pope Benedict's Message for World Day of Peace 2011 entitled, "Religious Freedom, the Path of Peace" and his Encyclical "Love in Truth". Consideration of these documents was one item on the packed agenda of the six day meeting of the grouping of Bishops called the Antilles Episcopal Conference (AEC). The meeting began in Bridgetown on May 8th.



In discussing the implications of the Encyclical for the region the main concerns raised by the Bishops were: 1. That everywhere general elections be fair and an occasion for the people to make use of their political rights; 2. That people be enlightened to elect women and men ready to conduct policies in harmony with the Gospel values of solidarity with the poor, respect for life and protection of nature; 3. That youth be given hope in

their future through sufficient job opportunities, a living wage and proper housing, so that our societies overcome poverty, violence, corruption and drug addiction.

The English, French and Dutch territories of the Caribbean, with the exception of Haiti, constitute the geographical area entrusted to the pastoral care of the Bishops of the AEC.

The Catholic Church within these territories is made up of five arch dioceses, fourteen dioceses and two Independent Missions.

Politically, within the conference there are thirteen independent nations, three Departments of France, two parts of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and six British colonies.

In addition, one United States Dependency enjoys observer status.

At their encounter the heads of the various dioceses also addressed many concerns that impact upon the church and the Caribbean society. These included natural disasters, Catholic education, youth ministry, protecting God's children in the region and vocations.

Every year the region is affected by disasters which result in loss of lives and homes with the accompanying trauma. The bishops of the AEC have decided to enter into collaboration with the Franciscan Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother to establish a Trauma Response Team to minister to those who will be thus affected in the region.

The church leaders also expressed concern about the socio-economic realities of our day, realities that enshrine materialism, relativism and selfishness. To address these realities the bishops approved a Pastoral Letter on Catholic Education, the objective of which is to accentuate the dignity of the human person and their invaluable worth to self, church and society, and to produce citizens of integrity who are faith-filled, competent and responsible.

Youth ministry also came under consideration. The bishops felt that given the various trends in our society that tempt young people to believe that material things and passing pleasure define a person, it is imperative that the Church give greater priority to Youth Ministry. To that end, the bishops encourage the more than 500 youth from across the AEC who will be attending World Youth Day (August 11th – 21st, 2011) in Madrid, Spain where these young missionary disciples will meet and pray with the Holy Father. This religious experience will be followed up with the Regional Youth Rally scheduled for 2012 in St. Lucia, with the theme "Your Word is a Lamp for my Steps and a Light for my Path."

The Bishops also re-affirmed their commitment to protecting and providing safe environments for children. For this purpose they have introduced the VIRTUS programme into the dioceses of the AEC. VIRTUS is developed by US based National Catholic Risk Retention Group Inc. It seeks to educate and train clergy, staff, parents, volunteers and other adults about the nature of child sexual abuse and how to prevent such harm to children. The goal is to have this programme in place in every diocese of the AEC.

The worrying issue of vocations was also placed under the ecclesiastical microscopes. The representatives of the millions of Catholics in the region enjoined that the promotion of vocations is an ongoing need in our region as it is elsewhere around the world. In its effort to address this reality the Vocations

Commission of the AEC has arranged a two-week training session for Vocation Directors. Throughout the AEC an annual week of Vocation Awareness will be observed in each diocese beginning with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, 2012.

The elections of officers for the AEC took place on Wednesday May 11th. Archbishop Patrick C. Pinder of Nassau, The Bahamas, was elected President, to succeed the outgoing President Archbishop Donald J. Reece of Kingston, Jamaica. Guyana's Bishop Francis Alleyne was elected Vice President and Bishop Neil Tiedemann of Mandeville, Jamaica was elected Treasurer. The General Secretary of the AEC is Deacon Mike James of Guyana.

St. Patrick's Catholic Cathedral in Bridgetown, Barbados was filled for the May 7th opening Mass of this the 55th AGM of the AEC. Papal representative in the Caribbean, Archbishop Thomas E Gullickson, concelebrated, as did 17 bishops of the AEC. Trinidadian priests – including Diocesan Administrator, Msgr V Harcourt Blackett – religious and consecrated persons, government ministers and members of the diplomatic corps also attended.

Archbishop Gilbert, who is also metropolitan of the Diocese of Bridgetown, called on the people to pray for the bishops during their meeting and to collaborate with them to implement the decisions made.



“The Church doesn’t belong to the bishops. The Church belongs to everyone; everyone has to do their best!

“We have what Jesus gave us – the Spirit, the Church and the sacraments,” he declared. “It is the gift of the Holy Spirit who enables people to be and to do what they could never be and do on their own.”

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Paul Martin new Superior of Guyana Jesuits

The Jesuit Superior General, Father Adolfo Nicolas, has appointed Father Paul Martin as the next Superior of the Guyana Region. He will replace Fr Dermot Preston who in April was appointed head of the British Province of which Guyana is a part.

Paul Martin was born in Liverpool, England, and entered the Jesuits there in 1984. He first came to Guyana in 1989. He left in 1991 and completed four challenging but very happy years of theology in Brazil. He returned to Guyana in 1995 to begin working with the indigenous people in the Pakaraima Mountains.



This is the work he has been engaged in up to the present. Fr Paul Martin, the Catholic Standard wishes you all the very best! For more info, do log onto www.guyanajesuits.org/

Rev. Veerasammy: Guyanese Jesuit closer to priesthood

Guyanese Jesuit, Reverend Godfrey Veerasammy, reached a major milestone on his journey to becoming a priest when he was ordained deacon in London UK on April 30 last.

He was one of four Jesuit candidates who were ordained to the Diaconate by Archbishop Peter Smith at Corpus Christi Church, Brixton Hill, UK

Godfrey, who was very active in his home parish of St Thomas the Apostle, Enmore, East Coast Demerara received his primary education at Enmore and later attended Central High. After working for some years at Beepat & Sons on Regent Street

he entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus in Jamaica in 1998. On the successful completion of this two-year programme he took his first vows as a Jesuit in August 2000 at the Sacred Heart Church, Main Street. In 2006 Godfrey moved to the United Kingdom where he worked in social outreach programmes for two years before he began formal studies in Philosophy and Theology.

He is expected to return to Guyana shortly where he will work for one year as a deacon before his ordination to the priesthood which is likely to be around the middle of next year. Godfrey requests your prayers for himself and to his family as he begins his service in the Church! On behalf of the newly ordained deacons, Deacon Godfrey Veerasammy SJ thanks all who have helped them to their ordination



Viewpoint By Vibert Parvatan: The Power To Choose

A new day dawns. What will it hold for us?

It is often our wish that our days will be filled with joy, pleasant interactions and the avoidance of conflict. In that regard, we will focus on external influences on the premise that we will not be a contributor to our own unhappiness. As would be expected, there will be a variety of situations and experiences which have the potential of destroying that peace of mind and contrastingly to bring us joy.

Writing on Happiness Alexander Humboldt, a German Naturalist stated:-

“I am more and more convinced that our happiness
or unhappiness depends far more on the way we meet

the events of life, than on the nature of those events themselves”

In support of that contention Stephen Convey wrote:-

Discover the 90/10 Principle. It will change your life (or at least, the way you react to situations)

What is this Principle?

10% of life is made up of what happens to you.

... 90% of life is decided by how you react ...

What does this mean? We really have NO control over 10% of what happens to us.

You cannot control a red light. However, you can control your reaction. Do not let people fool you.

YOU can control how you react.

Let us use an example ...

You are having breakfast with your family.

Your daughter knocks over a cup of coffee onto your business shirt. You have no control over what has just happened.

What happens next will be determined by how you react.

You curse. You harshly scold your daughter for knocking the cup over. She breaks down in tears. After scolding her, you turn to your wife and you criticize her for placing the cup too close to the edge of the table. A short verbal battle follows. You storm upstairs and change your shirt. Back downstairs, you find your daughter has been too busy crying to finish her breakfast and getting ready to go to school. She misses the bus.

Your spouse must leave immediately for work. You rush to the car and drive your daughter to school. Because you are late, you drive 40 miles per hour in a 30 mph speed limit zone. After a 15-minute delay and throwing \$60.00 traffic fine away, you arrive at school. Your daughter runs into the building without saying goodbye. After arriving at the office 20 minutes late, you realize you forgot your briefcase. Your day has started terrible. As it continues, it seems to get worse. You look forward to coming home. When you arrive home, you find a small wedge in your relationship with your wife and daughter. Why? Because of how you reacted in the morning. Why did you have a bad day?

- A) *Did the coffee cause it?*
- B) *Did your daughter cause it?*
- C) *Did the policeman cause it?*
- D) *Did you cause it?The answer is “D”.*

You had no control over what happened with the coffee. How you reacted in those 5 seconds is what caused your bad day. Here is what could have and should have happened.

Coffee splashes over you. Your daughter is about to cry.

You gently say:

“it’s okay, honey, you just need to be More careful next time.” Grabbing a towel you go upstairs and change your shirt. You grab your briefcase, and you come back down in time to look through the window and see your child getting on the bus.

She turns and waves. You arrive 5 minutes early and cheerfully greet the staff. Notice the difference? Two different scenarios. Both started the same. Both ended different. Why? Because of how you reacted. You really have no control over 10% of what happens in your life. The other 90% was determined by your reaction. Millions of people are suffering from undeserved stress, trials, problems and headaches. We all must understand and apply the 90/10 Principle. It can change your life! ... Enjoy it ...

It only takes willpower to give ourselves permission to make the experience. Absolutely everything we do, give, say, or even think, it’s like a Boomerang. It will come back to us ... If we want to receive; we need to learn to give first ...

That simple human story has meaningful lessons for all of us. It is my view that we have the power to choose how we react.

Mercy Sisters receive National Award

More Roman Catholic personnel have been acknowledged and awarded for their contribution to the development of Guyana. In last Thursday’s announcement of appointments to the Orders of Guyana it was disclosed that the group of Sisters of Mercy in Guyana has been awarded the Medal of Service. They join a number of Catholic Religious who have received National Awards over the years. These include Bishop Benedict Singh, Sisters Noel Menezes and Rose Magdalen, Fathers Michael Rose, Andy Morrison and Aloysius Church. Several prominent Catholic lay people have also been the recipients of National Awards.

The Medal of Service is given to an institution or organization for, among other things, any significant achievement or contribution to national development.

The Sisters Of Mercy have been working in Guyana for over 115 years and for most of that time they have been involved in education at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. However they have also been in charge of the St John Bosco boy’s orphanage since 1897, St Joseph’s Mercy Hospital since 1945. In addition the Mercy Sisters have worked for several decades among the indigenous peoples in Rupununi and the North West and been involved in pastoral care, prayer ministry and the Mahaica Hospital.

In 2000 the Sisters of Mercy opened the Mercy Wings Vocational Center in Sophia, North Georgetown. Its program aims at transforming young people who have left school early into a new kind of youth who have a

skill, a positive self-image and sound moral and spiritual values. Vocational tracts are offered in carpentry, masonry, plumbing, child care and other skills.



Youth receive hands on training in carpentry, one of the many opportunities offered at the Mercy Wings Vocational Center run by the Sisters of Mercy.

Marian Academy Prepares For The Digital World

By Leah Lachmansingh, Primary 3-3

Marian Academy ensures that its students are well-prepared for the digital world through its Information Technology Programme that runs from Primary throughout Secondary Level. The Pendants had an interview with Mr. Mohamed Faizoul to learn more about what students can learn in IT class.

TP - How important is the Information Technology Programme in Marian Academy in relation to other subjects like Mathematics, Language Arts, History, Art etc.?

Mr. Faizoul -- It's important because technology leads the way, we cannot survive without it, and technology makes everything easier, sometimes if you need help with a subject you can go to the internet.

TP - What can students learn in IT class?

Mr. Faizoul -- Students can learn the ways of technology as a tool to make life easy. It teaches us to be less reliant, but makes the human race better. They can learn PC repair, data management, simple office jobs and many educational programs are online, which children can use.

TP - What are your observations with respect to students' interest in the subject?

Mr. Faizoul --- They all want to learn and are eager to explore, but often they want to do it in a bad way. Most kids and also adults want to be on Facebook all the time. They spend much time talking to strangers and doing other bad things. There is less interest for the positive things of the Internet.

TP - How many IT teachers are there in Marian Academy?

Mr. Faizoul - There are 2 IT Teachers, one in each Department (Primary and Secondary).

TP - Which IT facilities are there in Marian Academy?

Mr. Faizoul - There are two fully equipped, networked computer labs with 25 computers and internet facilities.

TP - Do you think that these are enough to support the IT Programme?

Mr. Faizoul -- Yes! The facilities are sufficient..

TP - What would you like to see included in Marian's IT Programme?

Mr. Faizoul - It would be good to have regular field trips to companies that have computer departments.

TP - The theme for this issue of The Pendance is Social Networking. What are your views regarding Marian Students and social networking?

Mr. Faizoul - My opinion is that social networking improves kids' computer and communication skills. However, in general kids abuse the privileges of social networks like Facebook

TP - Can Facebook be of benefit to Marian Students?

Mr. Faizoul - It depends on how you look at it. Facebook is a very good network and you can meet new people and share information. It opens a new horizon but many students use it for the wrong purpose which causes distress. They post their feelings and people tell them what to do, Sometimes the things they tell them to do are wrong. Sometimes they can get good advice.

TP - Do you have specific advice to students on this matter?

Mr. Faizoul - I would say if you have a problem deal with it face to face. Don't let it go public.

TP - Is IT a subject for CXC?

Mr. Faizoul - Yes, you can do CXC exams in Information Technology (Taken from the "Pendance" Marian Academy's student newsletter)

Catholic centenarian

The Catholic diocese in Guyana was blessed with another centenarian on Monday, May 23 last. Arriving at that special age of 100 years, was Mrs Olive Blackmore, who is a member of long standing of the Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Georgetown. Olive Blackmore grew up in the Anglican church but converted to the Catholic church after she married her late husband, Bertie Blackmore, over seventy years ago. The union produced ten children, 14 grand children and six great-grandchildren. Among those present at her special celebration, were Bishop Francis Alleyne and Monsignor Terrence Montrose. The Catholic Standard extends congratulations to Mrs Olive Blackmore on her achievement. She was also honoured by the Fatima Parish members on Mother's Day. Olive Blackmore who is blessed with reasonably good health, continues to pray the rosary daily.

Acknowledgement



The family of the late Flavio Ignatius Camacho wishes to express their sincere thanks to all those who remembered them during their bereavement, visited, telephoned, sent wreaths, flowers or cards or kept us in their thoughts and prayers. Special Thank You to Fr John Persaud and the parishioners of Holy Spirit Church

Pray for Uganda on feast of martyrs

Fr Gregory Gimeyi is asking all to join him in a spiritual pilgrimage of prayer for peace in his strife torn country Uganda as the feast of the Martyrs of Uganda is celebrated on June 3.

Saint Charles (Carl) Lwanga and his companions, Martyrs of Uganda, were a group of Christians, both Roman Catholics and Anglicans, who were murdered by Mwanga II, the Kabaka (King) of Buganda, between 1885 and 1887. These deaths were part of a three-way religious struggle for political control of the Buganda royal court. In 1877, the Church Missionary Society in London had sent Protestant missionaries to the court, followed two years later by the French Catholic White Fathers. These two competed with each other and the Zanzibar-based Muslim traders for converts and influence. By the mid-1880s, many members of the Buganda court had converted and become proxies for the religious and nationalist conflict being played out in the court. Kabaka Mwanga II, upon his ascension to the throne, attempted to destroy the foreign influences he felt threatened the Buganda state, but was instead deposed by armed converts in 1888.[1]

Anglican James Hannington, the Protomartyr, had been dispatched to be the bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, but he was executed with his companions before they could enter Buganda.

Although the Anglicans were not canonized in the Roman Catholic Church, the Pope did mention them.[2] Twenty-two of the martyrs were Roman Catholics and were canonized by Pope Paul VI on October 18, 1964. Their feast day is June 3.

SEARCH: Discovering God's Call in Our Lives

By Fr. Stephen Patterson SJ

Since February 2009 I have been meeting regularly with a group called SEARCH. SEARCH is a group of young people, based in Georgetown, the East Coast and East Bank, who come together regularly on a monthly basis to try and work out and discern what their vocation is, i.e. what God is calling them to do with their lives.

The group was already well established when I joined them and much of their formation was due to the hard work and care of Sr. Beatrice Fernandes OSU, with Fr. Bob Barrow SJ in the early days, and the short but profound time Fr. Simon Bishop SJ had shared with them.

Although the numbers of SEARCH members who attend the monthly meetings varies, there is a dedicated core group of seven people who also meet to reflect, plan and put into effect the various themes and locations of the monthly Sunday meetings. In 2010 this group had a review of how SEARCH was going and how it might remain faithful to its identity of being a 'vocation' group. The structure that evolved out of those meetings had a fourfold dimension and we coined the image of four pillars on which SEARCH can stand. These

are: Spirituality – Learning – Vocation – Outreach. Each of the meetings tries to include each of these dynamics in some way and are a guide to help form the group in its identity apart from being just a youth group.

Spirituality: Each of the meetings will include discovering the many different ways of praying and also allows the group to come together and praise God with hymns and prayer.

Learning: Each meeting includes some new information about our faith and life in general, so each member should leave having learned something new.

Vocation: We also look at what vocation means, that is, learning to listen to God's call in our lives and becoming aware of how we might respond to that call. This often involves listening to other people's vocation stories.

Outreach: Putting our vocations and the gospel message to the test will involve some kind of action and so we encourage the members of the group to become involved in some apostolic work either in their parishes or in some other way.

Last month, from April 8th-10th there was a SEARCH retreat at St. Paul's Retreat Centre which brought together more than 20 people to spend quality time in prayer, reflection and activities. We had two movie evenings and Bishop Alleyne OSB shared his own vocation story with the group as well as talking about Benedictine Spirituality. Also, myself, and Sr. Claudiet Jones, OSU shared our own vocation stories. There was an opportunity to appreciate the symbolism of religious art, to create works of art and also a mini pilgrimage known as an Emmaus Walk. The hope is that many of the fruits of this weekend will continue to grow and flourish in all of those who participated and that other similar weekends will be planned in the future.

I can now say that, over the past two years or so I have been inspired and encouraged by the growth in maturity of many members of the SEARCH group and it has been a pleasure to walk alongside them as they journey through life. I know many of them do play an active part in the life of the Church and I'm delighted to say that some are indeed discerning whether God is calling them to serve as priests, brothers or religious sisters. Not all members of the group feel called to religious life, though, but still feel tremendous support in what the group offers to them in trying to discern their vocation in daily life which, is just as challenging a task as thinking about a religious vocation. This variety of discernment adds to the richness of the group and reveals the different ways that God is indeed at work in all our lives.

May God continue to bless SEARCH and hopefully inspire other young people who feel a desire to deepen their relationship with God to join in this wonderful venture.

For more information about SEARCH check out the poster at the back of your Church, the Parish Secretary or contact the Youth Office. We can also be contacted at searchersguy@gmail.com. Meetings are usually held on the second Sunday of every month. This month's meeting will be held at St. Teresa's Parish on May 15 from 11:00am to 3:00pm.

Letters to the editor....

A Rose Unique!

Dear Editor,

Sister Rose's contribution to the spiritual and cultural life of Guyana deserves the highest recognition, governmental and ecclesiastical.

A brief article by Renee K. Hall, Friday, 25 June 2010, on behalf of the Archdiocesan Family Life Commission (Catholic News, Trinidad and Tobago) provides a glimpse into the huge impact that this gentle, self-effacing, yet truly amazing Caribbean woman has had on the lives of thousands of Guyanese over decades, often from their early childhood.

This impact, which began in 1950, reached its fullness during the last twenty-seven years of her active ministry when Sr Rose advanced the cultural wealth of Guyana, as a guiding light in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport in the Government of Guyana. These years saw her God-given vision and creativity and her numerous talents and skills reach their heights.

The inspiring songs written and composed by Sr. Rose are a partial testament to this and to her love for her country and, especially, for its children.

My own connection with Sr Rose is very personal. I first met her when, as a young Jesuit, I was assigned to the Corentyne in 1971. Sister Rose had joined the Carmelites in 1946, the year I was born! Yet from day one, her shining pure and open spirit just "clicked" with mine, now finding its way. I was then privileged to engage with Rose in some of the most transformative community work that was ever done in the area until that time. It was my privilege to witness her magic at work, as community after community and hundreds of their young people, from the regions of Rose Hall, Black Bush Polder and Corriverton, thronged to her. Her achievements in the Corentyne are on record or should be. In a very short time, Rose and I became very close friends. Our friendship has grown and consolidated over several decades now, even though we were often, including at the present time, physically separated by continents and oceans.

Thanks to Rose, I have always been able to appreciate what it means to be united in spirit. And now that her spirit is even more free than ever to travel, though I grieve the end of her bodily life on this earth, I feel closer to Rose than ever "in spirit and in truth".

DESMOND SEQUIERA

Sister Rose Magdalene D'Ornellas, a member of the Corpus Christi Carmelite Sisters, passed away on Monday, 25th April, at the Port-of-Spain General Hospital in Trinidad, West Indies, where she had been residing for a number of years.



The Corpus Christi Carmelites gathered from 9:00am on Monday May 2 last at the Abbey of Mount Saint Benedict, Trinidad for the reception of her body and to pray for her soul. At 9:55 am, as a tribute to her, a powerful trumpet, was played by a dear friend of Sr. Rose, Mr. Bovell, Assistant Commissioner of Police, from Guyana. The melody was the tune, “I Come to the Garden Alone...and He Walks With me...” Joining in this tribute, was a representative group from Guyana, who traveled to Trinidad for the occasion, among whom were: Msgr. John Persaud, Vicar General, Mrs. Melcita Bovell, Assistant Chief Education Officer, Secondary, Rock Beharry, Diocesan Administrative Secretary, Mrs. Marylyn Dewar, Graduate Music teacher, Elaine Thomas, active parishioner in various Ministries – Marriage Encounter, Eucharistic Ministry and others, and Kennard Pickett, Music Teacher.

Following this tribute, all joined in singing joyfully: ‘The Heavens are Telling the glory of God...’, during which the Corpus Christi Carmelites solemnly processed up the aisle with the coffin.

The Chief Celebrant, Fr. Hasely King, O. Carm., welcomed the ten Priests who concelebrated, as well as the Religious who were present: Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny, Dominicans and Benedictines and all those, whose lives had been lovingly touched by Sister’s ministry and presence.

The Eulogy was then given by Sr. Petronilla Joseph, Prioress General of the Corpus Christi Carmelites, in which Sister referred to Sr. Rose as having given ‘loving’ and ‘magnanimous’ service to the Church and to her people, with a lively and willing spirit, open to God’s will at all times.

The Mass continued, amidst the lustily sung hymns from the St. John the Evangelist, Diego Martin Choir, joined by the Corpus Christi Carmelites and musicians from Guyana, Mrs. Dewar and Mr. Pickett.

When giving his Homily, Msgr. Mike Stewart, (who had been requested by Sr. Rose before she died to do this), shared from the heart as he spoke about the impact Sr. Rose had on the lives of those with whom she lived and worked; her lively spirit, her love for music and children and those with whom she came into contact, as well as her good sense of humour, which permeated everything she did and said. Msgr. Mike spoke of his gratitude to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, which led him to go and anoint Sr. Rose Magdalene, the day before she died. As the celebration continued, Stephan Furlonge, sang with profound inspiration and sentiment, the hymn “The Holy City’ and the entire Congregation united heart and soul with one voice, sang “Jerusalem! Lift up your gates and sing!”

After, Sr. Katrina Charles, then extended heartfelt Thanks to all present, especially to those who had traveled from Guyana, and to those who had contributed to such an uplifting Farewell Celebration. The “In Paradisum” was sung by the Sisters, with the prayer that the angels would lead Sr. Rose into Paradise, followed by the hymn “dear Virgin Mother, Lady of Mt. Carmel”.

Before the celebration came to an end, each Corpus Christi Carmelite Sister, from the youngest to the eldest, was invited to sprinkle the coffin with Holy Water, as a mark of respect. As the Sisters processed from the Abbey, to the graveyard at the foot of Mt. St. Benedict, the trumpet once again resounded through the hallowed walls of the Abbey. It was no doubt and experience which, although tinged with sadness, has left us with pleasant memories.

Terrorist or hero?

Dear Editor,

We must accept that Osama Bin Laden was a terrorist and that he was killed by American special forces and that his body was dumped in the ocean.

In the case of Bin Laden he was seen for what he was.

George Bush and Tony Blair on the other hand committed a far bigger crime against Iraq and the Iraqi people. The Israelis are committing every crime against the Palestinians and I have not heard Kofi Anan or Ban Ki Moon refer to the two Bs and the Israeli leaders as terrorists.

Anyway we must remember one man's terrorist is another man's hero. Where true justice prevails there will be no need for Al Qaeda or Hisbullah.

W.P. GEORGE



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