

Be ready to explore, commit to the best ways of being

....Says Bishop Alleyne in Easter Message



In his Easter message His Lordship Bishop Francis Alleyne OSB says that as Easter People, we are called to take up the stance that has been strong in our tradition, namely the readiness to explore and commit to the best ways of being. His Easter wish therefore, is that together we live and plant

the seeds of what is most genuine and authentic.

The message is given in full below:

“New ways of being Church in a Digital Milieu” is the title of a Pastoral Letter recently published by the Bishops of the Antilles. The letter describes some of the realities of our Caribbean region in an age when digital technology is very available and developed to the point that we make references to cyber space and cyber citizens. The document quotes from a publication with the title “Cybertheology: Thinking Christianity in the Era of the Internet.” A quote from this book says “The Internet ... has evolved into a cultural environment that determines a style of thought, creating new territories and new types of education, contributing also to the definition of a new way to stimulate the intelligence

and to tighten relationships. It is a way to live in and organize our world. It is not a separate environment, but it is becoming ever more integrated into our everyday lives”. A pertinent question is “How can we best be Church in this environment?”

The Church over its history has repeatedly encountered new realities and repeatedly been faced with the same question, how to be authentic, how to be true to our identity, how to distill the truth in the face of a changing landscape?

We read in the Acts of the Apostles chapter 10, very early in Church history, of Peter coming to terms with the new milieu of non-Jews seeking Baptism and Peter says in the house of Cornelius, “The truth I have now come to realize is that God does not have favorites, but that anybody of ([please turn to page 2](#))

Santa Rosa celebrating 200 years of Catholic faith

On April 1st 2018, Catholics in Santa Rosa and throughout the country will celebrate the bicentenary of the establishment of the Catholic Church in that Region.

In the two centuries since the arrival of the first Catholics, the Church in the area has undergone some significant stages. In this issue we trace the more fundamental periods of the past 200 years.

The week-long celebrations of the bicentenary will be inaugurated with a solemn Mass of thanksgiving in Santa Rosa on Sunday April 1st.

During the week, tribute will be paid to the selfless contributions of those heroic, early pioneers, and those of more recent vintage, including priests and sisters both local and from abroad, along with laity from Guyana, by whose efforts and dedication the seeds of the Catholic Church were first

planted in Santa Rosa and spread across other parts of Guyana.

The festivities will also include a Cultural/ Musical Treat, a Family Fun Day, historical perspectives, a sale of products from Santa Rosa and a craft-making demonstration and sale.

The articles have been submitted by Jesuit Brother Medino Abraham and priest of the Incarnate Word Father Pedro Torres. [Please see pages 6&7](#) ❖

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Bishop's Engagements

Sunday April 1st

17:00hrs – Mass at Cathedral

Monday April 2nd

03:00hrs - Travel to Santa Rosa

Wednesday April 4th

08:00hrs - Return to Georgetown

17:00hrs - Peace Building Meeting

Thursday April 5th

17:30hrs - Stewardship Council Meeting

Friday April 6th

10:00hrs - PANCAP Faith Leaders Meeting

Saturday April 7th

15:00hrs - AECYA Meeting

Sunday April 8th

08:00hrs - Mass at Sacred Heart

Monday April 9th

Travel to Rome to attend Ad Limina* and annual meeting of Antilles Episcopal Conference of Bishops.

* Ad Limina – Meeting with Pope Francis and various departments in the Vatican.



✠ Francis Alleyne OSB



Next Issue April 13th

The Catholic Standard Office will be closed next week, and reopens on Monday April 9th. Our next issue will be on Friday April 13th.

Have a blessed and peaceful Easter. ❖



The Lord is risen indeed

what makes Jesus so different! Why is he so unlike everyone else before and after? Why?

Because he did not stay dead.

That is the reason. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, rose from the dead.

No other person in the history of mankind has made such an impact on the minds and hearts of people. No one has ever risen from the dead. Previously, people were powerless in the face of death. Burial was the final act, the end, but not any longer. With the resurrection of Jesus everything changed. We can look forward to a life after death because Jesus promised that all those who believe in him will enjoy eternal life.

He is risen and we will also rise from the grave. This is our great hope.

We look forward to this glorious future.

Meanwhile let us not forget that the risen Lord, the ever living Jesus Christ calls on each and every one of us to work with him at improving our community, to be his instruments of love, healing and encouragement to others.

He needs me. I have a place in God's plan. I have a part to play – my life counts.

We pray. Lord, may we know the power of your resurrection in our lives so that we may work with you and be your witnesses in the world. Amen.

A Blessed Joyful Easter to all of us.

Leon Jeetlall, Lay Minister

EDITORIAL

"Post-Easter reflection"

We have celebrated Christ's passion, death and resurrection. Quite often, our liturgical celebrations -- if we have celebrated the whole journey of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil -- have left us with a spiritual high.

Now, we are back in our everyday world. Our Easter celebrations were full of grace; the everyday world is the same as always.

One may ask, "Was Christ's resurrection a mirage? Was it just a long-ago event that was of great importance then and that guarantees us of a future resurrection, but fails to transform life today?"

The greatest evidence for the historical truth of the resurrection is Jesus' disciples. There were no witnesses to the resurrection, but we still believe. We believe because we trust the witnesses.

And what witnesses! At the Last Supper, the apostles squabble over who is the most important in Jesus' kingdom. However, the kingdom they sought died on Calvary. Jesus would not establish an earthly kingdom and no earthly honor was to be gained by having been his follower.

But after Easter and after Pentecost, the disciples display a fearless, self-sacrificing faith. When the Risen Lord met the apostles on Easter evening, he encountered a frightened group huddled in a locked room. By his presence, words and actions, Jesus led them to faith.

After his ascension to the Father, the disciples gave extraordinary witness. They brought thousands of others to believe in Christ, they performed miracles and they suffered persecution with joy. Eventually, most of the apostles were put to death for their fervent evangelizing. Yet, none renounced their faith.

That was then; this is now. While the disciples' witness anchors our belief that Christ truly rose from the dead, their experience is not ours. Can we move beyond fleeting emotional highs and an intellectual belief in the resurrection?

We can, I think, if we ponder the life of our new pope and others whose lives have been transformed by the poor. How did Jorge Bergoglio, raised in a middle-class family in Argentina, become a man in joyful solidarity with the poor? How has he built a life of welcoming those on society's margins when most would sooner turn away from those people? How can he do this without some ulterior motive?

The basic answer is grace, an in-breaking of the sacred to the ordinary. It is grace, however, that has, in some way, been sought after. It is grace that is sought by

Dear Editor,

The Lord is risen indeed Alleluia! Jesus, by virtue of his resurrection, is with the Father. This is demonstrated visibly in the last of the apparitions by his symbolic gesture, the Ascension.

Why has his memory endured? We know he was a good man, that he performed miracles, that he served and helped the sick and poor, and transformed their lives. But there are others who are reported to have performed miracles, others who were good people, others who served and helped the poor! So

More information on priests needed

Dear Editor,

I must thank the people who write articles like Mr. Leon Suseran for telling me in their articles when priests are being appointed to new parishes. But I wonder why this is the way in which we learn about changes in the appointments of priests.

I remember long ago we used to have official announcements in the church notices and in the Catholic Standard in which we were told Father John from England has come to work in Guyana, he has been appointed to Berbice parish and will be stationed at wherever.

Almost every Sunday in the bidding prayers at Mass and on the radio

taking a step toward the poor and then another step and then another. At some point, the reality of Christ's presence in the poor takes the initiative.

Jesuit Father Jon Sobrino, a theologian, quotes the late Sister Jean Delorme who worked for many years with the poor in Latin America: "My reflections are gloomy, sometimes even painful. Seeing the faces, listening to the stories, my heart cannot stop hurting. But I am not sad. ... I find myself learning from these people what I had always hoped to be true: that love is stronger than death."

Love is stronger than death. There is a realization of the resurrection, one that has passed through suffering and one that has marked a person's life irrevocably with a grace that is not based on spiritual highs. It does not fade away.

This experience endures. Although, like the disciples' encounter with the Risen Lord, it occurs at a specific moment in time, its effects continue throughout one's life. One has been touched by the love that is stronger than death and one is permanently changed. ([please turn to page 3](#))

we are asked to pray for our priests and I like to do this since they are supposed to be our shepherds and leaders. However very often we do not know where the priests we can think about are stationed, if they are still in Guyana and what work they are doing or if they are no longer working in Guyana.

Our prayers for priests we know well can be much more personal if we know where they are and what they are doing.

Recently, again somewhere in an article in the Catholic Standard, I was reading that there was a farewell for Father Malcolm Rodrigues who was leaving the North West. However the article did

not say what Fr. Rodrigues' new posting is. Father Malcolm is an icon of the Catholic Church, very well-known not only in church circles but for his involvement as a churchman in so many other areas of Guyanese life. Many of his friends and other people would like to keep track of this remarkable man and what his new job entails so that they can give prayerful support.

So please Priests' Council, after you have made changes to where you are/will be located please let us know. We are one family and family members always like to know where brothers and sisters are and what they are doing.

Concerned Catholic

Be ready to commit to the best ways of being (From Front Page)

any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him." (Acts 10:34-35).

The Councils of the Church from the Council in Jerusalem (Acts 15) through to the Second Vatican Council marked moments when the Church faced new milieux and shaped new ways of being. Each time the Church faced a new era or a new culture it had to adopt *new styles of thought, new types of education, new ways of stimulating the intelligence and forming relationships*. Each new era called for *new ways to live in and organize our world*.

The constant through the many changes was resurrection, new life, new ways of being. It is the core of our Christian identity and each time we celebrate Easter we affirm this, we rejoice in it, we are Easter people. We have a wonderful tradition of renewal, adjusting to and embracing new realities and truths. In this spirit the recent Encyclicals of the Pope have been addressed

to particular milieux of concern; Laudato Si - Climate Change, Amoris Laetitia - Family.

This year the Holy Father is holding a Synod on Youth and next year a Synod on the Amazon. Each encyclical and Synod is inviting the whole church into the most authentic way of being.

As we bring this closer to home and look at elements that make up the milieu in which we are called to be Easter People, we are called to take up the stance that has been strong in our tradition: the readiness to explore and commit to the best ways of being. And whether the elements of our environment take the form of corruption, crime, abuse, exploitation or are the ones that open ways for new possibilities e.g. for better communications, collaboration, relationships, security, education, health, as People of the Resurrection, as a Church, the Easter wish that I extend to all is that together we live and plant the seeds of what is most genuine and authentic. ❖

South American bishops call for 'ecological conversion'

(CNS) -- Less than two months after Pope Francis spoke out about environmental destruction in the Amazon basin during a visit to Peru, bishops from Latin America and the Caribbean have issued a pastoral letter calling the region's Catholics to an "integral ecological conversion."

The letter, published in early March, reflects on environmental issues in Latin America in light of "Laudato Si', on Care for Our Common Home," Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical.

The Latin American bishops' council, CELAM, spent seven years drafting the pastoral letter, which will serve as input for the commission planning the Synod of Bishops for the Amazon, to be held at the Vatican in 2019.

The letter highlights "the serious consequences of the unbridled exploitation of natural resources and awareness that we must care for our common home," said Archbishop Pedro Barreto Jimeno of Huancayo, Peru, who oversaw much of its drafting.

The economies of many Latin American countries depend largely on exports of raw materials, especially minerals, the bishops note. Those countries experienced an economic boom over the past decade and a half because of high prices for oil, minerals and other commodities.

But while those revenues helped decrease poverty rates, the income gap in Latin America widened during those years.

Industries such as mining, oil and gas, timber production, industrial agriculture and large-scale energy projects cause "multiple impacts on the lives and health of people living near the projects, the environment and our

entire region," the bishops wrote.

They called on business executives, government officials and investors to "prioritize the lives of territories and their people over any financial interest."

Governments must "fully assume their responsibility to protect the most vulnerable people and place the common good ahead of any private interest," the bishops wrote.

The pastoral letter reinforces ideas expressed by Pope Francis during his encounter with indigenous people in Puerto Maldonado, a city in the Peruvian Amazon, during his January visit. The pope stressed the importance of safeguarding indigenous people's rights to their territories and the natural resources there.

The bishops emphasized that local communities must play an active part in decisions about development projects.

People today must safeguard the land, water and climate for future generations, the bishops wrote, because "justice demands that we give them a world fit for habitation."

On a page illustrated with a photo of Sister Dorothy Stang, a member of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur who was murdered in Brazil in 2005 for her defense of small farmers' land rights, the bishops called for safeguards for "those who care for our common home."

The bishops wrote that those people "often are threatened, abused, repressed and imprisoned for proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and denouncing the gods of power and money."

"There are many martyrs in Latin

America who have given their lives in the struggle for the defense of life," the bishops wrote.

"Their blood is the seed of freedom and hope."

Caring for creation is the task of all, the bishops said, adding, "The important thing is to 'begin at home.'"

Individuals can take steps to conserve energy, recycle, consume less and waste less, they wrote, while Christian communities should "live their mission of caring for the earth and for the lives of people, particularly the poor." ❖

EDITORIAL (From Page 2)

Those who mourn are comforted. They even experience the elation of final victory, a joy that does not pass away.

St. Paul severely chastised the Corinthians for their dependence on extraordinary signs such as miracles and speaking in tongues. They had missed what was most important: Love. They were like noisy gongs or clanging cymbals. They were running away from the world, from Christ's body, when they should be drawing nearer.

The everyday world is not a problem that interferes with our experience of an Easter high. Ordinary life is where we encounter the Lord every bit as much as did those disciples on the road to Emmaus. The everyday world is the place of grace.

By Glen Argan of Western Catholic Reporter, of Canada. ❖

Upcoming Events

April 1st-6th
Santa Rosa Bicentennial Activities
Please see details on [page 7](#).

Friday April 6th
Movie Night at the Diocesan Youth Centre
Please see [page 4](#) for details.

Sunday April 8th
National Dance Company – Praise and Worship at Brickdam Cathedral

The National Dance Company's traditional Praise and Worship presentation in celebration of Easter will be staged at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, on Sunday April 8th, at 6:30p.m. All are invited. You are particularly encouraged to bring out the children to join in this celebration. Admission is free.

Monday April 9th
Life in the Spirit Seminars
Please see details on [page 8](#).

Saturday May 5th
Camp Kayuka Fun Day
All are invited to the annual Camp Kayuka Fun Day on May 5th. Tickets cost \$500 (children of primary school age free), obtainable the Bishop's Office, the Piety Shop or your Parish. Please call 226-4469 for details. ❖

Pope's Intentions
April Monthly Intention:
For those who have responsibility in Economic Matters
That economists may have the courage to reject any economy of exclusion and know how to open new paths. ❖

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Where Experience is Always at Your Service

A Christian Perspective on Social Issues



Be better (or be...)

By GHK Lall

Now is the time to wrap arms around the opportunity now quickly receding. It is to reach for the grace to live the prayers, the ponderings, and the penances offered and lifted up to the heavens. It is the end of the Lenten Season trekked through test and distress, through self-examination and self-sacrifice, and through a powerful and insistent determination to be better. If not, an unchristian alternative looms and menaces.

To be better: How? With whom? Where? Why? A good start is from those personal shortcomings that have tripped, and keep tripping. If only incremental at the beginning, those must be faced and addressed, and then overwhelmed in time, the shorter the better. That can be personal and internal. The extension is to search the memory (sometimes it is right there and always there) for those who have wronged; or have been wronged. To be better has to come to signify a thorough purging of the furious differences, the hard causes, and the heavy results. The readiness to be better has to surge amidst the prayers, reflections, silences. It means striving in this barren, unforgiving land for the Christian summit and ideal of love, understanding, mercy, and forgiveness; to start over fresh and clean by virtue of the surpassing righteousness so much sought after, so much prayed for during Lent.

To be better must be the fervent desire practiced everywhere, and not just with one's friends and well-wishers, who see the world through the same lens. Too often it can be a troublingly murky lens. To the Christian in search of constancy and depth, to be better is not reserved for the solemnity of the sanctuary; but also to manage the roar, resentment, and rancor of the vexed and vexing roadside. To be better for the Christian, whether in or out of Lent, must come to mean projecting a breadth of benevolence-sometimes unseen, unknown, and unloved-in the social and environmental turbulence that is Guyana. To be pious is good; to be a difference maker is better; to be exemplary in both through reinforcing action is best.

This is part of the kernel of drawing closer to God, walking in the footsteps, and articulating and living the faith. If there is psychic objection to being better, then there is only the same pathetic unfulfilling alternative. And that alternative, that self-defeating comforting cushion and crutch, (really several alternatives under one roof) is to be content, to be angry, to be

unmoved, even to be bitter. This is the chalice of the empty-headed, the stiff-necked, and the hardhearted. It is the road away from Damascus; the odyssey travelled so prodigiously in this society. If any meaningful footing is to be found here, it just cannot be, must not continue. The humanity called for by Jesus, insisted upon by his teachings, can be so testing as to be draining and inhumanly so. Yet, this is what separates, what identifies and distinguishes his obedient, believing sheep.

To be suspicious and malicious is to languish in the false comfort of negative energy, to surround and immerse oneself with those who harbour old grudges, and just will not let go. There is a lot of easy fertile territory in this society for the wicked one to prowl; a lot of waiting hearts to be subverted through ready reception. He does not have to try very hard; the conditioning, the self-justifications come from long and settled outlooks and the endless looking back to the Sodom known. Nothing moves forward; none progresses. None! To be bitter enrages and enfeebles constantly. Just look around: school, street, office, church, and atmosphere. The very air is polluted. Such are the fruits of bitterness that cloud and clog. They de-Christianize, too.

Thus, once again, there is another long moment for learning, for elevating, and for bonding to the truly holy. The choice for observant Christians is clear: to be better or to be bitter. Now what will it be? Who is going with Jesus on the long uphill climb? Who will dare to challenge self? ❖

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Sunday Scripture

April 1st - Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

FIRST READING Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: "You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 117

Response: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'

Response

2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.

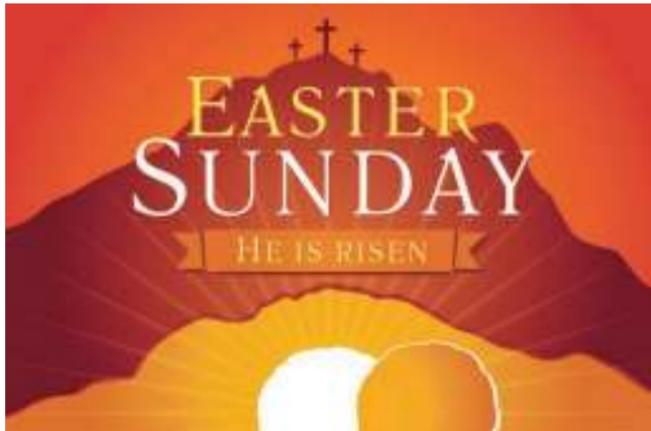
Response

3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

Response

SECOND READING Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the



things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

SEQUENCE

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.
Death with life contended: combat strangely
ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.
Tell us, Mary; say what thou didst see upon the
way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen; he goes before you into
Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation 1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed;
let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.
Alleluia!*

THE GOSPEL

John 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.✠



By: The Diocesan Stewardship
Council of Guyana

Today is Easter, the greatest feast in our Catholic calendar. On this Sunday, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. For Catholics, Easter Sunday comes at the end of 40 days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving known as Lent. Through spiritual struggle and self-denial, we have prepared ourselves to die spiritually with Christ on Good Friday, the day of His Crucifixion, so that we can rise again with Him in new life on Easter.

Last night was our Easter Vigil, called by the US Bishops the "Mother of All Vigils." Today, then, is the greatest of all Sundays, and Easter Time is the most important of all liturgical times. Easter culminates with Christ's Ascension to the Father and sending of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. There are 50 days of Easter from today to Pentecost. It should be characterized, above all, by the joy of glorified life and the victory over death, expressed most fully in the great resounding cry of

Christians: Alleluia! All faith flows from faith in the resurrection.

Today is holiest day of the year. For us as Catholics this celebrates one of the greatest days in history – when Jesus, the Son of God, defeated death and rose from the grave giving us all hope for eternal life. St. Pope John Paul II may have put it best several years ago when he proclaimed, "Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song.✠"

[<http://www.catholicsteward.com/blog/>]

Celebrating 200 years of the Catholic faith in Santa Rosa

History of Santa Rosa Mission, Moruca

The history of the Catholic Mission to the Amerindians in Guyana actually began in Venezuela.

In April 1818 the Bolivar revolution in Venezuela against Spanish rule was taking place. There were Amerindian peoples in the Orinoco, in Venezuela, under the religious care of an order of Catholic priests who remained loyal to Spain. This made them vulnerable to attacks from those supporting the Bolivar revolution. Indeed this is what happened. Many of the priests were slaughtered and Amerindian villages were pillaged. Rather than remain under such conditions, the Amerindians who survived made their escape eastward into British Guiana and settled in Moruca, thus constituting for the first time a formal presence of the Catholic Church in Moruca.

After their arrival, the group, who were Arawak, began to establish themselves among the local people, who were not Christians and who inhabited the area.

Juan Aguilar, also known as John, a lay person who was one of the refugees, became the first captain of Santa Rosa, teaching

catechism to the people and together with the community built a chapel. The British who ruled over this territory granted these refugees shelter to stay on because they perceived them as being Christians and speaking Spanish. So, the refugees legally settled in 1822 and practiced their Catholic faith in their new homeland.



Written on pillar of the church building in honour of Santa Rosa (Photo credit: Medino Abraham)

In the 1820s, an officer of the Royal Navy by the name of William Hillhouse had been appointed 'Quarter Master General of Indians'. Wishing to evangelize the Caribs, for some time he lived among them just as they lived, wearing only the guayuco (lap) and painting his body with annatto dye. In 1822 he made contact for the first time with the group of Amerindians who had appeared on the Moruca. He was struck by their standard of development, morality and industry. He settled among them and began to dress as they did. They were Arawaks, but spoke Spanish. He learned that they had come from the Orinoco, escaping Bolivar's army. Finding that he could not break their attachment

Mr. Willian Hillhouse persisted year after year in his efforts, on behalf of the 'Spanish Indians', despite prejudice and opposition. At last in 1837, permission for them to have their priest was granted and a small salary offered. The Chevalier Abbe Appollina Ire Hernant, himself a refugee from Venezuela, then arrived from Trinidad and served the people till 1840. Under his pastoral care the mission of Santa Rosa was established.

The Saint chosen as the patron for the new "Christian Catholic Community" was Saint Rose of Lima, a consecrated indigenous mestiza of the Dominican third order, and patroness of Latin America. From that day to the present the people referred to the Moruca

Mission. Some stayed for a year, others for ten years and even longer.

A significant service that the Catholic Church provided to the people of Moruca was the improvement of their spiritual and social welfare. Very important also was the academic advancement of most Morucans with the establishment of the first Catholic Primary School in 1880 under Father Mark Mesini S.J.

The old Church has had to be reconstructed several times. The first time was in the 1930s during the tenure of Father George Payne S.J., and more recently, in 2012 by Father William Montalvo IVE.

In 1989, under Father George Vanderwood S.J, the back part of the church was built, including the sacristy, the kitchen, and the parish office. The presbytery was also reconstructed. Also under Father Vanderwood the inauguration of the secondary school took place.

The education apostolate greatly enhanced the lives of the people of Moruca and produced renowned Morucans grounded in sound moral values and Christian teaching. For example Stephen Campbell and other earlier Toshaos were men of principle and great leader-

ship skills.

Besides these, the Santa Rosa Community also produced outstanding persons such as government ministers, politicians, nuns and other religious persons. Also, there are at least three ordained Anglican priests who have links to Moruca and are serving their flocks in different parts of Guyana. ❖

The Santa Rosa Church, Moruca, Region 1 (photo: Mariah Lall - Stabroek News)



to their Catholic faith, he supported the appeal they soon addressed to the British Governor Sir James Carmichael Smith, to procure a priest, properly supported, to minister to them.

In the year 1830, when they heard that a priest had arrived in Georgetown, they informed him of their plight, deprived of the comforts of religion.

On June 24th 1830, the Feast of St. John, Father John Hynes O.P. arrived in Moruca. Father Hynes spent three days in Santa Rosa, during which he baptized 75 children and married 2 couples. From this solemn occasion in celebrating the arrival of the first priest's visit on the feast of Saint John, the group of Catholics began the devotion to St. John which grew in the community.

This new Christian community was very dear to Fr. John Hynes, who later became bishop.

community as "Santa Rosa", the Spanish translation of "Saint Rose".

Father John Cullen, a diocesan priest who succeeded Father Hernant in 1840, resided in the mission and built the first church which was opened on October 27th 1844 by Bishop John Hynes. Father John Cullen remained in the mission until 1853.

Various diocesan priests visited the mission of Santa Rosa after.

In 1857 the first Jesuits arrived in Guyana under Bishop John Hynes and visited the mission of Santa Rosa. These included the future bishop of Guyana, Father Etheridge S.J who was appointed Vicar General of the diocese of Georgetown in 1857 by Bishop Hynes.

In 1859, Father Stanley Woollet S.J was sent by Bishop Etheridge to Santa Rosa to construct a presbytery and build a chapel to replace the Church that was about to collapse. After Father Woollet, many other Jesuit priests visited or stayed in this



The plaque at Santa Rosa Church landing showing the establishment in 1837 and its founding in 1818.

(Photo credit: Medino Abraham)

Catholicism in parts of the Rupununi came from Santa Rosa

According to oral narratives and also documented history, the feast of St. John celebrated on June 24th each year was brought to the Rupununi by the Arawaks of Santa Rosa. This feast is celebrated by most Catholics of the Rupununi every year. It is also celebrated in neighbouring Brazil and the Catholics of the Rupununi working over there being exposed to the same.

Other significant contributions from the Santa Rosa Catholic Church to the indigenous people of the Rupununi was that they served as catechists and teachers who taught in the Primary Schools. Mr. Stephen Campbell, Guyana's first Amerindian Member of Parliament, was among the first pioneers who served as catechists in

the village of Sawariwau in the South among the Wapichans.

Under generous, hard-working persons like him and others who came later, along with the local indigenous teachers of the Rupununi, primary education flourished. It was an education grounded in Christian values and academics, and it produced brilliant Amerindians and prepared them for the advent of Guyana's independence.

However, over the years the Catholic Church in Santa Rosa has itself undergone transformations from being the dominant one, to now trying to work with other Churches in the community. There are several other Christian groups that have been established and are growing in numbers in Moruca. At the same time the population has increased to approximately ten

thousand, making it one of the oldest and biggest in terms of population size in the interior of Guyana.

The introduction of new ideas and experiences brought changes to the local culture and many challenges as well. In spite of this, many devoted Catholics have remained faithful to the Church while others have sought other paths, but live in understanding and harmony with each other.

It is a joy to look back and reflect on how the Catholic Church has contributed positively to the lives of the Morucans, while it also recognized her faults. The good has outweighed the bad by far.

On this note we would like to wish a happy Bicentenary celebration to the people of Santa Rosa which they observe on April 1st 2018! ❖

Gospel Reflection



By Fr. Michael Barrow SJ

A lady in the parish asked me if I would accompany her to the cemetery. "It's the first time I have visited Ron's grave since the funeral." I could appreciate her feeling. What did Mary Magdalen and the other women feel when they came back, not just to the cemetery but to the place where they had seen Jesus die on the cross? The tomb was close to Calvary – simply a garden separating the scene of the crucifixion from where he was buried. What did it feel like going back to that place of horror? The day before yesterday they had taken Mary his mother home because there was no point in staying. Jesus was dead – dead and buried. As one of the angels would say later. "Why look for the living among dead? He is not here."

His mother didn't come that morning. Was it because she was too upset or simply felt he's not there – he is alive with God? Those that went there simply saw the empty tomb, they did not immediately see Jesus and different people reacted in different ways according to their degree of faith and their assurance that all is not lost. Most likely Mary his mother had seen him alive before anyone else.

For all of them it took time to see Jesus, to appreciate what they really believed. Mary Magdalen recognised him only when he said her name. Thomas took a week of agonising before he could say "My Lord and my God." Of the apostles fishing on the lake, John recognised the man on the beach as being Jesus before the others did. Our experience of death seems so final that we need time to appreciate that resurrection is not something in the far distance that we must wait for but, like Jesus, our friends and family who have died are now more alive than we ever knew them. ❖

Historic Santa Rosa Presbytery badly in need of renovation

The Presbytery at Santa Rosa was first built by Father Stanley Woollet S.J in 1859. It was a small building at first and stood for over 130 years. In 1989, it was renovated by Father George Vanderwood. However the material used in the renovation was not of the best quality, so now the building is in a bad shape.

Bats are flying all around the house, wood ants have done a thorough job of nesting everywhere in the building, and the rain had done some damage to the house. Now when it rains the roof leaks.

There are lots and lots of problems. This historic building has become uninhabitable and is about to collapse. We were thinking of restoring the old

building by saving some of the good materials. We thought this would have meant a significant reduction in costs. However, after closer and more careful examination of the materials, we discovered that the wood had been affected by termites.

So now we are back at the beginning of raising funds to help build a new Presbytery for the present and future priests of this mission.

We kindly ask for your cooperation in any way possible, be it materials or financial support, so that we may start very soon the constructing our new presbytery.

For Donations:

Please make cheques payable to:

R.C. Bishop in Guyana/Santa Rosa Building Fund

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Region 1 Barima Waini,
Guyana

Republic Bank (Guyana) Limited

Branch: Anna Regina, Essequibo Coast
Account Number: 685-446-7

Contact:

Father Pedro Torres, IVE 592-674-0037;
Father Martin Mairena, IVE 592-685-7102

Thank you very much for your support. Please keep on praying for this mission and for the priests and brothers who are serving this community. Thank you and God Bless you all!!! ❖

WHEN WAS OUR CHURCH DEDICATED TO SAINT ROSE?

In 1844, on 27th October, Fr. John Hynes, now Bishop, paid a second visit to Moruca and blessed the New Church of troolie palm roof and sides, and a well-constructed frame. He dedicated it to Saint Rose of Lima. The chanting and the ceremonies would have done credit to the staff of his own pro-Cathedral in Georgetown.

(From "The Good News on the Wild Coast"; Fr. John Bridges)



Santa Rosa Bicentennial Activity Programme

Sunday, April 1st 2018

- Holy Mass
- Breakfast: Cultural/ Musical Treat.

Monday, April 2nd 2018

- Family Fun Day:
Kite Flying & Fishing Competition, Egg Hunt, Bag race, Musical Chairs, and much more...

Tuesday, April 3rd 2018

- History of Santa Rosa: **Roman Catholic Church.**
- Educational update:
History of Santa Rosa Primary and Secondary Schools.
- Achievers:
Pictures, Doctors, Nurses, Teachers, Musicians, Writers, Ministers of Government etc.

Wednesday, April 4th 2018

- Profile of Priests and Nuns who served at Santa Rosa.
- Religious Vocations from Santa Rosa

- 3 Nuns and Brothers...

Thursday, April 5th 2018

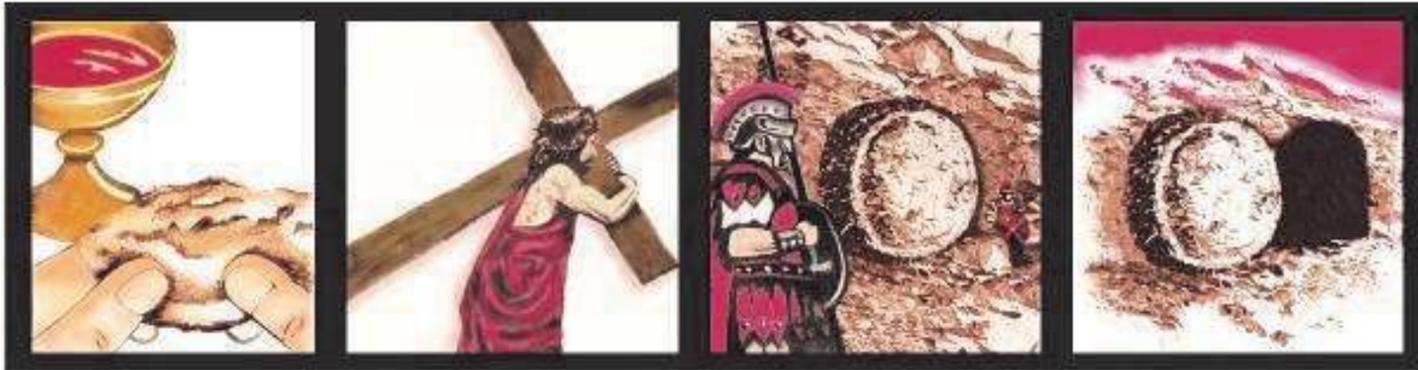
- Outstanding Lay Parishioners/ Promoters of our Catholic Faith, Catechists
- Achievers:
Kamwatta, Santa Cruz and others

Friday, April 6th 2018

- Products of Santa Rosa/Moruca
- Craft-making demonstration & Sale
- Campfire

And Other Entertainments..... ❖

Easter Triduum



The Easter Triduum

The Paschal Triduum, often called the Easter Triduum or simply the Triduum, begins during **Holy Week**, and is made up of the feasts of **Holy Thursday**, **Good Friday**, **Holy Saturday**, and **Easter Sunday**. This includes the **Great Easter Vigil**, the summit of the **Triduum**.

The word Triduum comes from the Latin word meaning "three days." It begins the evening of Holy Thursday and ends at Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday. Thus the Triduum consists of three full 24-hour days which begin and end in the evening. The Triduum technically is not part of Lent (at least liturgically), but Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday are still reckoned as part of the traditional forty day Lenten fast.

The Triduum celebrates the heart of Christian faith, salvation, and redemption: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thus, the Triduum commemorates the Institution of the Eucharist (the "sacrament of sacraments"), the passion, crucifixion, death of the Lord, his descent to the dead, and finally his glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday. Along with the Ascension, these important events make up the Paschal Mystery.

Holy Thursday

Holy Thursday, also known as Maundy Thursday, is the Thursday of Holy Week, commemorating the **Institution of the Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of Ordination**. Holy Thursday also celebrates the agony of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, and the betrayal of Jesus by Judas Iscariot, events that took place on the night before Jesus' crucifixion.

Various traditions and customs are associated with Maundy Thursday, including the reciting of the creed by Catechumens from memory, the washing of feet, reconciliation of penitents, and the consecration of holy oil (chrism). The modern Holy Thursday service has an option for the blessing of chrism and the washing of feet. After the Maundy Thursday evening Mass the altars are stripped, the holy water stoups are emptied, and the Blessed Sacrament is carried through the church in procession to a place of reposition. Traditionally the

Pange Lingua (the last two stanzas which are known as *Tantum Ergo*) is sung during this procession. Adoration of the blessed sacrament for an extended period of time is then encouraged. The consecrated host is then used for Good Friday Services.

Good Friday

Good Friday is the Friday within Holy Week, and is a time of fasting and penance, commemorating the suffering, crucifixion, and death of the Lord.

The evening (at sunset) of Good Friday begins the second day of the Paschal Triduum. The major Good Friday worship services begin in the afternoon at 3:00 PM (the time Jesus likely died). Various traditions and customs are associated with the celebration of Good Friday. The singing (or preaching) of the Passion of St. John's gospel consists of reading or singing parts of John's gospel (currently John 18:1-19:42 in the Catholic Church).

The Veneration of the Cross is also common. This is when Christians approach a wooden cross and venerate it, often by kneeling before it, or kissing part of it. In addition to these traditions, Holy Communion with the reserved host is practiced. In the Latin Rite of the Catholic Church, no Masses are said on Good Friday or Holy Saturday, therefore the reserved host from the Holy Thursday Mass is used. This is called the "Mass of the Pre-Sanctified."

Many Churches also offer the Stations of the Cross, also called the "Way of the Cross," on Good Friday.

Holy Saturday

Holy Saturday, *Sabbatum Sanctum* in Latin, is the last day of Holy Week, and the 40th day of the traditional Lenten fast, although Lent has ended liturgically on the evening of Holy Thursday. The evening of Holy Saturday begins the third and final day of the Paschal Triduum.

No Masses are celebrated on Holy Saturday, and the day is ultimately a sparse time of reflection on Christ's death and burial in anticipation of the Great Vigil of Easter (Paschal Vigil). The vigil usually begins the night of Holy Saturday, lasting until Easter morning. Very little happens on Holy

Saturday, that is until the beginning of the Great **Paschal Vigil**.

Easter Sunday

Easter (also called "Pascha" or some variant by most non-English speaking Christians) celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, and it is the greatest and oldest feast of the Church. The term "Pascha" is borrowed from the Jewish word for "Passover".

Traditionally, the Pascha celebration began with a lengthy vigil, the "mother of all vigils" according to St. Augustine. The whole history of salvation is retold during the vigil, through scripture and liturgy. At the **Easter Vigil** three traditions

developed: the **baptism of new converts**, **lighting of the paschal candle**, and the **blessing of the new fire** (taken from the Jewish blessing of the lamp on the eve of the Sabbath). The new fire is often processed into the Church to light the Paschal candle. Eucharist is then celebrated in the morning hours, being also the first Eucharist of new converts. The octave of Easter is also celebrated. These eight days are all solemnities in the liturgical calendar. Actually, these days even take precedence over other solemnities that can fall within the Octave of Easter, including the Annunciation.

Easter follows Holy Week, and is the third and final day of the Paschal Triduum, the three day period which began on the evening of Holy Thursday. The evening prayer of Easter Day officially ends the Triduum. The Triduum contains the heart of the Christian faith: Jesus' death and resurrection.

Easter is not just a day, but an entire fifty day season, called Eastertide, marked by joyful festivities and liturgical fullness. You might hear "Christ is Risen!" and "Alleluia!" frequently during the Easter season, because we are joyfully celebrating Christ's bodily resurrection. The Feast of the Ascension falls within Easter season. The 50-day season of Easter runs up to, and includes, the Feast of Pentecost. ❖

[From: <http://www.churchyear.net>]

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

INVITES YOU TO REGISTER FOR



COMMENCING MONDAY APRIL 9, at 6pm

AT THE CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

THE SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS WILL BE GIVEN BY INSPIRED TEACHINGS

The seminars are intended to help the participants grow in a deeper relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Participants can experience a "**Release**" of the Charismatic Gifts of the Holy Spirit (Cor 12: 4 – 11) already present in us by way of the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

YES! THE RENEWAL IN THE SPIRIT CAN BE CONSIDERED A SPECIAL GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THE CHURCH IN OUR TIME" – ST POPE JOHN PAUL II, ITALY - MARCH 14, 2002

"I EXPECT YOU TO SHARE WITH EVERYONE IN THE CHURCH THE GRACE OF BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT (A PHRASE WE FIND IN THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES) – POPE FRANCIS, ROME - JUN 1, 2014

ALL ARE INVITED TO THIS WONDERFUL LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE OF EMPOWERMENT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

Everyone wants to know the secret to making love last, but what if it was something as simple as just being your spouse's friend? Does that sound too easy? Well, according to research by Dr. John Gottman, long-term vitality and connection is maintained through moments of international friendship woven throughout the course of your relationship. Below you will find his simple ways to strengthen the friendship in marriage:

1. Make Small Moment into Pivotal Experiences: Think about the honeymoon phase of your relationship - that time when everything about your spouse seemed fascinating. You were head over heels. Fast forward a couple of years and there is no doubt that you are still drawn to your spouse, but you'll notice that the 'flame' is a little less vibrant and it seems a chore to make time to be together. This is when the intentional work of maintaining your marital friendship is most important.

Couples must learn how to make the seemingly small and mundane moments pivotal moments that show their spouse that they are in tune with their world. You must take the time to tune in, actively listen to, and respond to your spouse in a way that leaves them acknowledged and heard.

2. Express Genuine Interest in Your Spouse: Do you take the opportunity to do fun things during your free time? You don't have to have the same interests as your spouse, but it is absolutely possible to enjoy time spent together by engaging in one of their/your interests.

Open up to the idea of doing things that you may not otherwise do on your own, for the sake of your relationship. What you will eventually find is that, through your willingness to do

More tips that'll ensure your marriage lasts



By Chris & Noelma Lam

so, these activities will become enjoyable. The aim is not to force yourself to like golf if you actually don't, but to look for moments to enjoy with your spouse while you're out golfing with them.

3. Make Everything Positive in Your Relationship Foreplay: As contradictory as it may sound, the smallest ways that you acknowledge your spouse's questions and expressions are the most significant in strengthening and securing your physical bond.

According to Dr. Gottman, there is actual legitimacy to the "romance starts in the kitchen" mantra. Daily chores such as washing the dishes, folding laundry, watching TV, or cooking together can be opportunities for a deeper connection to occur. During these moments you can talk about your day, talk about your goals, or simply ask how each other is feeling.

4. Make Your Friendship Unconditional: When you think of your closest friends, you probably know that there are few things that could break the bond between you. There's an

acceptance of your differences, an understanding that you may disagree occasionally, but love each other nonetheless.

Bringing this mentality into your marriage will do wonders for your connection and romance. Recognizing that you will have different opinions and ways of addressing certain issues that come up can allow you to explore your spouse in a whole new way.

Work stress, issues with family members, and many other things can overflow into your marriage. There should be no conditions when it comes to being there for your spouse. Treat your spouse with the same understanding and unconditional support that you would hope to receive from them.

5. Be on Your Spouse's Team: This goes way beyond being able to accept your differences. When it comes to you and your spouse versus the world, you should always take your spouse's side. Never side with the enemy.

Show genuine interest in being on your spouse's side, and never say or do anything that could leave them feeling alone and insignificant. Stand up for your spouse when you see that they're feeling uncomfortable in a social setting.

As with any friendship, your marital friendship is a bond that has got to be nurtured and prioritized. Creating meaningful experiences, showing genuine interest in each other, prioritizing romance, and being on the same team are all simple actions that can help strengthen your marriage.

Cultivating these will become a potential lifeline for your relationship and, later down the line, could potentially save your marriage from breaking apart. ❖



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TitBits

-- **This Week's Reflection:**
Happy Easter To All - "This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." - (Ps. 118:24) Easter is the most joyous Feast of the Church's year. Through his resurrection, Jesus has given us proof that the evils of this world can never destroy us. We should not be ashamed to be a "fanatic" for Jesus!
 Cricket and Football enthusiasts can scream and yell at every game, and make all kinds of sacrifices to not miss a single one. They memorize every statistic and know more details about individual member's lives than they know about their own relatives. All this makes them a "fan."
 But if we apply these types of behaviours and attitudes to a believer's enthusiasm about Jesus and His "team", what do we get? A "fanatic!"

People tend to smile benevolently at a sports fan's devotion, yet scorn a believer's devotion to Jesus. This happens even within the "Church" community. God Bless You! Have a Great Week!

-- **This Week's Bible Question:**
 Q. What did the Egyptian magicians say to Pharaoh when they could not duplicate the plague of lice caused by Moses and Aaron?

-- **This Week's Teaser:**
 Q: What invention lets you look right through a wall?

-- **Today's Bible Verse:**
 Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord." - Acts 22:16

-- **Today's Marriage Tip:**
 Be kind and joyful. Each day pray for your spouse and, more importantly, pray with them as often as possible. Pray together at meals, even if you're in a restaurant. Don't be afraid to show PDF's (Public Displays of Faith).

-- **Humour:**
 Mom overheard Little Johnny and his friends playing 'wedding'. Little Johnny was saying: You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say may be held against you. You have the right to have an attorney present. You may kiss the bride."

-- **This Week's Truism:**
 Never make a woman mad. They can remember stuff that hasn't even happened yet.

-- **Actual Hilarious Signs:**
 On the door of a liquor store
 We have everything you'll need before school opens - except books.

-- **Answer to Bible Question:**
 A. This is the finger of God - see Exodus 8:19
 Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God."

-- **Answer to Teaser:**
 A window. ❖

Mind Puzzler Corner

Our Last Brain Teaser was:
 It is a law that no man living in the village is allowed to shave himself. The barber of the village shaves all men living in the village. The barber lives in the village. Who shaves the barber?
The answer: No one. The barber does not shave because she is a woman.

This Week's Brain Teaser:
 I beam, shine, and sparkle white. I brighten the day with a single light. I charm and enchant one and all. I can counter the darkest pall. What am I?

Look for the Answer in our next issue

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Brickdam Palm Sunday procession



Hundreds of parishioners of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Brickdam, joined their brother and sister Christians around the world in marking Palm Sunday, the start of Holy Week with a procession through the streets of Georgetown on Sunday March 25th. During their 40-minute march they sang hymns and waved their palms. The parade was led by Bishop Francis Alleyne OSB.

Palm Sunday is the start of Holy Week, which recounts Jesus' entrance in Jerusalem, his trial and crucifixion. ❖ (Photo credit: Joe Ramjohn)

Brickdam says goodbye to Lay Minister Pansy King



Lay Ministers of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Brickdam, line the main aisle of the church last Tuesday as they prepare to escort out the body of one of their colleagues Ms. Pansy King, who died last Friday at the age of 75 after a brief illness.

Many friends and well-wishers from the Guyana Broadcasting Corporation and the Guyana Telephone and Telegraph company where Ms. King also worked were among the hundreds in the Cathedral saying farewell.

Msgr. Terrence Montrose, who led her funeral service, described her as a woman of prayer and a perfect example of humble service.

He recalled she was one of the first people he met when he was first appointed to the Cathedral over 30 years ago. He said when she was first asked to be a lay minister she declined saying that she was not worthy. Later, when the request was made a second time, she accepted and served diligently.

Msgr. Montrose said he thanked God for what Ms. King had been to the Brickdam community and added that he was confident that she was enjoying the presence of God because of her faith and because she helped strengthen the faith in others.

(Photo credit: Joe Ramjohn)❖

Journeying with the Word of God



MAKING THE WORD OF GOD YOUR OWN

Step 1: Look at today's Readings prayerfully.

1st Reading: The apostles are witnesses to the resurrection of Jesus who brings forgiveness to all those who believe in him.

2nd Reading: Through our baptism we participate in the life of the risen Christ and so we should set our priorities and values accordingly.

Gospel: The empty tomb and the burial clothes are signs of the resurrection of Jesus. This opens all kinds of possibilities for those who believe.

Step 2: Applying the values of the Readings to your daily life.

1. The Church has always welcomed new members at Easter. Why do you think the Easter season is a great opportunity to reflect on what it means to be a baptised member of the Body of Christ, the Church?
2. Easter is a more important celebration on the Christian calendar than is Christmas. Why is this so?
3. Mary of Magdala complained that they had removed the body of Jesus and "we don't know where they have put him." Where can you honestly say you have put the living Jesus in your life and what effect does this have on you?
4. Like Peter in the First Reading, when and how can you say you too have been a witness to Jesus' resurrection?

Step 3: Accepting the message of God's Word in your life of faith.

The friends of Jesus saw and heard him a few times after that first Easter day and their lives were completely changed by the experience. When we share in their faith our lives will be changed too. We can live in hope because we know that good will overcome evil and that life will triumph over death because Jesus rose and conquered death.

Step 4: Something to think & pray about

1. What meaning does the resurrection of Jesus have for you? What are some of the resurrection moments you have experienced in your life? Why would you consider being accepted and forgiven by someone a resurrection moment?
2. Pray for those baptised this Easter, that they all may remember to live as people who belong to Jesus and that they will work to bring hope to people around them.❖

[From: *Journeying with the Word of God*, The Religious Education Department, Diocese of Georgetown, Guyana]

SSEE students receive blessing



Joint Palm Sunday celebration at Silver Hill, Linden Highway

In order to give the assurance that God is with them and a feeling of hope and encouragement, Bishop Francis called onto the altar of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception all the students present who took the SSEE this week for a special blessing.

Over 14,500 students across the country sat the exam earlier this week.

(Photo credit: Joe Ramjohn) ❖



By Eutol A. Wilson

Members of St. Joseph the Worker, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Our Lady of Lourdes church communities assembled at Silver Hill on March 25th to celebrate Palm Sunday.

At 8:30 hours our procession

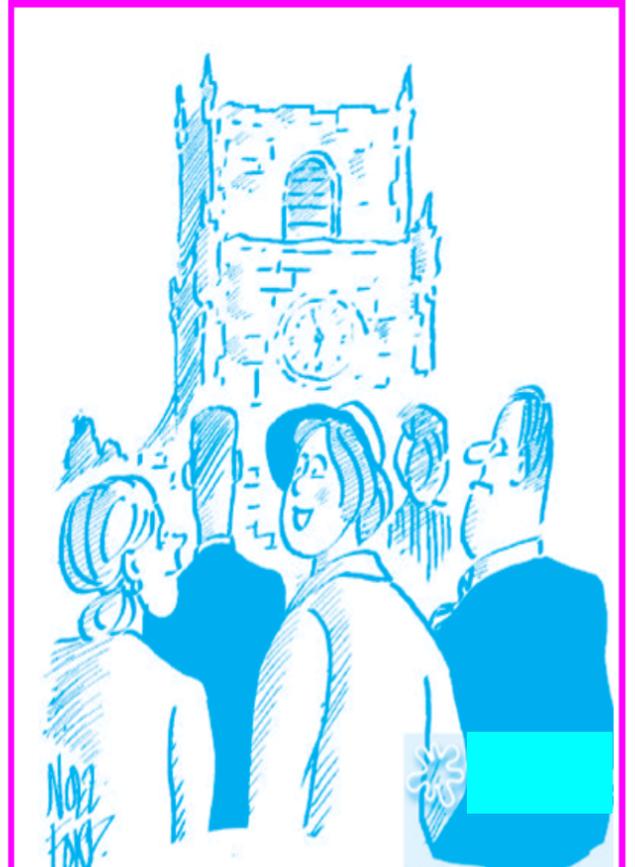
began in the church's compound and proceeded east on to the Linden Highway at Silver Hill 4 corner. The Mass began at around 9:00 hours, presided over by Father Berchmans Devadass. The reading of the passion and death of Christ was done by Fr. Berchmans

supported by lay ministers Gordon Gumbs, Desmond Clement, Eutol A. Wilson, and three parishioners. The Church was filled to capacity with members spilling out to benches outside the building.

Lunch and snacks were served and enjoyed by all following the Mass.



On the Lighter Side



"Easter coming so soon after Christmas has almost turned Anthony into a regular churchgoer."