

# Catholic Standard

Fri, June 17th, 2011

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GEORGETOWN, GUYANA

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## www.rcdiocese.gy.org is the new diocesan web site of knowledge, relationship

### -Fr Edwin Thdheu SJ

Quest and queries on knowledge and identity mark the century we live in today: knowledge to find one's deeper self and identity to locate oneself in the web of relationship. In this context it is really overwhelming to introduce a website for Our Diocese of Georgetown, Guyana ([www.rcdiocese.gy.org](http://www.rcdiocese.gy.org)).

Pope Benedict XVI in his MESSAGE on 42nd WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY says that the humanity today is at a crossroads where the media serve between Self-Promotion and Service. More over on World Day of Peace he says, "The social communications media, in particular, because of their educational

potential, have a special responsibility for promoting respect for the family, making clear its expectations and rights, and presenting all its beauty.

Having felt the need of having a website for our diocese, Bishop Francis Alleyne OSB has launched a new website on the Feast of Pentecost in a short ceremonial function after the 8.00am Mass at the side altar of the Cathedral. While launching the website he said, 'I invite all of you to make use of the website to the maximum capacity to deepen our catholic faith and knowledge. Moreover, I request you to collaborate with the team to keep the website very much alive in the future.'

Though the website needs final touch and

furnishing of a lot more information, presently it carries a very many features that would make the browsing worthy. The menu bar starts with the information on the history and other details of the diocese and goes over to dispense the details of our bishop, priests, offices, religious sisters and various apostolic groups and activities in the diocese.

On the home page is the cross taken from the Cathedral and on either side we have slide shows that give us information on the parishes and priests as we click on the names. The sole purpose of the slide show is to give detailed information on the parishes and priests which help us to establish closer relationship with priests and parishes. Below the arms of the cross, we have option to read the online catholic standard and the international news updates. On the left hand end of the home

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## Corpus Christi Procession Sun 26

All parishes are invited to join the annual Corpus Christi Procession with the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday June 26. The procession will move from Our Lady of Fatima, Robb Street at 3.30 pm to Brickdam Cathedral. Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral at 5.30 pm. Maximum participation by all parishes is encouraged.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "The Eucharist is 'source and summit of the Christian life.' The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it."

Pope John Paul II who declared the "Year of the Eucharist in 2004 also urged for the procession on Corpus Christi: "... let us also celebrate with particular devotion the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, with its traditional procession. ... especially in our streets and homes, as an expression of our grateful love and as an inexhaustible source of blessings."



## 'Miraculous' Renovation of Buxton Church

By Mss Vanesse

As a result of dedicated prayers and hard work there was a great outpouring of generous gifts to the Church of St Anthony at Buxton. This building has been transformed completely; it was painted both inside and outside, a new gate and bridge were built and a cross was erected to replace the one which was there before.

The total renovation cost more than two million dollars.

This was the initiative of Mr Clyde Roopchand, a former altar server, and his family. He also got some friends of his to make sterling contributions to this massive renovation. There were also donations of carpets for the aisles and sanctuary, leatherette and sponge the pew kneelers. These were donated by the Fredericks and Ramdhainie families and Mrs Clyde Roopchand.

The parishioners worked together to have the kneelers covered in time for the celebration of the feast on the 13th June. The feast of St Anthony of Padua, the Patron Saint of Friendship, Buxton, ECD,

was celebrated on 13th June. It was a day of prayer and fellowship. The parishioners came together to thank St. Anthony for the miracles he has worked in Buxton these years. The feast day Mass was concelebrated by Frs Edwin Thadheu, James Gonsalves and Anil Tirkey. The liturgy was made richer by music and dance.

The homilist reiterated the point that every Christian can become a saint through 'faith and intimacy'. At the end of the Mass Ms Vanesse thanked the benefactors and well wishers. Light refreshments were served after Mass. We wish to thank the musicians from the Cathedral and St Peter's parishes and all others from our neighbouring parishes for sharing this great day with us.

This is the second anniversary since we started devotion to St Anthony on Tuesdays. Thanks to Fr. Edwin Thadheu SJ who started and regularized the Novena followed by Eucharistic celebration.

After his departure, Fr. Anil continues the good work which brings the faithful closer to God.

12th WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME  
**BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS**  
**Sun 19th June:** 08:30 hrs Mass at St. Pius  
**Fri 24th to Sun 26th June:** Participate in Choice Weekend  
+ **Francis Alleyne, OSB**

# Rising to new life

In one of his more famous encyclicals Pope Paul VI wrote that "In the heart of every man there is a will to live in brotherhood and a thirst for brotherhood and peace. This assertion is certainly true of every one of us. We all want to live in and be at peace with one another.

Christians, indeed all truly religious people, believe this is possible in spite of the violence and injustice. But for Christians, what gives us hope and keeps us going in the face of obstacles and opposition is the Easter season which we just celebrated and in particular the Resurrection. The Resurrection means suffering is no longer a deterrent to good action and death is no longer the supreme disaster.

As witnesses to this great hope which the resurrection has engendered, we have the countless numbers of courageous Christian individuals and communities who, down the centuries have shown that hunger and thirst for freedom, justice, and human advancement. They continue to do so today in Guyana and various parts of the world.

Hunger and thirst are compelling needs which cannot be suppressed, it is a question of life and death. As food and drink are absolutely essential to the life of the body, so justice is absolutely necessary for a life of the Christian, and its duties are so compelling that no motive should exempt us from fulfilling them. We speak of hunger and thirst for justice, not in the

**CATHOLIC STANDARD**

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sense of vindicating rights, but in the sense of cultivating in ourselves such a lively desire and compelling need for justice in all our relations with others, that we do not feel satisfied until we have completely fulfilled all the duties stemming from this virtue.

Unfortunately there are also many who attach so much importance to material

things that they do not believe that anything else exists. For such people suffering is inexplicable, death is a disaster and their philosophy is one of despair. Many of these people have lost hope and have ceased to believe in what Christ called the Kingdom of God.

In the face of our national disunity, rising food and commodity prices, various forms of killings and other forms of violence and injustices, they seem to have given up their commitment to life. How else can we explain the widespread addiction to alcohol and drugs, to reckless driving, to jay walking, to daring robberies in which life and limb are risked. How else can we explain the apathy of so many when confronted with the problems which beset our country.

In the months which lie ahead Guyana need to continue the assurance of the Easter message, namely that human striving and suffering are never wasted. That our highest aspirations and deepest needs can be met that even in apparent failure one day God's Kingdom will be established in all its fullness.

## FATHER'S DAY

**F** – Friend and Hero

**A** – Anchor when the storms of life roll in

**T** – Teacher and Counselor

**H** – A man of Honour and Wisdom

**E** – Encourages when days seem gloomy

**R** – A steady Rock in the River of Change and Uncertainty

For the encouragement you give, the dreams you have shared, the legacy of love you have passed along. Your gentle heart, quiet wisdom and great love. Thank you.

Another year has gone by so quickly. Once again we focus on a significant anniversary which provokes reflections and allows us to look at that special relationship with a father.

I called my father 'daddy'. My son – Hank who died in 2007, called me 'dad'. In both cases, in hearing the word dad and saying the word daddy, it encompassed wonderful feelings of love, gratitude, appreciation and a special bond of friendship.

Whatever you call you father, be it pa, pop, papa, dada, it identifies a unique relationship which at any stage of your life is precious. Images of our fathers will vary, but in general as is applicable to me, a father is seen and regarded as the provider, the leader of the family, a source of positive influence which guides us alone life's way and a source of strength, comfort and protection.

ALONG LIFE'S JOURNEY MANY

CHANGES TAKE PLACE. THE CHILD OF TODAY BECPMES THE ADULT OF YEARS AHEAD AND WITH GOD'S BLESSINGS ALSO ASSUMES THE RESPONSIBILITY AND ROLE OF A FATHER. THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH CHILDREN ARE BROUGHT UP WILL VARY FROM THE RICH TO THE NOT SO FORTUNATE. THE SIZES OF THE HOMES AND PHYSICAL FACILITIES WILL DIFFER MARKEDLY. HOWEVER, WHETHER IN A RICH HOME OR IN POOR CIRCUMSTANCES, THE COMMON ELEMENT IS ALWAYS THE CHILDREN - PARENTS RELATIONSHIP AND THE BONDS OF LOVE. THAT LOVE NEVER FADES AWAY AND DIES. THE ESSENTIAL INGREDIENT WHICH KEEPS IT ALIVE IS NURTURED BY THANKFUL HEARTS, LOVING THOUGHTS AND PRECIOUS MEMORIES.

My father died decades ago. I was but a teenager, yet unto this day he is always remembered in my morning and evening prayers. In a similar manner when some good things come my way I look back at his contribution to shaping my thoughts, instilling discipline, encouraging me to embrace religion, to trust in the Lord to be kind, to seek knowledge and to always show respect and love for everyone.

Such situations are applicable to most children in the relationship with their

## Viewpoint By Vibert Parvatan

fathers. As we wish all fathers a happy day, we know that many find difficulty in satisfying the material things of their families. However deficient, their effort must be lauded and children must be ever thankful. There are fathers today who face the harsh reality that children predeceased them, illogical but true. But here again the joys of the good times shared become a shining light when dark shadows challenge our inner emotions. I WILL MISS RECEIVING A CARD AND A TELEPHONE CALL FROM MY SON AS WILL BE APPLICABLE TO MANY OTHER PERSONS; BUT THERE IS SO MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR, ESPECIALLY THE GOOD TIMES WE SHARED. WITH THANKFUL HEARTS WE CAN REFLECT ON OUR PARENTS WHETHER OF THE EARTHLY FLESH OR NOT AND IN THE SAME THNAKFUL AND GRATEFUL MANNER REMEMBER A CHILD OR CHILDREN WHO HAVE PASSED THE EARTHLY STAGE. IN THAT REFLECTION THOSE WHO HAVE THEIR FATHER, THEIR MOTHER AND THEIR CHILDREN OUGHT TO RECOGNISE THE ONGOING CHNAGES IN OUR LIVES AND TO MAKE THE MOST OF THE PRESENT SITUATION. DO

*Please turn to page 9*

# Sunday



# Scripture

## Trinity Sunday

## Year A

**FIRST READING: Exodus 34: 4-6, 8-9**

*Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion.*

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness." And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. "If I have indeed won your favour, Lord," he said, "let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage."

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM - Daniel 3: 52-56**

*To you glory and praise for evermore.*

1. You are blest, Lord God of our fathers. To you glory and praise for evermore.

Blest your glorious name. To you glory and praise for evermore.

2. You are blest in the temple of your glory. To you glory and praise for evermore.

3. You are blest on the throne of your kingdom. To you glory and praise for evermore.

4. You are blest who gaze into the depths. To you glory and praise for evermore.



**“For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.”**

5. You are blest in the firmaments of heaven. To you glory and praise for evermore.

**SECOND READING - 2 Cor 13: 11-13**

*The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellow-ship of the Holy Spirit.*

Brothers and sisters, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**The Word of the Lord.**

**GOSPEL - John 3: 16-18**

*God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved.*

Jesus said to Nicodemus, "God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son."

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Many learned papers and books have been written to try to explain the Trinity, God as Father, Son and Spirit. It is one of those great mysteries of life, not in the sense of being something hidden but rather of something so full of meaning that we can never get to the bottom of it. Humans know that there is a God. We learn this mainly from the Scriptures. And we try to understand and create images of what this God is like. But all images we develop to explain God will be limited because they are human images and so are inadequate to capture God. We may catch a glimpse or a characteristic or an aspect of God but these images are not God. So from Scripture we learn of God as Father and as Son and as Holy Spirit but we are only striving to understand the nature of God with these images. Maybe it is only sufficient to know that God is the being and doing and sharing of love. As God's people we are drawn into that love.

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Our First Reading today portrays God as being a God of tenderness, kindness and faithfulness, "slow to anger and rich in kindness and faithfulness". In the Second Reading we hear St Paul using the three-fold description of God – grace, love, fellowship – a perfect description of who God is and how he relates to his people. And in the Gospel, Jesus underlines this when he describes his Father's wish that on one is to be lost. This raises an important question – how do we live in a community that says it worships a loving God? It is impossible to worship a God of love and compassion, a God who forgives easily and is always ready to enter into relationship with his people, if we choose a life of hatred, revenge and injustice. Many times we see divisions in our faith community as much as we see divisions and hatred in the wider, global community. It is one thing to say

that we believe in a loving, compassionate and caring God but it is another thing to make the right choices in the kind of relationships we have in the light of the beliefs we say we have.

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On important dates, for example, on birthdays, we have the habit of giving gifts to those who are close to us. We do this because of the love we feel for those people. Over and over in the Gospels we are reminded of God's love for us. And resulting from that love, we have from God the gift of his Son. It is a gift that can only result in new life if properly recognised and used. This gift has serious consequences for us in the choices we make and the lives we live in this world. Everything we are and want to be must be modelled on God's gift to us. To do otherwise is to refuse that gift, to turn our backs on all that Jesus stood for and taught through his dealing with others, especially with those who saw him as the enemy. We see him at his best in the concern he shows for the poor and those in need of love and compassion. This is his great example for us to follow.

## Images of the risen Christ at Mass

Dear Editor,

When new symbols are put up in our churches, it is desirable that they be explained to our people, otherwise they can cause a lot of confusion which can be exploited by those who seek to lead our people astray. Of late, in some churches, images of the Risen Jesus, not shown rising from the tomb as before, but against the backdrop of the cross are displayed prominently behind the main altar of sacrifice.

Traditionally, for centuries, one was accustomed to see only crucifixes with three-dimensional images of Jesus hanging upon the cross in churches. This was the most easily recognizable symbol of Christianity in the Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran and Anglican traditions (while other Christians had only the plain cross).

In the Catholic Church, when Mass is celebrated, the crucifix has always been a requirement, either on the altar

or as a backdrop to the altar. It is to be clearly visible to both the celebrant and the people. It serves to remind the people that the Mass makes present the redemptive sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

Given this new trend, it is quite likely that people may slowly come to believe that the image of the Risen Jesus on the cross can replace the crucifix. If such images have a prominent place behind the altar of sacrifice,

## Letters to the Editor

they may gradually convey the idea that the Mass is not a sacrifice but a celebration of fellowship and communion brought about by the Risen Lord. The entire interpretation and attitude to the Mass could change. Hence, some clarification is needed as to where these new images are to be placed in churches, what their significance is, and whether the space behind the main altar is the best place for them.

**JOSEPH M. DIAS, S.J.**  
Kalwa (W), Mumbai

## Ben, Bush, Blair

Dear Editor,

With reference to Mr Mike James' article "Should Ben Laden have been killed?" In spite of how the heads of the Catholic Church and English Church feel, Ben Laden I am certain, preferred to go the way he did. In my opinion Ben Laden would have been humiliated being in a prison and would have found some way to take his own life.

Remember Ben Laden led a group of suicide bombers. These are men who would happily go among those they consider their enemies and blow themselves up along with their enemies. Why would Ben Laden

have been different.

Naturally the Americans were fed the stories that Ben Laden was a notorious terrorist and rightly so. On the other hand the Americans are taught George W Bush and Tony Blair are heroes for being responsible for the killing of hundreds of thousands of Iraqis.

As for Obama he came to power with his heart in the right place but he soon learned that a black man in the White House has to show more loyalty to the white establishment than a white man.

However since Obama was killed on his watch he, Obama, might get a second term to show more loyalty.

**W.P. GEORGE**

## People's Partnership in Joint Opposition group

Dear Editor,

The Joint Opposition Political Parties (JOPP) on Tuesday 14th June 2011, met with representatives of the Guyana's People Partnership (GPP), led by Mr. Peter Ramsaroop and considered a letter from that Party dated, 14th June 2011, indicating its desire to re-associate with the JOPP and to work with the broader team to attain victory at the 2011 Polls.

After consideration of the letter and the oral presentation by their representatives, the JOPP has welcomed the Guyana's People Partnership's, (GPP's) participation in the Partnership. Our agreed Statement of Principles clearly indicates that we are committed to welcoming all Guyanese Parties, organizations and citizens who subscribe to our core principles and our social, political and economic

programme. The JOPP also requires that all partners would observe our agreed code of conduct and our procedures for resolving any differences

The JOPP noted that the GPP had not yet committed its Party to membership of the coalition at the time that it had disengaged from discussions, but is now pleased with the GPP's announced commitment to become a partner with no preconditions and fully endorsing all decisions made so far by the JOPP with respect to the formation of a partnership to contest the forthcoming elections.

The JOPP has already informed the GPP of its decision and has made arrangements to bring that Party up to date on decisions and other matters concerning the proposed partnership. The JOPP expects to have the formal launching of its Partnership before the end of June 2011.

**Joint Opposition Political Parties (JOPP)**

## That gag on Police Commanders

Dear Editor,

Has anybody realized that the work of the media has just become more difficult? It was decreed that no Police Commander of any of the police divisions can speak to a reporter. Only the Police Commissioner can speak to the media. However when you try calling for the Commissioner, he is never in office or available. Not even the Crime Chief or other senior officers can speak to the media.

What is the rationale for such a move? Is it sheer stupidity, I ask? This is not in keeping with the principles of effective management and administration in an organization. Well, we are talking about the Guyana Police Force here, but hardly does one expect senior officers to be barred from giving information to members of the media.

Where, then, does the accountability start? Who really is accountable at the regional levels? What is the Commissioner trying to do by starving the media from pertinent information? I would have no problem with this decision by the commissioner if the Guyana Police Force had a proper, effective and proactive Public Relations branch, but that PR department is sadly malfunctioning too.

With this new rule, the media cannot verify or try to get the correct information on certain cases and matters. When erroneous and misleading information might be published, the commissioner will have no one to blame but himself. He really needs to leave. So many unsolved murders, we need a man of action in the seat of Police Commissioner.

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# Surprises of new fatherhood

While chatting with a small group on the sea wall last week, one of the men informed us that he will be a brand-new father a few weeks after Fathers Day. He also admitted that he was scared that he might not be of much help to his wife, as, being an only child, he does not know how to relate to children, especially babies.

At some point not long after the baby is born, just about every new father gets hit with a sharp jolt of reality: He's a dad - with new responsibilities, new pressures, and new expectations to live up to. This seemingly basic epiphany comes early for some of us, before we leave

child? Do I care? We'll feel like fleeing from this whole dad thing and starting a new life somewhere else. Chances are the very next thing we'll feel is incredible guilt. After all, if we aren't head over heels in love with our child 100 percent of the time, we're not good fathers, right? Wrong. These emotions are a normal part of being a dad, and we're going to have the same feeling dozens of times over the next 50 years. So get used to it.

## Depression -

Many fathers get depressed after their babies are born. Unlike our wives, our blues

others are a normal part of making the transition from man and husband to father.

## Relationship with our wives

Before we became parents, we spent a lot of time together as a couple, nurturing each other and making our relationship stronger. But once a baby shows up, everything changes: Now the focus is just about everything we do is on our baby. We barely have time to sleep, let alone do the things that brought us and our wives together in the first place. If at all possible, try to carve out some time, even if it's only a few minutes a day, to spend

Family

page

By Chris & Noelma Lam

the hospital. For others, reality

may not set in for a few days. Sooner or later, though, we will all come to realize that our lives have changed forever. Sometimes the changes are subtle, sometimes not so subtle. But they're almost always surprising.

## Confusion -

Conflicting emotions set the first few months of fatherhood apart from the next few years. On the one hand is the sense of virility, power, and pride at having created a new life. On the other are the feelings of helplessness when we can't satisfy (or sometimes even understand) our baby's needs.

## Contradictory or opposing emotions

One day we will look at the baby and realize that the intense passion we felt just the day before has been replaced by a numb, hollow feeling. Do I know this

aren't hormonally based, but may have more to do with returning to reality. When we were expectant and brand-new dads, people paid more attention to us. But after a few weeks we're back to the grind at work, plus we've got to deal with the bills, the sleep interruptions, and the extra laundry at home. That's enough to depress anyone.

## Fear -

The first few months of fatherhood are fraught with fears: that we won't be able to live up to our expectations of what it means to be fathers, that we might not be able to protect our child or our family from harm, that we won't be able to adequately provide for our family, that we don't know what to do with our child, that we've made a horrible mistake. These fears and many

talking with our spouse - about

something other than the baby.

Interacting with your baby -

For the first six to eight weeks of life, our baby probably won't give us much feedback about how we're doing as a father: few smiles, no laughs, not much response at all. In fact, just about all he'll do is cry. It's easy to take his "opinions" a little too seriously, to interpret his lack of enthusiasm as some kind of referendum on our fitness as a dad. Don't. Hang in there a little longer - it'll be worth the wait. Lessons in love -

While we're learning to understand our baby's cues and meet his needs, he is gaining the physical coordination to express his love for us in the most amazing ways. The first time he coos, or hugs us, or falls asleep on our chest absentmindedly stroking our shoulder, we'll discover the true meaning of life. A new and different kind of love - There's no comparing the all-consuming love we have for our child with our love for any other person.

## Mind Puzzler Corner

### Our last Brain Teaser was:

David was out for a walk when it started to rain. He did not have an umbrella and he wasn't wearing a hat. His clothes were soaked, yet there was not a single wet hair on his head. Why?

**The answer is:** David was bald. Now here's this week's Brain Teaser:

**I'm seen only when all around me is cold.**

**For most of the time you just live and ignore me;**

**Then you gasp for me, stop for me, mutter below me.**

**When I leave you, you leave too!**

**What am I?**

Look for the answer in our next issue.

## Spiritual Titbits

### - - This Week's Bible Question:

Q. Who was Jonah's father?

(Answer below.)

### - - This Week's Teaser:

Q: Why isn't your ear twelve inches long? (Answer below.)

### - - Today's Bible Verse:

Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. - Proverbs 16:18

### - - Today's Wisdom / Reflection:

\* Children more readily follow fathers who set the pace than those who issue orders from an armchair.

\* There is no friendship, no love, like that of a father for his children.

### - - Humour:

As dessert was served to the visiting priest, the hostess apologized for not having any cheese to go with the apple pie. Hearing this, her son, Little Johnny, slipped down from his chair and left the room, then returned with a small piece of cheese which he shyly placed on the priest's plate.

"Why, thank you, son," said the guest as he popped the cheese in his mouth, "You must have found the last piece! Where did you find it?"

Flushing with pride, Little Johnny said, "Oh, it was in the mousetrap."

### - - A Card Hallmark Would Never Print:

I feel sorry for you because you are so homely,

But I feel even sorrier for other people Because they have to look at you.

### - - Answer to Bible Question:

Amittai. - see Jonah 1:1

"Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai."

### - - Answer to Teaser:

If it was twelve inches long it would be a foot.

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## Bishop Finn Supporters Hold Prayer Gathering

Nearly 150 Catholics gathered to pray in support of Kansas City-St. Joseph Bishop Robert W. Finn outside of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Pentecost Sunday.

The negativity toward the bishop expressed in the press "is not how the majority of people in the pews feel," said Nathan Lewis, a parishioner at Our Lady of Good Counsel, in an interview with the diocesan paper *The Catholic Key*. Lewis was among the faithful praying for the bishop.

Controversy has been spiraling around Bishop Finn since former St. Patrick's pastor Father Shawn Ratigan was arrested in May on three counts of possessing child pornography.

Bishop Finn acknowledged the "serious realities" of Father Ratigan's case during his homily at Pentecost Sunday Mass. "Once again, as bishop I take full responsibility and express again my sorrow for these events," Bishop Finn said.

## Holy See: People Have More Dignity Than UN Recognizes

As the organization responsible for more than a quarter of the worldwide care of AIDS patients and those affected by the disease, the Church speaks on AIDS with plenty of experience.

And what it says, and has said again at the United Nations last week, is that the human person is better, stronger and more capable than ordinarily thought -- the human person has more dignity than the United Nations gives him credit for. The archbishop promoted again "the only universally effective, safe and affordable means of halting the spread of the disease": abstinence, fidelity and the avoidance of irresponsible behaviors, as well as universal access to drugs that prevent the spread of HIV from mother-to-child.

## Pope's Rep to Vietnam Makes 2nd Trip to Nation

Benedict XVI's representative to Vietnam is in the midst of a two-week pastoral visit to the north of the nation.

Archbishop Leopoldo Girelli, who was named the "non-residential pontifical representative" at the beginning of the year, is making his second visit to Vietnam, reported *Eglises d'Asie*, the news agency of the Foreign Missions of Paris. At the end of April, he visited Hanoi and Saigon.

Archbishop Girelli's itinerary includes five dioceses. A highlight of his trip has been a Mass with some 500 young people preparing a youth event for November.

The event gathers thousands of Catholic youth from northern Vietnam. The Diocese of Bac Ninh will host this meeting on Nov. 11, and

at least 20,000 participants are expected. The Vatican representative has also met with religious of the Diocese of Bac Ninh, and, according to official media, the vice-president of the provincial popular committee.

## Israel Progress "Very Significant": Holy See

A line-up of succinct Vatican communiques over the years has reported the results of meetings between the Holy See and Israel regarding their 1993 Fundamental Agreement.

The communiqué after Tuesday's meeting seemed to indicate headway in the discussions.

"The negotiations took place in an open, friendly and constructive atmosphere," the communiqué stated, "and very significant progress was made."

The Bilateral Permanent Working Commission between the Holy See and the State of Israel is negotiating the agreement that established diplomatic ties between them. Since the 1993 agreement, the two sides have been discussing the particulars of tax exemptions and property rights for the Church, in particular for the holy sites. Monsignor Ettore Balestrero, undersecretary for relations with states, led the Holy See delegation, and Daniel Ayalon, Israel's deputy minister of foreign affairs, led the Israeli delegation. The next plenary meeting was scheduled for Dec. 1 in Israel.

## 5 Years and 200 Attacks on Indonesian Churches

Since 2006, there have been more than 200 attacks on churches in Indonesia, but the president is seen as "rather hesitant" when it comes to protecting the Christian minority in the country.

Theophilus Bela, president of the Jakarta Christian community forum, spoke with the international charity Aid to the Church in Need about the problem.

Bela blames the administration of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono for not doing enough to tackle Islamist anti-Christian violence.

"President Yudhoyono sleeps if there is an attack on Christian churches," Bela said. "If the president sleeps, so do the police."

"Mr. Yudhoyono gives the impression that he is rather hesitant to protect the Christians," Bela said.

The majority of the country, some 86%, are Muslim.



## Justice & Peace Desk

## US Bishops Release Next Pro-Marriage Video

The U.S. bishops gathered on Wednesday in plenary assembly asked themselves what is to be done for marriage in this country, just as New York legislators were debating legalizing same-sex "marriage."

With the issue at the forefront of the culture war, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' continues its effort to help the faithful strengthen their marriages.

"Made for Life" features actual married couples reflecting on topics related to the gift of children, the indispensable place of fathers and mothers, and sexual difference.

"The video also addresses a real gap today in public awareness, namely, the close connection between a culture of life and a culture that promotes and protects marriage. The two cannot be separated."

Bishop Cordileone announced the release of "Made for Life" during his report to the bishops Wednesday. Made for Life is part of an educational initiative launched in June 2010.

## Europe Bishops Turn Focus to New Evangelization

The Council of the Bishops' Conferences of Europe (CCEE) is turning its focus to the new evangelization, with two meetings on the topic scheduled this month.

Two consecutive CCEE meetings -- a meeting of the general secretaries starting Thursday, and then a meeting of the media officers and spokespersons starting Saturday -- will look at the "new" evangelization of the continent.

When the spokespersons arrive on Saturday, they will discuss with the secretaries effectively proclaiming the Gospel even in difficult circumstances. The spokespersons will then begin their own reflections on the new evangelization.

## God's Billboard

Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship ... *GOD*

# A Spirit-filled Farewell to Frs. Dermot and Stephen



A Thanksgiving and Farewell Mass in appreciation of the service given by Fr. Dermot Preston SJ and Fr. Stephen Patterson SJ was held at St. Pius X Parish on Tuesday, June 14th 2011. The mass was celebrated by Bishop Francis Alleyne OSB and eleven priests.

The Eucharistic celebration was wonderfully uplifting and Spirit-filled. The church was filled with people from all the Parishes of the Pastoral Area and beyond. Last Sunday was the feast of Pentecost, and above the crucifix was the image of a Dove from which radiated seven streamers, representing the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This was fitting, as the presence of the Holy Spirit was truly felt as we joined as one body. This was a mass of true thanksgiving- full of vibrancy, joy and life as we gave thanks to God as a community for Frs. Dermot and Stephen. The church came alive as the hymns were sung with great feeling.

In his homily, Fr. Dermot spoke of love, describing agape as not being lovey-dovey, but rather a tough determination for goodness. The Symbolic Offertory, which brought out the theme of the Mass, consisted of a map of Guyana, Cassava Bread, Salt & Light, the Holy Bible, and Water; presented by the parishes of Our

Lady of the Mount, Sacred Heart, The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Holy Rosary and Holy Spirit.

After the concluding prayer, tributes were given by Fr. John Persaud, moderator of the Priest team; Mrs. Patricia Liverpool – Pastoral Area; Ms. Anna Abraham – SEARCH; Mr. Andrew Kerry – Liturgy; and Mr. Andrew James- St. Pius X. They all spoke of the many contributions that Fr. Dermot and Fr. Stephen have made to the Church in Guyana and in particular the Pastoral Area. Fr. Stephen and Fr. Dermot spoke about what serving in Guyana has meant to them, and they were presented with small tokens of appreciation.

The Church in Guyana has truly been blessed by the presence of Fr. Dermot and Fr. Stephen. We are sad to see them go, but the contributions they have made will always remain with us.

## Pope's Missionary intention - June

The Holy Father's Missionary Prayer Intention for June 2011: "That the Holy Spirit may bring forth from our communities missionaries ready to be consecrated to spreading the Kingdom

## PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION 2011

Next week, Sunday June 26 our Diocese will take up the Peter's Pence Collection, which provides the Holy Father with the funds he needs to carry out his most important charitable works. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and natural disasters. Through your generosity, we can cast the peace of Christ upon the world

## Pope's Caribbean rep moves to Ukraine

Pope Benedict XVI has appointed Archbishop Thomas Edward Gullickson, who is currently the Papal representative to a number of Caribbean countries including Guyana, to be the new Nuncio in Ukraine. This was announced by the Holy See Press Office recently.

The Archbishop was born August 14, 1950 in Sioux Falls (South Dakota, USA), and was ordained a priest June 27, 1976.

On 2 October 2004 he was appointed titular Archbishop of Bomarzo, and that same day Apostolic Nuncio to Trinidad and Tobago, Bahamas, Dominica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

On 11 November the same year was ordained a bishop.

On 15 December 2004 he received his appointment as Apostolic Nuncio to Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Jamaica, Guyana and Suriname.

On 20 December of that year was later named Apostolic Nuncio to Grenada, also in the Antilles.

# Father's Day Special

In recognition of the role of fathers St. Joseph Mercy Hospital is offering a special price for the following tests;

- \* **PSA Blood Test**
- \* **RBS/FBS**
- \* **LIPID PROFILE**

All men but especially fathers are invited to take advantage of this offer during the month of June 2011 and onwards.

Special Price		Individuals	Group
PSA	-	\$3,500.00	\$3,300.00
RBS/FBS	-	\$1,050.00	\$1,000.00
LIPID PROFILE	-	\$4,000.00	\$3,800.00

At St. Joseph Mercy Hospital we believe these tests are important not only to your health but your family as well.

**A PSA test** measures the amount of prostate specific antigen in the Blood. High amounts may indicate that you are at risk of developing or have Prostate Cancer

**Fasting Blood Sugar (FBS) test** measures the blood glucose after you have not eaten for 8 hours. It is often the first test done to check for Pre-diabetes and Diabetes.

**Random Blood Sugar (RBS) test** measures blood glucose regardless of when you last ate.

**A Lipid Profile test** measures Lipids – fats and fatty substances in the Body.

**The test is done to check for lipid disorders, such as high cholesterol which may lead to life threatening illnesses such as coronary artery disease, heart attack or stroke.**



Priests at the altar at Monday's Feast day Monday of the newly renovated church of St Anthony of Padua in Buxton

## Gov't forces kill two church workers in Sudan

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- Two church workers were murdered by government forces in Sudan's South Kordofan state in what one church adviser called a campaign of "ethnic cleansing."

John Ashworth, an adviser to the Sudan Ecumenical Forum, which includes the Catholic Church, would not elaborate on the religious affiliation of the church workers, who were killed June 11 after two days in detention. He told Catholic News Service that he could not be more specific because church officials on the ground were becoming more nervous about drawing attention to the church.

### Diocese launches web site

*From front page*

page, there is a chat box, people can post in their prayers, questions, suggestions etc. Right below are the buttons given to deepen our knowledge on scripture, theology, sacraments, liturgy etc. On the right had side is the box for announcement. The website is launched before its completion that it will incorporate many more suggestions as it gets developed fully. The team invites the people to use it regularly to exchange information and knowledge.

## Father's Day ... *From page 2*

REACH OUT AND MAKE THIS FATHER'S DAY A VERY SPECIAL ONE. HOPEFULLY YOU WILL SHOW LOVE AND BE THE RECIPIENT OF LOVE.

I commend to you, this statement:

"HONOUR THY PARENTS, THOSE THAT GAVE THEE BIRTH, AND WATCHED IN TENDERNESS THINE

EARLIEST DAYS, AND TRAINED THE UP IN YOUTH, AND LOVE IN ALL.

HONOR, OBEY, AND LOVE THEM; IT SHALL FILL THEIR SOULD WITH HOLY JOY, AND BLESSING ON THEE; AND IN DAYS TO COME, THY CHILDREN, IF THEY'RE GIVEN, SHALL HONOR THEE, AND FILL THY LIFE WITH PEACE."

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

## Catholic Memory Lane

In 1971 they celebrated 25 years in Guyana.

The first contingent of five priests to arrive in British Guiana after the World War in 1946 concelebrate Mass at the Our Lady altar in Brickdam Cathedral, Georgetown to mark the anniversary of their arrival. Fathers Thomas Lynch, Francis Edgecombe, Bishop Richard Lester Guilly Fathers Bernard McKenna and Herbert Feeny.



If readers have any photos of historical Catholic interest and would like to share them, please contact Colin Smith on 226 2195 or Francis Canzius on 220 5989. Catholic Memory Lane is a fortnightly feature in the Standard.

# Over 500 loaves of bread given to the poor in N/A on St Anthony Day

From Leon Suseran ..in New Amsterdam

Over 500 loaves of home- style bread were baked and distributed to the poor and needy in New Amsterdam on Monday, June 13, celebrated worldwide by Catholic Christians as the Feast of St Anthony of Padua, Italy.

The Catholic saint is connected to the bread that is made and distributed annually around the world on his feast day, June 13, because of his love for the poor and needy.

He became a Franciscan priest and declared a Doctor of the Church, an honorary title given to men and women who were brilliant in Church teachings and the Scriptures.

He died on June 13, 1231 in Padua, Italy and was almost immediately declared a saint. Many statues of St Anthony portray Anthony holding the Baby Jesus in one hand and a loaf of bread in the other hand.

Different legends or stories account for the donation of what is called St. Anthony Bread. By at least one account it goes back to 1263, when it is said a child drowned near the Basilica of St. Anthony which was still being built. His mother promised that if the child was restored to her she would give for the poor an amount of corn equal to the



**Some of the blest loaves before distribution to the poor**

child's weight. Her prayer and promise were rewarded with the boy's return to life.

Another reason for the practice is traced back to Louise Bouffier, a shopkeeper in Toulon, France. A locksmith was prepared to break open her shop door after no key would open it. Bouffier asked the locksmith to try his keys one more time after she prayed and promised to give bread to the poor in honor of St. Anthony if the door would open without force. The door then opened. After others received favors through the intercession of St. Anthony, they joined Louise

Bouffier in founding the charity of St. Anthony Bread.

Millions of loaves of bread are made and distributed annually on his feast day. On Monday, the St Vincent de Paul Society of the Roman Catholic Church in New Amsterdam, which organizes the annual event, baked hundreds of loaves of bread and after a special service, shared the bread out to the poor. The Good Samaritan Home in Stanleystown and the Berbice Anjuman Orphanages were among the recipients of the blessed bread as well as poor families in the town.

## The Catholic Charismatic Renewal

### All Night Vigil

An Invitaion to spend a night in  
prayer

before the blessed Sacrament

From 6.00 pm Saturday 25 June

To 6.00 am Sunday 26 June

at

Holy Rosary R.C. Church  
Kitty

All are cordially Invited

## Water fight: A new Catholic issue emerges in Italy

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- A referendum in Italy has spotlighted an emerging social justice issue for the Catholic Church: access to safe water as a basic human right.

Italians went to the polls June 12-13 and voted overwhelmingly to revoke a decree that imposed the privatization of water resources. The issue stirred an unusually intense debate, with church leaders arguing that water is the archetypal "gift from God" that should not be polluted by the profit motive.

On June 9, a group of more than 100 missionary priests and nuns fasted and prayed in St. Peter's Square to underline their support for the referendum and their opposition to the privatization of water. Beneath Pope Benedict XVI's windows, they unfurled a giant banner reading: "Lord, help us save the water!"

The next day, the Vatican's Cardinal Peter Turkson weighed in. Cardinal Turkson, head of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, said water distribution should be a service provided by governments to their citizens as part of their role in protecting the common good.

## Remember to tune in to CATHOLIC MAGAZINE

Sun., 17 June

Of Gods and Men (Pt 7) On

Chan 11 - NCN - 2.30pm;

Chan 2 (BTV) - 6:00pm

The programme on Chan 8: N/A is at 6.00pm;

email:- catmagguy@gmail.com;

Tel:- 226-2192