

10TH NATIONAL CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE | CALVERT HUGGINS

The 10th National Charismatic Conference under the theme "Go Make Disciples of All Nations" taken from Matthew 28:19 was held from January 6th to 8th 2017 at St. Joseph's Convent School Kingstown. The feature speaker was Fr. Cornelius Phillip a Redemptorists (CSSR) from Dominica currently assigned to the parish of San Juan in Trinidad & Tobago. He was ably assisted by the Spiritual Directors of the NST Fathers Peter Okonkwo and Boniface Ogonna in presenting the talks for the weekend. This conference was very well attended and was hailed a tremendous success. The musicians did a superb job!



Fr. Cornelius Phillip

CORPUS CHRISTI FOLK CONCERT | ORLANDO JOHN



A group rendition | Photo by Orlando John

As part of the CCP music ministry's plan for the year, a fundraising Folk Concert took place at the Community College in Villa. The event was well attended and included guest items from other communities, dance acts as well as items from the Corpus Christi parishioners. A truly entertaining evening of real talent!

EVENING OF LOVE | ORLANDO JOHN

Corpus Christi Parish held their 'Evening of Love', which took place at Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church in Argyle, on Monday 13th February. Couples shared love stories, danced, sang, as they enjoyed refreshments and were honoured with awards based on the number of years they had been married. Sr. Clare & Sr. Esther were also present and they too shared that they had their own love stories! Sr. Clare sang her own "love hymn". A truly warm and wonderful evening with a selection of love songs played by Orlando John.



Couple enjoying a dance | Photo by Orlando John

SEND US YOUR FEEDBACK AT CSCCSVG@GMAIL.COM

LENTEN RETREATS SCHEDULE

CATHEDRAL

March 6 - 10 | 6PM

Venue: Cathedral

Presenter:

Fr. Matthew D'Hereaux

CORPUS CHRISTI

March 6 - 10 | 6:30PM

Venue: Stubbs

Presenter:

Fr. Emmanuel Offiong

ST. MICHAEL'S

March 19 - 25 | 6PM

Venue: St. Michael's

Presenters:

Bro. Mikkel Trestrail & Shenelle Boyce

ST. JOHN'S

March 20 - 24 | 6PM

Venue: St. John's

Presenter:

Fr. Charles Martin

HOLY FAMILY

March 20 - 24 | 6PM

Venue: Canouan

Presenter:

Fr. Herman Sharplis

March 27 - 29

Venue: Mayreau

Presenter: Fr. Rex Ramos

April 3 - 5 | 6PM

Union Island

Presenter: Fr. Rex Ramos

ST. BENEDICT'S

March 28 - 31 | 7PM

Venue: Belle Vue

Presenter:

Fr. Alando Williams

Catholic SVG

Building Community through Word, Eucharist & Service

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PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF KINGSTOWN



ASH WEDNESDAY

BISHOP CELEBRATES ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE FOR LESS FORTUNATE



In keeping with his promise to spend time and pay close attention to the poor and less fortunate who utilize the service of the Soup Kitchen, history was made in the Diocese on Ash Wednesday when Bishop County presided at a service at the recently reopened Soup Kitchen in Rose Place. A good number attended.

Our Bishop's homily was excellent and resonated with all present - encouraging all to live with fervor this special season of Lent. Afterwards Bishop joined all our chosen people for lunch.

POPE'S MESSAGE FOR LENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters: Today, Ash Wednesday, we begin our Lenten journey towards Easter. Lent is essentially a pilgrimage of hope, a season of penance and spiritual renewal that prepares us to share more fully in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. We relive the experience of the Exodus, in which the Chosen People journeyed towards the Promised Land and, through spiritual discipline and the gift of the Law, learned the love of God and neighbour. Easter is Jesus' own exodus, His passover from death to life, in which we participate through our rebirth in Baptism. By following Christ along the way of the Cross, we share in His victory over sin and death; by living the new life bestowed by the Holy Spirit in the communion of the Church, we are united more fully to the Lord in the sacraments, prayer and adoration. May our celebration of Lent renew our hope in Christ's promises, and our commitment to follow Him ever more closely, so that at Easter, in union with Mary our Mother, we may rejoice in the gift of eternal life and the triumph of God's saving love.

POPE FRANCIS GENERAL AUDIENCE ASH WEDNESDAY, 1ST MARCH 2017

Catholic SVG

To Keep A True Lent | SR. CLARE HARRIS

The Liturgical Season of Lent is with us.

When we think of Lent, 'The Colour Purple' not the movie comes to mind! Also the tried and true practices of Prayer, Fasting and Alms Giving (helping the poor and marginalized) and the weekly Friday Stations of the Cross.

But how can we deepen and enrich these 40 days?

This over 300 year old poem if internalized may help.

To Keep a True Lent by Robert Herrick 1648

Is this a fast, to keep
The larder lean?
And clean
From fat of veals and sheep?

Thy sheaf of wheat,
And meat,
Unto the hungry soul.

Is it to quit the dish
Of flesh, yet still
To fill
The platter high with fish?

It is to fast from strife,
From old debate
And hate ;
To circumcise thy life.

Is it to fast an hour,
Or ragg'd to go,
Or show
A downcast look and sour?
No; 'tis a fast to dole

To show a heart grief-rent;
To starve thy sin,
Not bin;
And that's to keep thy Lent.

SYNOD JOINT REVIEW MEETING | CATHERINE LEWIS

The Diocese of Kingstown, held its second Synod anniversary meeting on January 21, 2017 at the Pastoral Centre, Edinboro, St Vincent and the Grenadines. This Synod joint review meeting, held under the theme "Rekindling Our Vision" saw a reasonable crowd of over eighty attendees comprising our Bishop Gerard County, members of the clergy, the Parish Pastoral Councils, and the following teams: Synod Implementation Team, Vision, Finance, National Service Team Co-ordinator, the Synod 2015 planning team and other interested parties.

After registration, prayer, which included Lectio Divina, and the Synod song, Bishop Gerard County gave the opening remarks, setting the tone for the meeting.

Father Andrew Roache, head of the Synod Implementation Team (SIT), gave an overview of Synod, reminding those present of why we had it and what approach we had taken to resolve issues. This SYNOD resulted in forty-five resolutions being passed and various teams put in place to lead the implementation process.

The Review Meeting saw reports from these teams, highlighting achievements, sharing challenges and plans for 2017 and beyond. Mrs. Maraika Young of the SIT gave a consolidated report including information from the following commissions: Biblical and Evangelisation; Liturgical and Formation; Stewardship and Development; Youth and Family. Selected Parish Pastoral Councils also presented.

Dr. Veronica Marks of the Vision Team led the last session of the day, noting challenges affecting the implementation of Synod resolutions and soliciting recommendations and commitment to the 'Way Forward.' These challenges included information gathering, communication, youth development, spirituality, policy guidelines and finance.

Closing remarks and blessings were given by Bishop Gerard County, who gave words of encouragement to all present to remain committed to the work already in progress.

PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF LOURDES SHRINE | SR. CLARE HARRIS

The day Sunday February 12th dawned brilliantly... beautiful tropical sunshine and very many decided to give to Our Blessed Lady, Virgin Mother of God, the honour which is her due, in union with similar pilgrimages all over the world!

The usual procession from the old familiar place began at approximately 3:00p.m. On arrival at the church there was hardly room for those who had walked up... as many had already filled the Argyle church. Chairs had to be brought in from St. John's Parish. Every parish in the Diocese was represented... this was evident when pilgrims were asked to stand as the names of parishes were called out. Let us hope this wonderful turn out becomes the norm whenever we go on pilgrimage to our National Shrine. Congrats to Bequia and Sandy Bay for being present.

Deacon Belgraves delivered a short exposé on the Blessed Virgin Mary and what would have really inspired us to journey to the shrine. After this Holy Mass began... nearly all priests and deacons were present. The well crafted homily at Mass was preached by Fr. Richard, where he brought us to a deeper understanding of the role of Mary in our salvation. The choir & musicians lifted the celebration of the Eucharist as they always do.

Many present availed of the special blessing with holy oils and reception of the Holy Eucharist.

After the ceremonies all admired the new airport from the hill top, though some would have been nostalgic. As the almost full moon was rising we all wended our way home. To God be the glory!



Procession on the main road

CELEBRATING THE ORIGINS OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH | SAMANTHA SAM

On Sunday, 26th, February 2017, the Diocese celebrated its Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Jesuit Martyrs in Memory of Fr. Guillaume Aubergeon and Fr. Francois Gueimu and their assistant, who were martyred at Barrouallie on Monday 23rd January 1654.

Hosted by Our Lady Queen of the Universe Parish, the celebration began at 3:00pm on Sunday, where pilgrims visited the 'site of the Martyrdom' showing the stone foundations where a wooden Catholic Church had been. During the visitation of the site, a brief historical overview was given by Fr. Mark. Contrary to the usual pattern of praying the Rosary, this year's procession was in complete silence, with only the sound of 6 drummers beating to African Nyabinghi. As it continued, residents within the vicinity recognized the different approach as we walked along to the drum beat. After the procession ended at the Martyr's Shrine, Holy Mass began minutes later. The atmosphere was lively and joyous as the church celebrated with great passion and reverence. As Mass ended, a short drum session began as the choir continued singing along with the congregation.

All departed commenting on how much more meaningful the event was this year.



Gathering at the cemetery

Bishop County joins in the drumming