

NEOPHYTES' MASSES

Today, Sunday 16th May, our neophytes together with their catechists journey to the Cathedral to participate in the annual Neophytes' Mass which begins at 9.00 a.m. and at which the chief celebrant is His Grace, Archbishop Edward Gilbert.

We offer them our prayers and good wishes.

On **Saturday 22nd May**, the Feast of Pentecost, we celebrate Mass for the closing of our 2009-2010 R.C.I.A. programme at 7.00 p.m. We invite all the neophytes, their sponsors and relatives, catechists and our Santa Rosa family to join in this celebration.

Parish Services

10.00 a.m. Saturdays

- 1st Saturday Legal
- 2nd Saturday Financial
- 3rd Saturday Family Life
- 4th Saturday National Insurance

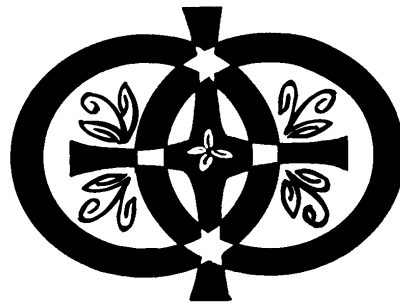
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May they be one,



as we are one.

Jn 17:22

**Marriage
Preparation**
*Wednesdays at 7.30
p.m.*



Confession

*The Sacrament will be available
on Tuesdays and Fridays from
4.00 p.m. in the Church*



Santa Rosa Dateline

*The Weekly Newsletter of the Roman Catholic Communities of
Arima, Aripo, Cumaca, and Valencia*

Vol. 09 Issue # 25

**Ascension Sunday
Communications Sunday**

Psalter Wk 3 Yr. 3/C

16 May 2010

ELECTIONS 2010

As our nation of Trinidad and Tobago prepares to go to the polls in the General Elections on May 24th, 2010, I wish to share with you some highlights from the statement issued by the Catholic Commission for Social Justice which was issued in October 2007 during the time of the last elections.

A time to act

“(The elections) should arouse in all of us a new sense of responsibility to contribute to the welfare and well being of our country, through sober and thoughtful participation in the democratic process.

It is a time for us to cast aside cynicism and frustration, disinterest and disenchantment ... As members of the Catholic Church and as members of the electorate, the basic starting point for our participation in the electoral process must be a clear moral code and value system.

Pope John Paul II provided us with such a foundation when he stated as in the course of his visit to the United States of America in 1995: "Democracy needs wisdom. Democracy needs virtue..... Democracy stands or falls with the truths and values which it embodies and promotes. Democracy serves what is true and right when it safeguards the dignity of every human person, when it respects inalienable and inalienable human rights, when it makes

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PARISH CLERGY

**Msgr. Christian Pereira
Fr. Rudy Mohammed
Deacon Kester De
Verteuil**

OFFICE HOURS

FR. RUDY MOHAMMED:
AVAILABLE ON
TUESDAYS AND
FRIDAYS
10.00AM - 12NOON

MSGR. CHRISTIAN
TUESDAYS AND
THURSDAYS
2.00 PM—5.00 PM
SATURDAYS
9.00 AM—11.30 AM

THE PSRS
MONDAYS & SATURDAYS
9.00AM - 12NOON AND
TUESDAYS - THURSDAYS
9.00AM - 5.30PM
FRIDAYS
9.00AM - 4.00PM

OUR BOOKSHOP IS OPEN
FROM 10.00AM - 6.00PM
TUESDAYS TO FRIDAYS AND
AT WEEKEND MASSES
TEL: 290-2339
737-8806
SATURDAYS 10.00AM—
12NOON

Santa Rosa R.C. Church, Woodford Street, Arima.

Tel.: 868-667-3658; 290-2336; Fax: (868) 664-2712;

Email: santarosatt@gmail.com Parish Website www.santarosatt.org

the common good the end and criterion regulating all public and social life." {John Paul II, Departure Statement, Baltimore.}

The social doctrine of the Catholic Church recognises that the human person is not only sacred but social and that the first and vital cell of the society is the family. Strong families build strong societies.

As we chart the course for developing and strengthening our society we need clear and practical answers to the question: How can our society better support families in transmitting to family members strong moral and ethical values and how can we assist them in their social responsibilities in finding and affording decent education, housing and health care?

Trinidad and Tobago is blessed with an extraordinary wealth of natural resources. Human development, the creation of sustainable livelihoods and the search for the common good are some of the fundamental criteria which must be used to guide and re-orient public policy and economic decision-making in the national interest..”

Transformation through participation

“We urge the Catholic community to engage in the electoral process and to promote a spirit of responsible political involvement and commitment to the common good. We urge all citizens to use their franchise by going to the polls.

We encourage them to assess the campaigns as well as the media coverage and to take an informed stance on the candidates and the issues.

If this campaign is to engage the values of the people of Trinidad and Tobago, the campaigners and voters alike must share the responsibility for making it happen.

We urge each person to become involved in the campaign or party of their choice, to learn about the issues, and to inform their conscience. In the Catholic tradition, citizenship is a privilege; lay participation in the political process is an obligation.

We are not a sect fleeing the world but a community of faith to renew the earth. Our call to political responsibility is neither a partisan nor a sectarian appeal, but a call to re-invigorate the democratic process as a place for debate about what kind of society we want to be, about values and priorities that should guide our nation.

Pope Benedict XVI says:“The Church cannot and must not replace the State yet at the same time she cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice. She has to play her part through rationale argument and she has to reawaken the spiritual energy, without which justice, which always demands sacrifice, cannot prevail and prosper.” {Encyclical Letter, *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love), No 28a}



THE ROSARY (part 2—continued from last week)

Why pray the Rosary today? Certainly, to grow in holiness and in one's prayer life. The following are a few others reasons why the rosary should be prayed often, even daily:

"Among all the devotions approved by the Church none has been so favored by so many miracles as the devotion of the Most Holy Rosary" (*Pope Pius IX*).

"Say the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world" (*Our Lady of Fatima*).

"There is no surer means of calling down God's blessings upon the family . . . than the daily recitation of the Rosary" (*Pope Pius XII*).

"We do not hesitate to affirm again publicly that we put great confidence in the Holy Rosary for the healing of evils of our times" (*Pope Pius XII*).

"No one can live continually in sin and continue to say the Rosary: either they will give up sin or they will give up the Rosary" (*Bishop Hugh Doyle*).

"The Rosary is a magnificent and universal prayer for the needs of the Church, the nations and the entire world" (*Pope John XXIII*).

"The Rosary is the compendium of the entire Gospel" (*Pope Paul VI quoting Pope Pius XII*).

“Meditation on the mysteries of the rosary ... can be an excellent preparation for the celebration of those same mysteries in the liturgical actions (i.e. the Mass) and can also become a continuing echo thereof” (*Pope Paul VI*).

“My impression is that the Rosary is of the greatest value not only according to the words of Our Lady of Fatima, but according to the effects of the Rosary one sees throughout history. My impression is that Our Lady wanted to give ordinary people, who might not know how to pray, this simple method of getting closer to God”(*Sister Lucia, one of the seers of Fatima*).

“How beautiful is the family that recites the Rosary every evening”(*Pope John Paul II*).

Pope John Paul II has called the Rosary his “favorite prayer”, after the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours.

St. Louis de Montfort warns us against both the ignorant and scholars who regard the Rosary as something of little importance ... “the Rosary is a priceless treasure inspired by God.”