

CATHOLIC FIGURES FROM THE VATICAN

The publishing house of the Vatican released a new edition of the Statistical Yearbook of the Church in April 2010, comprising information from 2000 to 2008 and indicating that the number of Catholics in the world is now 1.16 billion.

“Over these nine years, the Catholic presence in the world has grown from 1.045 billion in 2000 to 1.166 billion in 2008, an increase of 11.54%. Considering the statistics in detail, numbers in Africa grew by 33%, in Europe they remained generally stable (an increase of 1.17%), while in Asia they increased by 15.61%, in Oceania by 11.39% and in America by 10.93%. As a percentage of the total population, European Catholics represented 26.8% in 2000 and 24.31% in 2008. In America and Oceania they have remained stable, and increased slightly in Asia.

The number of bishops in the world went up from 4,541 in 2000 to 5,002 in 2008, an increase of 10.15%.

The number of priests also increased slightly over this nine-year period, passing from 405,178 in 2000 to 409,166 in 2008, an overall rise of 0.98%. In Africa and Asia their numbers increased (respectively, by 33.1% and 23.8%); in the Americas they remained stable, while they fell by 7% in Europe and 4% in Oceania.

The number of diocesan priests increased by 3.1%, going from 265,781 in 2000 to 274,007 in 2008.

By contrast, the number of regular priests showed a constant decline, down by 3.04% to 135,159 in 2008. Of the continents, only Europe showed a clear reduction in priests: in 2000 they represented 51% of the world total, in 2008 just 47%. On the other hand, Asia and Africa together represented 17.5% of the world total in 2000 and 21.9% in 2008. The Americas slightly increased its percentage to around 30% of the total.”

Courtesy www.zenit.org

Parish Services

10.00 a.m. Saturdays

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

Marriage

Preparation

Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m.
in the South Parish Hall

Confession

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

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Santa Rosa Dateline

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

Vol. 09 Issue # 26

Pentecost Sunday
National Elections

Psalter Wk 4 Yr. 3/C

23 May 2010

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

FEAST OF PENTECOST



The Church celebrates Pentecost (so called because it is fifty days after Easter Day) as the day on which the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, gathered in an upper room with Mary, mother of Jesus, "as a mighty, rushing wind", fulfilling Jesus' promise when he "breathed on them", as recorded in John's Gospel (chapter 20). This event, which marks the beginning of the Church, recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 2 is the moment when the Bible says the Spirit descended upon the gathering of Christians in the form of tongues of fire. The liturgical color for Pentecost is red, a reminder of the flames that "rested on them". Another symbol for the Holy Spirit is the dove, usually emitting golden rays of light. The Holy Spirit gave the apostles gifts of grace through which they would undertake the evangelical mission of the Church. On the day of Pentecost, the apostles were given the miraculous "gift of tongues" - so that everyone from every country understood the Christians inspired message of salvation as if they were hearing it in their own languages. Thousands were converted by the preaching of Peter and the other apostles.

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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

Feast of Corpus Christi

The annual celebration of this feast is a great opportunity for all Catholics to demonstrate our faith in the Holy Eucharist and in the ongoing presence of Jesus in His Church.

We remind all of the importance of attending one or other of the special masses to celebrate this feast:

Wednesday 2nd June: 7.00 p.m. Valencia (followed by procession) and Santa Rosa (Communion served under both species at this mass).

Thursday 3rd June: Mass at 9.00 a.m. only at Santa Rosa

First Communion with our children at this mass followed by procession.

There will be live radio and video broadcast of this mass.

The proposed route for the procession is:

West along Sanchez Street to King Street; North on King Street to Church Street; East on Church Street to Woodford Street, south on Woodford Street and back into the Church for Benediction.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The St. Vincent de Paul Society hosts an Award and Appreciation evening on Saturday 22nd May, 2010 from 2.00—4.00 p.m. in El Patio.

SANTA ROSA BOOKSHOP

Located next to the South Parish Hall on the Church's compound, the Bookshop has an array of gift items for any occasion including a choice of beautiful First Communion memorabilia as well as exciting and informative Christian books for any age. So pay a visit **Tuesdays to Fridays from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. or at weekend masses.**

ELECTIONS DAY

Tomorrow, **Monday 24th May**, is Elections Day in Trinidad and Tobago. We wish to encourage all registered parishioners to go out and vote and keep the democratic process alive in our country. We encourage everyone to pray that a spirit of peace, brotherhood and goodwill will prevail on this day.

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As we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, we recall our own Confirmation when the gift of the Holy Spirit was renewed in our lives, conferring on us, just like the apostles, the gifts of grace namely: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. We too, like the disciples, have been empowered to go out and preach to all nations, to bring God's message of peace, love and reconciliation to the whole world. The big question is: **Are we fulfilling that commission?**

Some compilation from www.wf-f.org

Appeal for Catechists

We are appealing for persons to join with our team of catechists for the **First Communion, Confirmation** and **R.C.I.A.** programmes as well as sponsors for **R.C.I.A.** for the new sessions starting in September, 2010. Your commitment means the faith can be passed on to our young people and interested adults. We are asking interested persons to complete a form and to give themselves to this very noble work. Please ask for a form at the Parish Office or the Bookshop. There are many ways in which you can prepare yourself for this challenge. We will help you.

Catholic Charismatic Renewal will be holding its annual rally on Sunday **30th May, 2010** at the Queen's Park Savannah. The day begins with Holly Mass at 8.30 a.m. The theme for the day is: "Jesus the Hope the Strength of all Families"



SPECIAL COLLECTION

A second collection will be taken up at all masses next weekend, **May 29th and 30th**, to assist with expenses in the planning and celebration of Fr. Rudy Mohammed's 50th Anniversary of priestly ordination, which will be celebrated on Sunday 29th August (the week after the Feast of Santa Rosa) at a special Mass at 11.00 a.m.

