

September 2013



Office for Multi-Cultural Ministry Catholic Diocese of Metuchen, NJ

**Thank you
for your
support
to our
ministries!**

Office for Multi-Cultural
Ministry

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Congratulations to the Kenyan Catholic Community in our region!

The Kenyan community celebrated their First Anniversary as a regional group on Sunday, August 11th at Our Lady of Hope Parish in Philadelphia. The event also commemorated the 50th anniversary of the independence of Kenya.

Seven Kenyan communities from Metuchen, Newark, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore, Worcester, and Boston gathered to give praise to God and enjoy the gift of one another.

Archbishop Chaput from the Archdiocese of Philadelphia presided over the Eucharistic Liturgy. Among the various concelebrants was Fr. Alphonsus Kariuki, co-coordinator of the African American, African & Caribbean Apostolate.

After the liturgy, the communities enjoyed music, food and fellowship at the Parish Hall. We are very grateful for the hospitality offered by Fr. Paul Maina and his

parishioners at Our Lady of Hope Parish.

Fr. Alphonsus celebrates Mass in Kiswahili at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Highland Park every second Sunday of the month at 3:00 p.m.



Building Intercultural Competence for Ministers

The Office for Multi-Cultural Ministry has planned a series of four workshops on "Building Intercultural Competence for Ministers". The content of these presentations is designed to offer ministry leaders an opportunity to achieve a basic level of awareness and proficiency in the area of intercultural competence.

The content of each workshop follows:

Workshop 1: Framing diversity in terms of Church's identity and mission.

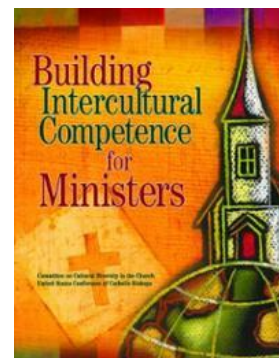
Workshop 2: Intercultural communication skills

Workshop 3: Obstacles that impede intercultural relations

Workshop 4: Fostering integration in the parish life.

Contact Sister Ruth Bolarte if you are interested in attending one

of the series or if you would like to implement one with your community.



Gujarati Community Gathers at Our Lady of Mount Carmel



Around 70 people gathered to celebrate Mass in Gujarati last August 17th at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Woodbridge. Five of them drove all the way from Canada in order to be part of this event.

Father Sunil Macwan, S.M. a graduate student at Marquette University in Milwaukee, was the celebrant of the liturgy. He just arrived in the

United States at the beginning of the year. This is his first visit to New Jersey. We are very grateful for the presence of Fr. Sunil among us.

Gujarat is a state in the West of India. Gradually, the Gujarati community in our area is growing. In 2010 they established the "Gujarati Catholic Samaj of USA".

At the present time, there

are no scheduled Masses in Gujarati in Metuchen. However, the community gathers every Saturday night to pray the rosary and share their faith at a home.

You can find more information about the Catholic Gujarati Community at www.gcsoufusa.org

Labor Day Mass at Sacred Heart Church with Bishop Bootkoski



A Mass was celebrated in our Diocese to celebrate the dignity of all workers. Bishop Bootkoski presided at the 10:00 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart Church in New Brunswick.

Our Catholic Bishops have called us to take Labor Day as an opportunity to take stock of the ways workers are honored and respected. We are encouraged to support businesses that

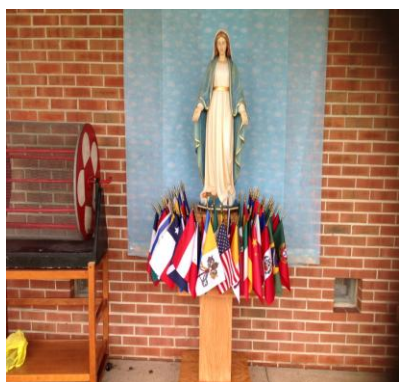
protect human life, pay just wages, and protect workers' rights.

During the liturgy, Bishop Bootkoski blessed an original mural at the entrance of the Church which incorporates the saints who have been historically important to each of the Churches who constitute Holy Family Parish. The mural mirrors the cultural diversity of those gathered at the

Table of the Lord.

A representation of our Korean Community in the Diocese was also part of this celebration. A statue in honor of St. Peter Yu, the youngest of the Korean martyrs, commemorates their presence and gifts they shared when they worshipped at Sacred Heart Church.

International Festival at Our Lady of Fatima, Piscataway



Our Lady of Fatima celebrated its third annual International Festival last Labor Day weekend. The day featured international crafts and food, cultural exhibits, entertainment and family activities.

The Office for Multi-Cultural Ministry participated with one table offering information about the various ethnic apostolates in the Diocese.

I am grateful to the organizing committee for

the invitation to be part of this annual event.

This was an opportunity to celebrate our cultural heritage and embrace one another in our diversity as we build the Kingdom of God!

Celebrating St. Stephen of Hungary

St. Stephen was the first Christian King of Hungary. He is justly called the Apostle of the Hungarians on account of his unwearied zeal in disseminating the faith. He united Hungary in politics and religion.

Stephen was also known for his concern for the poor, often distributing alms in person and without bodyguards. He was canonized in 1083 by Pope St. Gregory VII.

His feast day is on August 16, but in Hungary he is celebrated on the 20th of

August, the day on which his relics were transferred to Budapest. His incorrupt right hand is treasured as the most sacred relic in Hungary.

With great pride, the Hungarian community gathered at St. Ladislaus Church in New Brunswick to commemorate St. Stephen and their cultural heritage. After partaking of the Eucharistic Liturgy, the congregation continued the celebrations in the Parish Hall enjoying food and fellowship. *Goulash* soup or stew was one of the main dishes on the table which I had the

pleasure to taste. The children enjoyed a variety of treats while they shared stories and games with their friends.

This was a memorable night for all! I am, especially, grateful to the children who taught me my first Hungarian word: *koszonom*, *Thank you!*

Fr. Imre Juhasz celebrates Mass in Hungarian every Sunday at St. Ladislaus Church at 10:30 a.m.



The Filipino Clergy Association of the Americas (FILCAA) invites you to have a dance with a priest! This is a fundraising event in preparation for the Second National Assembly of Filipino Priests in 2014

DINNER DANCE

**Our Lady of Mount Virgin (OLMV) Parish Gymnasium
450 Drake Avenue
Middlesex, NJ 08846**

**Date : November 23, 2013 (Saturday)
Time : 6:30 PM to 11:00 PM
Tickets: \$35.00 per person**

For Tickets:

**Fr. Dave Sison 973-752-6666
Fr. Juancho de Leon 973-743-8615
Fr. Ed Jocson 908-486-2514
Fr. Virgil Tolentino 848-203-2663**

**Fr. Frank Lanzaderas 718-344-3041
Fr. Gil Suaybaguio 917-842-5169
Fr. Gene Daguplo 848-448-5187
Fr. Vic Paloma 201-433-4152**



SAN LORENZO RUIZ FEAST DAY CELEBRATION



Please join us to celebrate the feast of the first Filipino saint,
San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila, and His Companion Martyrs.

September 29, 2013

Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi

32 Elm Avenue, Metuchen, NJ 08840

Sunday, 4:00 pm

Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Zamorski

Principal Celebrant

Rector, Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi

The festivities will be preceded by Triduum (3-day) Masses.

Sept. 26 (Thursday) 7:30 PM St. Matthias Church, Somerset

Sept. 27 (Friday) 7:30 PM St. Matthew the Apostle Church, Edison

Sept. 28 (Saturday) 7:30 PM Our Lady of Fatima Church, Piscataway

Sponsored by the Filipino Apostolate

in coordination with the various

Filipino Groups in the Diocese of Metuchen

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

CONTACT PERSONS *(for parishes hosting the 4-day celebration):*

St. Matthias Church - Bobby Palanca (732-266-8368) *St. Matthew the Apostle Church* - Jojo Lagdameo (732-742-1854)

Our Lady of Fatima Church - Lulu Paredes (732-463-0308) *Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi* - Ernie Gutierrez (732-603-0826)

GENERAL INFORMATION: Filipino Apostolate Coordinator - Rev. Roberto D. Coruña (848-391-9955)
Rev. Gerardo Paderon (732-548-0100 x-213) Paz E. Gatchalian (908-812-5130) Aida Santos (732-261-1976)

RCIA Training

Congratulations to Teresa Feng and Assumpta Yau!

who completed a five week training sessions for RCIA
last August. They are ready to evangelize in
Mandarin and Cantonese!

COMMEMORATIONS AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2013

National Hispanic Heritage Month – September 15 – October 15
Korean Thanksgiving Day – Chuseok September 18-20

- 8 Grandparents' Day
- 10 Blessed Antony of Korea
- 19 Tet Trung Thu – Vietnamese Fall Festival
- 20 Korean Martyrs. Sts. Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang & Companions
- 22 *Diocese of Metuchen Celebration of Korean Thanksgiving Day at Guardian Angels, Edison -1:00 p.m. Celebration of Vietnamese Fall Festival Our Lady of Czestochowa, South Plainfield 12:30 p.m. Mass*
- 28 San Lorenzo Ruiz, First Filipino Saint
- 30 *Diocese of Metuchen Celebration of St. Lorenzo Ruiz – Cathedral of St. Francis – Mass 5:30 p.m.*

October 2013

National Hispanic Heritage Month
German American Heritage Month
National Italian-American Month
Polish-American Heritage Month

- 6 Respect Life Sunday
- 7 Our Lady of the Rosary
- 11 *Diocese of Metuchen Hispanic Heritage Mass – Cathedral of St. Francis – 7:30 p.m.*
- 13 Our Lady of Aparecida
- 13 *Diocese of Metuchen – Korean Picnic at Donaldson Park*
- 20 *Diocese of Metuchen World Mission Sunday Mass – Cathedral of St. Francis 12:00 noon – Bishop Bootkoski*
- 31 Eve of all Saints

November 2013

Black Catholic History Month
National American Indian Heritage Month

- 1 *Solemnity of All Saints*
- 2 ***ALIVE!** Diocese of Metuchen Celebrating those who have gone before us! 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. Saint John Neumann Pastoral Center*
- 3 St. Martin de Porres and St. Malachy
- 7 Knights of Peter Claver founded in Mobile, AL in 1909
- 11 St. Martin of Tours
Veterans Day
- 23 Diocese of Metuchen Dinner Dance
Sponsored by the Filipino Clergy Association
Our Lady of Mount Virgin 6:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
- 28 Thanksgiving (USA)

"The Church of the twenty-first century will be, as it has always been, a Church of many cultures, languages and traditions, yet simultaneously one, as God is one—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—unity in diversity."

(Welcoming the Stranger Among Us)

Korean Thanksgiving – Chusok
September 18-20, 2013
Diocese of Metuchen Korean Thanksgiving, September 22
1:00 p.m. Mass at Guardian Angels, Edison

The Korean Harvest Moon Festival called “Chusok” is over 2,000 years old, but it is now also sometimes referred to as “Korean Thanksgiving” because it is the traditional time for Koreans to thank their ancestors for the year's harvest. A three-day celebration that falls on the fifteenth day of the eighth lunar month, Chusok usually takes place in September or October on the Gregorian (Western) calendar.

Traditional celebrations usually include a visit to ancestral graves and a memorial rite (“jesa”) with food offerings. A shrine to family ancestors is set up to deceased family members and offerings include stacks of fresh fruit and nuts, alcohol, and savory dishes. Songpyun and other types of Korean rice cakes (“dduk”) are always eaten and exchanged during Chusok. Chusok represents some of the most important aspects of Korean culture: family, respect for elders and ancestors, and the sharing of communal food and drink.



**Celebrating Cultural
Heritage!**



The Office for Multi-Cultural Ministry facilitates and provides pastoral care to immigrants and people of different cultures so that they may be able to fully participate in the life of the Church by means of worship, catechesis and social outreach. It also seeks to promote understanding and appreciation for the rich cultural diversity and ethnic religious traditions in the Diocese of Metuchen.



For current events and resources visit:
<http://diometuchen.org/offices-and-ministries/pastoral-life/multi-cultural-ministries/>