

ADVOCATE

ISSUE NO. 2 • ST. FRANCIS DE SALES • JANUARY 24, 2022



IMAGE OF ST. JOSEPH CARRYING THE CHILD JESUS ON THEIR WAY TO EGYPT

WELCOME • PROTECT • PROMOTE • INTEGRATE

**“AND THE KING WILL ANSWER, “I TELL YOU SOLEMNLY,
IN SO FAR AS YOU DID THIS TO ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE
BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF MINE, YOU DID IT TO ME.”**

JESUS CHRIST



The Advocate Magazine 2nd Issue prepared for
The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Port of Spain, Trinidad, W.I.
Catholic Commission for Social Justice (CCSJ), Archdiocese Ministry For Migrants and Refugees (AMMR)
by Matthew Pierre of the AMMR & Dominique Heffes-Doon of the CCSJ



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Introduction



SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES

Jan. 24 marks the Feast of St. Francis de Sales, the patron saint of writers and Christian unity whose role as a priest and bishop helped bring thousands of Protestants back to the Catholic Church.

In the late 16th and early 17th century, St. Francis de Sales conducted spiritual direction both in person and in written correspondence. This inspired his famous work "Introduction to the Devout Life." During his ministry in Switzerland, he wrote and distributed religious tracts that made inroads among Protestants and helped between 40,000 and 70,000 return to the Catholic faith. Because he is a patron saint of writers, his feast day traditionally marks the release of the Pope's annual message for World Communications Day. Pope Benedict XVI's 2013 message reflected on social networks and their potential to strengthen unity and harmony between people. He also warned that these enable a mindset that rewards popularity, rather than rewarding what has intrinsic value.

St. Francis de Sales was no stranger to unpopularity. As a priest he volunteered to lead a mission to return the Calvinist Switzerland back to the Catholic faith. He faced much hostility, including death threats and would-be assassins. He was born in 1567 in the Savoy region in what is now part of France. He was a diplomat's son, born into a household with great devotion to St. Francis of Assisi.

He studied rhetoric, the humanities and law in preparation for a political career. He had resolved to hold to religious celibacy and he held a deep devotion to the Virgin Mary, but he kept this strong spiritual life secret from the world. This devotion clashed with the wishes of his father, who had arranged a marriage for him. The Catholic bishop of Geneva found Francis de Sales a position in the Swiss Church, leading to his ordination as a priest in 1593.

He was named Bishop of Geneva in 1602, after which he worked to restore Geneva's churches and religious orders. He helped the future saint Jean Frances de Chantal, whom he had served as spiritual director, found a women's religious order. He died in 1622 in Lyons at a convent he had helped to found. Francis de Sales was canonized in 1665 and named a Doctor of the Church in 1877.

Source: FranciscanMedia.org

Editor's Note

No doubt, 2021 has been a challenging year for many as we continue making our way out of this prolonged COVID-19 pandemic. With some return to normalcy, families and society are beginning to recover and there is hope for an end to the pandemic. There are many people and families however, whose situation has not improved, and they continue to suffer existential crises not only as a result of the pandemic. They continue to require ongoing help to safeguard their human life and dignity. Their situation remains dire or unchanged.

The Catholic Commission for Social Justice, Archdiocese Ministry for Migrants and Refugees (CCSJ-AMMR) for our part continue to do our duty as a faithfully Catholic organization, to serve the needs of humanity for the love of Christ, even with the challenges and constraints faced on our operations because of the pandemic. We are doing our part in helping to facilitate a return to normal in a responsible manner, and encouraging responsible social behavior to protect oneself, and others from the virus, while not neglecting our Christian vocation to welcome, protect, promote, and integrate migrants and refugees within society, and to serve all our brothers and sisters in need.

In this second issue of The Advocate, we focus on the stories of migrants & refugees and their experiences within this new land they now call home, to advocate for their protection and our solidarity. Then we advocate for the preservation of their lives through dignified work, community integration, and we focus on our community activities we engaged towards this purpose in for the latter half of the year since our first issue in June 2021. Finally, we've taken the opportunity to highlight the work of other commissions within our umbrella religious organization, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Port of Spain, as we strive towards a common goal of establishing a just and peaceful society for all humankind.

Matthew Pierre

MATTHEW PIERRE
Magazine Editor



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GET THE 1ST ISSUE!

THE CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
ARCHDIOCESAN MINISTRY FOR MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

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BY LEELA RAMDEEN, CHAIR, CCSJ & AMMR, & DIRECTOR

WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

Recently someone commented with me, stating that the Catholic Church should not "get involved in refugee and migrant issues". I was floored by her reasoning—particularly as she is also Catholic. Our Church has always urged us to have a preferential option for the poor and vulnerable. This is a key social justice principle.

If Christians are disciples of Christ, if we are to follow in His footsteps, if we are to build His Kingdom here on earth, if we are to recognise Him in the face of our neighbour, then we must take heed of His words in the Gospel of Luke 1:1-4, 11-14: "The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour."

In challenging situations, Christians often

Compassion should lead us to reach out and help rebuild our communities, in which

World Day of Migrants (WDMR) was observed September 27. The Pope's message in 2010 year was "forced to flee, reminding us of Jesus and His family who were refugees, forced to flee that gutted Moria, the islands in Europe on the Greek where nearly 13,000 without shelter. Migrants from different countries had been diagnosed with

In his message, Pope Francis discovered the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic. He focused on the need to help them, recognising that only been further exacerbated. Vatican News stated: "The and refugees has been points of the pontiff. This year he has devoted millions of men, women are internally displaced and climate change. He

PARISH MINISTRIES FOR MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

The humanitarian emergency created by the political and socio-economic crisis in neighbouring Venezuela, resulted in the migration of persons to Trinidad & Tobago and elsewhere. As they arrived, they experienced an array of difficulties specific to the plight of people forced to flee their homeland.

Archbishop Jason called on parishes and ecclesial communities to strive to meet the varied needs of migrants and refugees. He established AMMR and asked each parish to establish a Parish Ministry for Migrants and Refugees. This call did not fall on deaf ears.

The faithful began mobilising themselves within their communities, responded with compassion and stood in solidarity with our arriving South American neighbours.

CHILD FRIENDLY SPACES (CONTINUED)

The COVID-19 Pandemic currently impacting the world has presented a challenge for the programme with the temporary closure of the physical spaces. Presented with this challenge, a creative solution was introduced. A fully virtual CFS was developed to make available a virtual space for children while at home.

Although this also came with its own set of challenges, it has provided us with the opportunity to expand the programme into the online environment to make available activities and resources to participants where they live. This introduction unexpectedly added value to the programme.

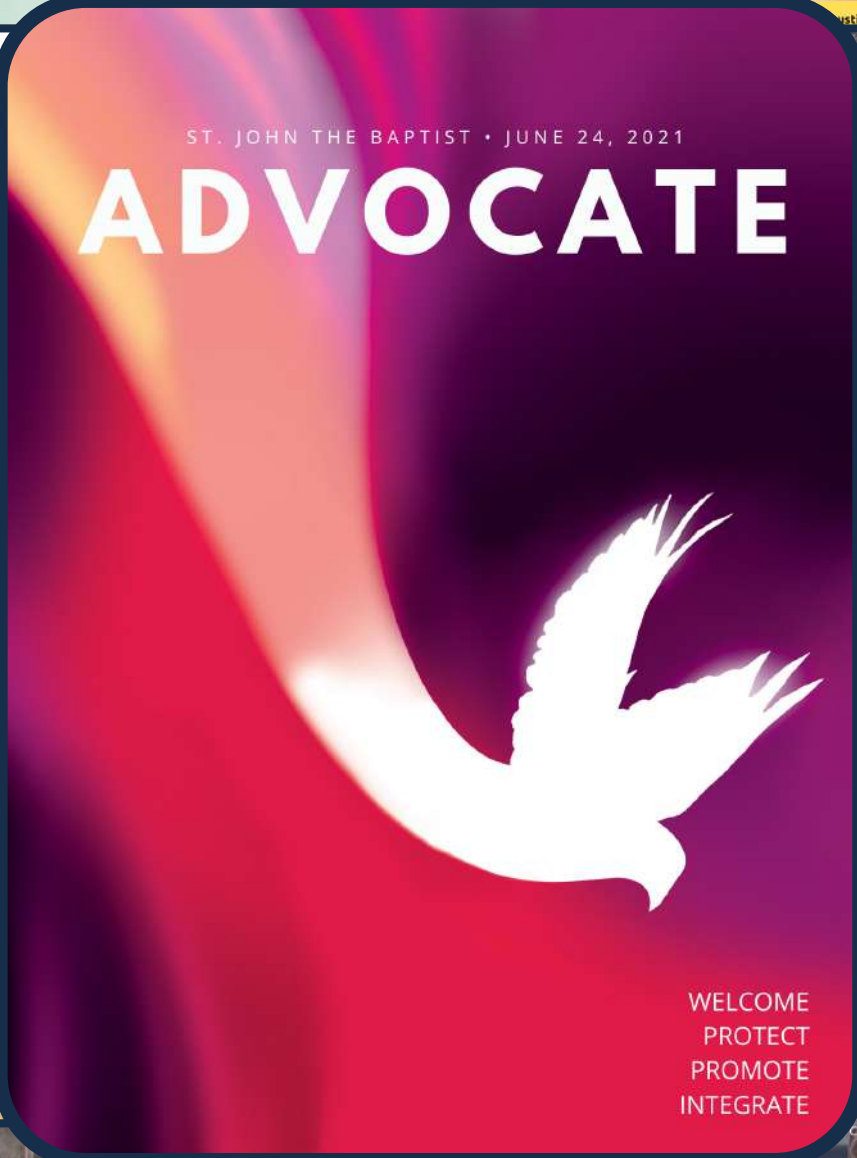
Our CFS now offers a digital library of content available 24/7 to keep our kids occupied and educated. It expanded the reach of CFS to children not in close proximity to physical spaces, and allowed for much more access, flexibility, cohesion, diversity of offerings, and better programme management, along with providing some measure of companionship while at home.



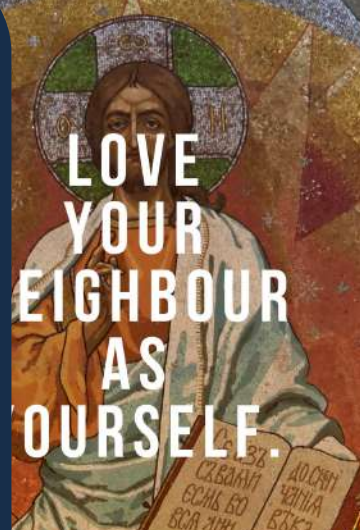
So what does a typical CFS programme include? Free & organized play, storytelling, therapy through play, non-formal educational activities, language learning, peer-counselling, life-skills training, psychosocial activities, spiritual and pastoral care.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST • JUNE 24, 2021

ADVOCATE



WELCOME
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WORDS AN EVER WIDER "WE"

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
ON THE 77th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2021
27 September 2021



PRINCIPLE TWO
CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE TEACHING

CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY & PARTICIPATION

THE PERSON IS NOT ONLY SACRED BUT ALSO SOCIAL. HOW WE ORGANIZE OUR SOCIETY -- IN ECONOMICS AND POLITICS, IN LAW AND POLICY -- DIRECTLY AFFECTS HUMAN DIGNITY AND THE CAPACITY OF INDIVIDUALS TO GROW IN COMMUNITY. MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY ARE THE CENTRAL SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS THAT MUST BE SUPPORTED AND STRENGTHENED, NOT UNDERMINED. WE BELIEVE PEOPLE HAVE A RIGHT AND A DUTY TO PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY, SEEKING TOGETHER THE COMMON GOOD AND WELL-BEING OF ALL, ESPECIALLY THE POOR AND VULNERABLE.

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
PAGE ELEVEN | ADVOCATE



THE CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
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REFUGEE DAY COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME



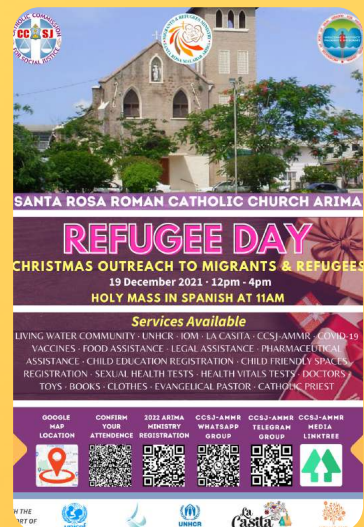
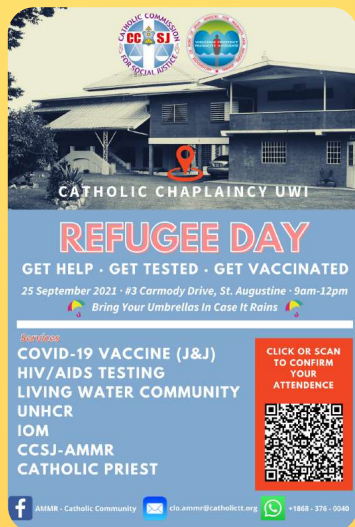
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PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS SEPT. - DEC. 2021

St. Augustine | Siparia | Erin | Arima

REFUGEE DAY COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME



OVERVIEW

In February 2021, the CCSJ-AMMR initiated its healthcare campaign for the benefit of migrants and refugees. By July 2021, 400 persons benefited from three (3) successfully hosted health fairs. Approximately 20 persons also benefited from five (5) of six (6) virtually held 'Meet the Doctor Series' conducted amidst the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, national lockdowns and the state of emergencies. In September 2021 the CCSJ-AMMR resumed its physical healthcare outreaches, and expanded its scope beyond access to healthcare to include opportunities to access non-health related products and services. It adopted the 'Refugee Day Community Outreach' model being used by one of its Parish Ministries for Migrants and Refugees (PMMR), and grew its healthcare outreach campaign into a Refugee Day Community Outreach Programme.

The aims of this programme are firstly to provide humanitarian support and relief to the migrant and refugee population in the areas of food security, healthcare, education, protection, livelihood and religion. Then secondly, to promote cooperation and solidarity between migrant and refugee assisting organizations, as we work together to serve the same people within the affected population. At each Refugee Day, various entities are invited to participate at the event to offer their products and services to migrants and refugees within the hosting community. Organizations such as UNICEF, UHNCR, The International Organization for Migration (IOM), The Living Water Community, The Ministry of Health's HIV/AIDS Coordinating Unit, The Queen's Park Counselling Centre (QPCC), The Seventh Day Adventist Church, La Casita Hispanic Heritage Centre, and Hollis Avenue Drugs have all partnered or worked with us thus far to make these events a success.

CATHOLIC PASTORAL CENTRE

- Aka Catholic Chaplaincy, UWI
- Hosted for CPC Ministry for Migrants & Refugees
- Executed as deliverable of CCSJ-AMMR's 1st Social Justice Advocacy Programme

No. of Persons Served: 22
 No. of Persons w/ Age & Sex Unknown: 7
 No. of Women Identified: 10
 No. of Men Identified: 4
 No. of Girls Identified: 1
 No. of Vaccinations: 5
 No. of Visits to UNHCR: 13
 No. of Visits to IOM: 15
 No. of Visits to LWC (Legal): 7
 No. of Registrations to AMMR (CFS): 13
 No. of Staff & Volunteers: 21

CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY UWI

REFUGEE DAY

GET HELP · GET TESTED · GET VACCINATED

25 September 2021 · #3 Carmody Drive, St. Augustine · 9am-12pm

Bring Your Umbrellas In Case It Rains

Services

COVID-19 VACCINE (J&J)
 HIV/AIDS TESTING
 LIVING WATER COMMUNITY
 UNHCR
 IOM
 CCSJ-AMMR
 CATHOLIC PRIEST

CLICK OR SCAN TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE

AMMR - Catholic Community | cfo.ammr@catholicctt.org | +1868 - 376 - 0040



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LA DIVINA PASTORA R.C. CHURCH

- Hosted for the Church's Parish Ministry for Migrants & Refugees

No. of Persons Served: 237
 No. of Persons w/ Age & Sex Unknown: 83
 No. of Women Identified: 99
 No. of Men Identified: 55
 No. of Girls Identified: 25
 No. of Boys Identified: 20
 No. of Vaccinations: 22
 No. of Visits to HACU (HIV/AIDS): 10
 No. of Visits to QPCC (Syphilis): 4
 No. of Visits to Doctor: N/A
 No. of Visits to Pharmacists: N/A
 No. of Visits to UNHCR: 49
 No. of Visits to IOM: 27
 No. of Visits to LWC (Legal): 3
 No. of Registrations to LWC (Education): 68
 No. of Registrations to AMMR (CFS): 34
 No. of Staff & Volunteers: 53

**LA DIVINA PASTORA
 ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, SIPARIA**

REFUGEE DAY
 GET HELP · GET TESTED · GET VACCINATED
 30 October 2021 · #7 La Pastora Street, Siparia · 9am-1pm

Services
 COVID-19 VACCINES · HIV/AIDS TESTING · SYPHILIS TESTING · BASIC SCREENING · DOCTORS · LIVING WATER COMMUNITY · UNHCR · IOM · CCSJ-AMMR · FOOD ASSISTANCE · DRUG ASSISTANCE · CHILD EDUCATION REGISTRATION · CHILD FRIENDLY SPACE REGISTRATION · CATHOLIC PRIEST · EVANGELICAL PASTOR

CLICK OR SCAN TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE

CLICK OR SCAN TO JOIN CCSJ-AMMR TELEGRAM GROUP

f AMMR - Catholic Community clo.ammr@catholicct.org



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ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI R.C. CHURCH

- Hosted for Erin Parish, on the premises of Erin R.C. Primary School

No. of Persons Served: 155
 No. of Persons w/ Age & Sex Unknown: 25
 No. of Women Identified: 74
 No. of Men Identified: 56
 No. of Girls Identified: 19
 No. of Boys Identified: 22
 No. of Vaccinations: 13
 No. of Visits to UNHCR: 25
 No. of Visits to IOM: 25
 No. of Visits to LWC (Legal): 10
 No. of Visits to HACU (HIV/AIDS): 34
 No. of Visits to QPCC (Syphilis): 20
 No. of Visits to Doctor: N/A
 No. of Visits to Pharmacists: 9
 No. of Registrations to LWC (Education): 39
 No. of Registrations to AMMR (CFS): 10
 No. of Staff & Volunteers: 35

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, ERIN

REFUGEE DAY

GET HELP · GET HEALTHY · GET VACCINATED
 20 November 2021 · Erin R.C. Primary School · 10am-2pm

Services Available
 COVID-19 VACCINES · HIV/AIDS TESTING · SYPHILIS TESTING · BASIC HEALTH SCREENING · DOCTORS · LIVING WATER · COMMUNITY · UNHCR · IOM · CCSJ-AMMR · FOOD ASSISTANCE · DRUG ASSISTANCE · LEGAL ASSISTANCE · CHILD EDUCATION REGISTRATION · CHILD FRIENDLY SPACE REGISTRATION · EVANGELICAL PASTOR · CATHOLIC PRIEST

CLICK OR SCAN

CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE | GOOGLE MAP LOCATION | CCSJ-AMMR WHATSAPP | CCSJ-AMMR TELEGRAM

CLICK OR SCAN

clo.ammr@catholicct.org

WITH THE SUPPORT OF UNHCR



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SANTA ROSA R.C. CHURCH

- Hosted for Santa Rosa & Malabar Parishes Migrants & Refugees Ministry
- Hosted on the premises of the Church & Arima Girls R.C. Primary School

No. of Persons Served: 346

No. of Women Identified: 129

No. of Men Identified: 61

No. of Girls Identified: 91

No. of Boys Identified: 65

No. of Vaccinations: N/A

No. of Visits to UNHCR: 6

No. of Visits to IOM: 3

No. of Visits to LWC (Legal): N/A

No. of Visits to HACU (HIV/AIDS): 27

No. of Visits to QPCC (Syphilis): 45

No. of Visits to Doctor: N/A

No. of Visits to Pharmacists: 46 (Families)

No. of Registrations to LWC (Education): 100

No. of Registrations to AMMR (CFS): 175

No. of Food Hampers Distributed: 116

No. of Staff & Volunteers: 66



SANTA ROSA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH ARIMA

REFUGEE DAY

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH TO MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

19 December 2021 · 12pm - 4pm
HOLY MASS IN SPANISH AT 11AM

Services Available

LIVING WATER COMMUNITY · UNHCR · IOM · LA CASITA · CCSJ-AMMR · COVID-19 VACCINES · FOOD ASSISTANCE · LEGAL ASSISTANCE · PHARMACEUTICAL ASSISTANCE · CHILD EDUCATION REGISTRATION · CHILD FRIENDLY SPACES · REGISTRATION · SEXUAL HEALTH TESTS · HEALTH VITALS TESTS · DOCTORS · TOYS · BOOKS · CLOTHES · EVANGELICAL PASTOR · CATHOLIC PRIEST

GOOGLE MAP LOCATION	CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE	2022 ARIMA MINISTRY REGISTRATION	CCSJ-AMMR WHATSAPP GROUP	CCSJ-AMMR TELEGRAM GROUP	CCSJ-AMMR MEDIA LINKTREE
					

THE PART OF UNICEF UNHCR La Casita HOLLES AVE





THE SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY PROGRAMME

The Social Justice Advocacy Programme was launched and piloted in September at the Catholic Pastoral Centre (also known as Catholic Chaplaincy of the University of the West Indies.) in St. Augustine. Two young adults along with two (2) AMMR/PMMR Coordinators participated in the programme, and lived within community sharpening their knowledge and skills for the world of humanitarian work within a Catholic parish ministry context.

The Advocates as they were called, achieved most of the programme's objectives within its 21-day duration having successfully executed a 'Refugee Day' community outreach; a one-day 'Child Friendly Space' programme; created a migrant & refugee population database for the hosting PMMR; developed a COVID-19 manual for parish ministry outreach; assisted the host parish ministry in carrying out their outreach to migrant families; assisted in completing AMMR's 2021 Directory; assisted in CCSJ's Season of Creation celebrations, and completed a Core Humanitarian Certification Programme by Humanitarian U learning platform, while learning about Catholic Social Justice teachings and experiencing Catholic community life and parish ministry.



The Catholic Commission for Social Justice
Archdiocese Ministry for Migrants & Refugees



Social Justice Advocacy Programme



ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE • SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

2021 DIRECTORY

OF THE
CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
ARCHDIOCESE MINISTRY FOR MIGRANTS & REFUGEES
PARISH MINISTRIES FOR MIGRANTS & REFUGEES



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LA ROMAINE



La Romaine Migrant Support (LARMS)



The La Romaine Migrant Support Ministry began on March 25, 2019 and is currently the only ministry that is registered as a non-governmental organization within the AMMR. They began their ministry by hosting a Child Friendly Space to provide a safe space for children. The ministry offered sessions involving music, dance, sport, agriculture and educational activities. The ministry then grew to become one of the most active Ministries within the AMMR network. Their main focus areas are providing support in education, healthcare, community advocacy, housing, employment, food and clothing relief. Pre-COVID-19 pandemic, their main outreach was their 'Feria' (Fair in Spanish) which was a marketplace outreach allowing migrants/refugees the opportunity to buy and sell their prepared foods, produce, or other products. It served as a charitable fundraising event for migrants/refugees and for the ministry itself.

Ministry outreach is conducted every day by a team of five (5) members, and they serve on average three hundred (300) families. On average they spend \$12,000 per month towards their outreach from donations received via parishioners, supporters, and corporate donors. They have been able to collaborate and form partnerships with local businesses within their community for fundraising and other reliable non-profit organizations such as the Red Cross, Childline, and the Medical Research Foundation to support their outreach, particularly regarding access to food and healthcare for the community. Presently, they are the only Ministry that offers a weekly health clinic to migrants because of their partnerships. They also collaborate with other local Muslim and Presbyterian religious communities to provide support to their local migrant population.

Ministry members have conducted community protection and advocacy work by appearing on national television, in the printed press to highlight the realities, concerns and sufferings of migrants and refugees, and by advocating for the specific persons of the community at large. They have intervened in housing matters to protect and ensure a safe and lawful treatment and avoid deportation proceedings with lawyers to provide legal assistance.



ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE • SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

2021 DIRECTORY

CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
ARCHDIOCESE MINISTRY FOR MIGRANTS & REFUGEES
PARISH MINISTRIES FOR MIGRANTS & REFUGEES



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OF PARISH MINISTRIES MIGRANTS & REFUGEES

Arima	28
Barataria	53
Carapichaima	35
Carenage	06
Chaguanas	39
Couva	41
Curepe	46
Diego Martin (St. John's)	09
Diego Martin (St. Finbar's)	06
Gran Couva / Tabaquite	44
La Horquetta	31
La Romaine	12
Mayaro	33
Moruga	25
New Grant	19
Penal	16
Petit Valley	09
Point Fortin	23
Port of Spain (St. Ann's)	04
Princes Town	26
Rio Claro	24
San Fernando	30
Sangre Grande	32
Scarborough	55
Siparia	25

CARAPICHAIMA



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Migrants & Refugees Ministry

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Migrants & Refugees Ministry began on August 24, 2019. At that time, the ministry began operating, they began registering migrant/refugee families, and hosting a Child Friendly Space from Tuesdays to Fridays using their parish hall, children's room. That number quickly grew to 60 persons before it was interrupted by COVID-19. From that starting point, the ministry began caring not only for the families of the migrants but also for the migrant community residing within the village of Carapichaima. Preference is given to migrants/refugees who have been registered with the Local Government; a part of this registration process involves completing a form and home visit.

Their main ministry focus areas are providing child protection via the child friendly space and clothing relief. Additionally, they also sometimes assist with sourcing household necessities, accessing healthcare products and services on a case-by-case basis. In the past they've provided pediatric, dental and STD testing healthcare services. They have provided necessities for attendees through personal sponsorships or direct ministry purchases. Activities for kids such as a Christmas party, a carnival activity and three movie & game nights for leisure and enjoyment.

At their ministry, food relief outreach is held once per month while clothing is distributed monthly. Sometimes, available religious books and articles of faith are distributed along with the food. The ministry spends on average \$4000 per month towards their outreach, being carried out to source donations other than requests made to their faith community. The ministry thrives through personal sponsorships or direct ministry purchases. Communication channels seeking outreach support. The ministry thrives mainly through the support of their ministry membership, personal networks and the support of the church.

Presently they have 15 persons who belong to the ministry, eight (8) of whom are core members who are Venezuelan migrants/refugees. They currently serve 191 migrants/refugees.



MORUGA

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Parish Office Contact
(868) 656-7019

Ministry Social Media
Facebook @AMMRcommunity

Parish Email
moruga@catholiccc.org

Parish Social Media
Facebook - St. Vincent Ferrer RC Church, Moruga

Moruga Migrants & Refugees Ministry

Ministry Coordinators
Jaël Remy-Sankar

Ministry Coordinators
Avean Steelling
Keisha Wellington
Lisa Reviera

PRINCES TOWN

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Ministry Social Media
Facebook @AMMRcommunity

Parish Social Media
Facebook @The Parish of Holy Cross RC Princes Town

Princes Town Migrants & Refugees Ministry

Parish Priest
Fr. Fairbrother Puljannamattil

Head Coordinator
Fayola Henry

Ministry Coordinator
Ingrid Haklim

SIPARIA

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7 La Pastora Street, Siparia

Ministry Contact
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Parish Office Contact
(868) 649-2204

Ministry Social Media
Facebook @AMMRcommunity

Parish Social Media
Facebook - La Divina Pastora RC Church

La Divina Pastora Ministry for Migrants and Refugees

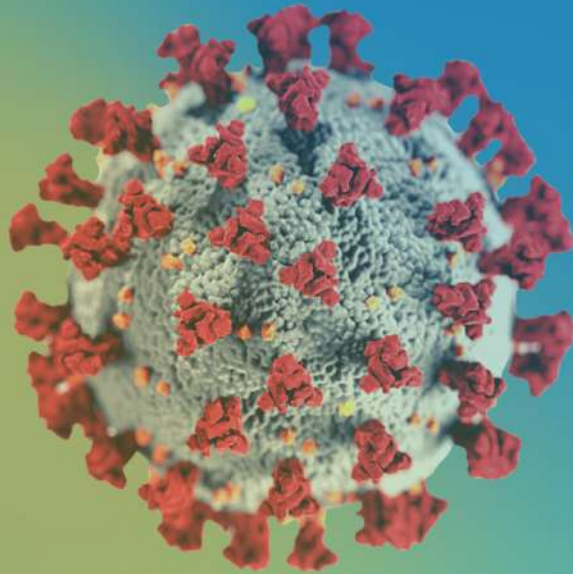
Parish Priest
Fr. Ansin Hall

Ministry Coordinators
Coryse Noel



COVID-19 MANUAL

This manual was designed by Shimmon N. Lezama.



The Catholic Commission for Social Justice and The Archdioceses Ministry to Migrants and Refugees



Generations

LIFE STORIES OF MIGRANTS & REFUGEES
IN TRINIDAD & TOBAGO



INSIDE /

15 Firsthand
Stories of
Migrant &
Refugee Men,
Women,
Families, & of
Children
Attending Our
Child Friendly
Spaces.

1 Testimonial of
A Parish Ministry
Coordinator
Helping to
Support
Migrants &
Refugees





ADAIZ CARABALLO & FAMILY (VENEZUELAN)

My main reason for leaving my country, was due to the precarious need, and economic situation currently experienced, I decided to emigrate to the Island of Trinidad & Tobago in search of a better future for my children and relatives. I am a graduate of the University Institute of Design in Las Mercedes Caracas Venezuela. I am a fashion designer, Here in Trinidad it is very difficult to emerge as a fashion designer. Since there is no pattern of fashion seasons, it is very difficult for me to adapt the designs of the different seasons to the Island. My experience within the island of Trinidad has not been very positive, due to xenophobia, and racism, and men tend to be violent. Also there is a very high risk of crime, but I would like to thank people like Matthew Pierre and Mrs. Amarilys Chirinos for the great heart they have that thanks to them we migrants can have social and psychological support.

CARLOS ALBERTO DIA (CUBA)

I am in Trinidad looking for a better future and opportunities because my country Cuba has been under a dictatorship for a long time and it is not a secret for any country in the world. Here I have had to work in construction, agriculture, a bakery etc. As a Cuban I cannot speak ill of this country, but it is not a secret that our Cuban community does not have any registration document like our Venezuelan brothers. We Cubans would like to be granted political asylum, to help us work in peace, there are many barriers such as language, but I would love for the country or private institutions to help us with early childhood education for our children. We have to live with fear of the legal institutions, Police and immigration where we Cubans are required to pay a fine of 5,000 TTD. Institutions also do not help in the way that they should be helped but here we continue to fight to see if we can achieve a better quality of life and personal advancement.





RONAL RODRIGUEZ Y YANMARIS RODRIGUEZ (VENEZUELA)

Ronal and I have been in Trinidad for 5 years now and my experience has been satisfactory so far. Since I arrived in this country, I have been working non-stop, but currently it is the first time that I find myself without work due to the COVID-19 lockdown and quarantines. This 2021 has been quite difficult due to the pandemic for my family. Survival has become very difficult. Ronal and I managed to have our son a month ago, and the medical attention was one of the best experiences I have had, It was free and the nurses were very attentive. The main reason for leaving my country was the economic crisis. In reality, it was not getting better. I miss my country every day. I miss my family, my friends, our culture, our traditions.

I have just become a mother and many local people have been very supportive of us, especially my son, Our main reason for fighting is for survival. I'm thankful that the government of Trinidad and Tobago allows us the right to some education, and recognize our studies already completed in Venezuela and I'm thankful that we are given the right to apply for some legal documentations such as a driver's license, I feel very good within this country. As a woman I have had bad experiences because of xenophobia, but it has been very few, Our story is very similar to that of many Trinidadians who, a long time ago, went to my Island of Margarita in Venezuela to buy merchandise to resell here in Trinidad, We ourselves treated them badly and we perhaps offended them, so I feel I can identify with many of them in the way they treat us. These experiences have helped us to learn and become better. As a couple we would like to learn in the English language since that would help us a lot. We would like to be given the opportunity to study and to learn.



ESTEPAHIE GOMEZ (VENEZUELA)

I have been in Trinidad for a year now, The decision to come to Trinidad was difficult, since I have two children of which one of them is a newborn baby, It was that baby that pushed me to go abroad, due to the difficulties that arose in Venezuela, I did not have a job and I had no help from anyone, A sister who was here in Trinidad helped me. Since I arrived, I have never had the bad experience of being mistreated by any police officer or any person residing in this country, but like everywhere there are bad people. Owners of apartments often evict us without saying anything.

I would like my children to continue their studies, and to feel free that they can go to a park without any fear of being separated by the authorities as I have been afraid of being detained or being mistreated.

We always try to stay together as a family so as not to feel so distant from our country. I also ask you from my heart to be more compassionate towards us migrants.

DANNYS CAROLINA (VENEZUELA)

I have been here almost a year. I decided to leave Venezuela because of the different problems and situations, since no one works, and I never managed to live well, I could not get medicines, I did not have a good life in Venezuela, Here in Trinidad I feel happy, I can work and help my family, Here I can have a better life, I would love to see the creation of spaces for the free enjoyment of children in general, but especially educational and cultural spaces. Nonetheless I am very happy to be here in Trinidad.



JUSTIN RIVAS & FAMILY (VENEZUELA)

My name is Yustin Rivas I am 32 years old and I was born in Cumaná Sucre State, Venezuela. I lived there until I was 18 years old, then I went to live in Valencia Carabobo State Venezuela. I served in the Bolivarian Army for 2 years and I studied Civil Engineering. Due to the issue of strikes and demonstrations I left, and moved to the city of Coro Estado Falcón. There I studied at the Francisco de Miranda University for an educational career in Languages, Literature and Latin. I only need to finish 2 subjects and present the degree project work to complete. I am currently watching online classes to complete it with the favor of God.

I have 2 biological children; an 11-year-old male and a female of almost 4 months, and a stepdaughter. I decided to leave Venezuela in 2018 because the situation was unbearable. There was no salary that would be enough for me to give food to my eldest son. I have been working since I was 13 years old and this has been the worst. I had the option of going to Colombia with a friend or coming to Trinidad with another childhood friend and I preferred to come here to settle and make some money then leave after three months through the port of Cedros. I never thought that those 3 months would have become 3 years. The situation in my country is getting worse every day. It only works out for those who remain in Venezuela because a large part of those who are there have family abroad and thanks to that they can eat and meet their needs halfway, as not everything is met. Additionally everything is charged in US dollars although the official currency is the bolivar. What an irony, but it is so.

When I arrived here, I met my current partner with whom I have a girl. We have both been each other's shoulder of support, and desire to continue being so for our family, and for our children. Living in Trinidad has been the strangest experience of my life, firstly because I never thought I would have had to leave my country, let alone come to a place speaking another language, but I had to go out and face the totally unknown. It was very hard at first, upon arriving I only went to a place guided by my friend, memorizing the sentence that I had to pronounce to the taxi driver or the boss who was waiting for me in the job interview. I remember when they spoke to me I thought they were insulting me or they were yelling at me and I, without knowing what to answer, cried inconsolably in silence. I asked God to help me. Every day I got up wanting to go to back to my country, and to hug my son because everything was like a bad dream.



JUSTIN RIVAS & FAMILY
(VENEZUELA) CONT.

I cannot deny that I am grateful to many people who have helped me of course, but I have also met some derogatory people. I have been disrespected verbally just because I am a foreigner. I learned to ignore those types of actions, to not take everything personally and from that point, everything was better. Here I have accumulated an endless amount of knowledge and experiences thanks to God. Among them: Working on a farm cleaning chickens, ducks, and fish; a peanut company; a lunch packaging company, making plastic bags and dishes, painting, planting, singing, cooking, serving drinks, cleaning houses, selling food and trinkets in the streets of the Island, and working in a gas station. I clean 2 houses on the days I am off. Coupled with all this experience I have learned the language by myself. I downloaded a translator on my phone, I write, I listen to the translation and I repeat it, and this is how I have learned to communicate with all people.

I can not finish telling this story without letting you know that I am in total gratitude to God, for all the people who have given me a helping hand, especially the two families for whom I work for in their homes, from the Catholic church of St. Mary's. They have been helping us with food and other items such as clothing, things for my home and for the baby (it has been a total help to overcome this pandemic of COVID-19), and also I'm thankful for a co-worker who has been unconditional towards my family and I. Really, my fortune have been more good than bad. I think everything has to do with our attitude. There are good and bad people in all countries. People have humiliated me and treated me badly at times but I stay with the good. My greatest desire is for the reunification with my eldest son and my husband's daughter so that we are together as a family of five that we decided to form. Total thanks!

ADRIANA ZACHARIA & FAMILY (VENEZUELA)



My name is Adriana Zacaria. I am a Venezuelan migrant living in Trinidad and Tobago almost 3 years now with my family that consist of myself, my husband, and my three children: two boys and a girl. Since my time here in Trinidad, thank God we are good. Through a lot of efforts and sacrifices, and with the help of many people and institutions we have been able to get ahead. We have received help from the IOM organization through a sewing course, and who helped us with getting a sewing machine, and also a table for my daughter. The Catholic Church in Carapichaima also helped us with food, clothes, a bed, a refrigerator etc., and the members of that church have also helped us with the education of my youngest children in the face of the pandemic in Trinidad. As we have lived through good things, we have also gone through difficult situations. Due to the pandemic my husband has been unemployed several times which has led us to economic hardships having no income for the payment of rent. We have had to move out on several occasions for not having the economic ability to pay rent. That is difficult and uncomfortable. We do not have a stable place to live together with my family but thank God we have been able to get ahead nonetheless thanks to the organizations and people of the church who have given us a lot of help. Thank God my family and I are well and getting ahead in this country that have opened its doors to us.



O'BRYAN NICHOLSON & FAMILY
(VENEZUELA)

I decided to leave Venezuela because of the bad operations of the current government. No body is able to make an honest living in Venezuela based on the high price of living, corruption, crime, and much more factors that make life a living disaster for everyone. I was working with the CNE, "National Electoral Council" which made my life a struggle because I was always fighting against the injustices. The government decided to start persecuting me and to try to accuse me of being a traitor to my country for not complying with or following their guidelines.

My family made a big effort and bought me a plane ticket to come to Trinidad. Here I met my wife, and made a wonderful family, but our life was never easy in Trinidad. We are always facing xenophobia, and are being treated as a merchandise or a product, and (Venezuelans) are also going to jail for working without a legal status or permit to work. But not everything is bad. I met some real good-hearted persons who are helping my family to come out from the darkness. My wife currently has a medical issue, and it is impossible for her to work, and it is only myself who is trying and pushing to do best I can do. It is not easy for us to be far from our home, but I love Trinidad also.

I met Matthew from Arima and Sister Sandra Xavier who are presently offering me a lot of assistance and Sister even got a very cheap but beautiful apartment for me.



EZINNE AMACHIMA & FAMILY (NIGERIA)

My name is Ezinne Amachima, I am 23 years old, I am from Nigeria, where there are lots of killings in Nigeria. The Christians are been killed by Boko Haram (terrorist group), and everyone in the south-east of Nigeria are living in fear because they don't know who is next to be killed. Students are being kidnapped from school by Boko Haram and being forced to become Muslims and who ever refuses will be killed. To make matters worse, the leaders are the ones sponsoring Boko Haram. This was the major reason I left Nigeria and I am scared because my family are still in Nigeria. When I got to Trinidad and Tobago I met my partner by name Boniface Chukwuemeka Green Ogokeh and he is also a Nigerian. I have been in Trinidad and Tobago for more than three years and I gave birth to a baby girl here in Trinidad by name Nicole Chisom Green Ogokeh and she is 2 years old. Our life in Trinidad and Tobago have not been easy because we are struggling to survive. We face a lot of challenges here in Trinidad especially as a foreigner. We hardly get work and when we eventually get one they mistreat us. For example, they give us work meant for three people to be done by one person and still pay us a little money.

I had a miscarriage recently and probably because I am a foreigner, they did not take me serious. On a Tuesday I was spotting when I was in the hospital and they kept referring me to a different hospital. Actually I went to four different hospitals and they couldn't tell me what was wrong with me or my baby until I finally lost my baby on Thursday (two days after) which could have been prevented because I noticed it early and went to hospital immediately. But I thank God for life. Honestly sometimes I feel like going back to Nigeria than to starve to death in another man's county but if I look back and see how Nigeria is I thank God for taking us out of Nigeria because we are better off here in Trinidad. I am an asylum seekers here in Trinidad and Tobago, I get food assistance from Carapichaima Migrant Ministry once a month and miss Nichole from Chaguanas and Ms. Elizabeth from Port of Spain have been so helpful to me and my family they always us in any way they can.

RAMON (38) & FAMILY (VENEZUELA)

My story begins approximately in 2016 when the situation in Venezuela was getting more complicated every day. The issue was with money and I did not have enough to cover the household expenses. As a result I began to save some money because my brother had planned to leave Venezuela for here in Trinidad and Tobago. He came in 2018 and told me that he works hard and started helping all of us in the house with everything. That was with food, for both of my children, my wife and my parents. Over time, as the months passed, he began to help me save a little more money because, with the job I had at that time, I could not cover the expenses, so I spoke more often with my brother to help me to leave Venezuela. I asked him to give me the possibility of receiving me here in Trinidad so that I could have a place to go and to help me find a job.

At the beginning of my arrival, it was not easy, because I spent two weeks doing nothing and my brother covering my personal expenses, but in that week, I thank God that a man named Roger gave me the opportunity to work with the creating costumes for carnival. In all those days I was asking and looking for job options, thank God, for I started working at a restaurant in Port of Spain, and currently I continue in that job because of my performance. Of course, after March 2020, with the first national closure given because of to the world situation with the coronavirus being present, I was without work for approximately three months until they opened again.

I do not have negative experiences, since I really do not like to leave the house unnecessarily, or go to discos or meetings, because in this country I am afraid that one day some government entity will stop me and deport me to Venezuela. However, if I can say it, I have very good friends. I consider Mr. Luis Hernández a very good person, since thanks to him I have had a lot of support from the help he has been able to get, as well as I thank Mr. Roger and Roberto, who have been very considerate of all of us who live in his residence. One of the things that I would like the most is to have my children and my wife with me here in Trinidad, but I have looked for many suggestions to see what can be done, and they tell me that they want to be here with me, and unfortunately they have told me that it would be hard for the children because of their studies and the English, but I trust God that I will soon be with them. This is my story, and I try to be as peaceful as possible, and that peace is given to me by my children, my wife and my parents who tell me: Do not fade away, because God's timing is perfect.

CARMEN (49YO) & FAMILY (VENEZUELA)

I left Venezuela because of the economic situation. The situation in Venezuela was very difficult, both for me and my children. The bad experiences in Trinidad have been that it has not been easy for me here since I have not been able to have a job and it is difficult for me to pay the rent since I have 4 children and the rent is expensive. The little that is taken from Income is for food but sometimes I can't buy it since I have to pay rent so that they can't throw me out with my children. And the good experiences is that we have been able to survive since people have been able to help us to ease our burdens with the aid here in Trinidad. Thank God that he has touched the hearts of the helpers. With the food bags we have been able to move forward. The Catholic Chaplaincy, Sister Sandra Xavier has been assisting me greatly with food.

YHOJAN HERNANDEZ (12YO) (VENEZUELA)

My name is Yhojan and I will tell you a little about my life. I will start by saying that I was born in Venezuela on March 18th, 2009. My first childhood memories began when I lived in The Monagas State (Maturin Capital). I liked it when we went downtown Commercial (The Waterfall), to the cinema, and to the park (Guaricha). I also went to preschool. I liked to go for my teacher Emmydis. I was fond of her. Then, we moved to the Delta Amacuro State (Tucupita Capital) in a place called La Horqueta. There, lived my grandparents, (papu y mamu), so I called them affectionately. In this new place, there was no signal or internet and there was a river with plants, and many animals. My grandfather taught me to fish and farm, in a place called Casabo. I also went to school with my cousins, and when I went out, we played a lot. After living in this new place for awhile, things got difficult, and my father travelled to Trinidad and Tobago to work and get money. That's what he told me. Some time later, we separated and I was very sad. Things began to get worse. I saw my mother cry and say she did not have money. These were difficult times. So we lasted for awhile and my mother made the decision to go to Trinidad too, but she couldn't take us because she didn't have money for tickets. She made us a promise that she would fight a lot for us to get back together. We cried a lot that day and I stayed in the care of (daddy and mommy). There, I spent my days with them, I went to school and I missed my mother a lot. Months later, my sick grandmother needed an operation. For this situation, my mother sent for my sister, Scarlett. It was my birthday. I cried a lot. I wanted to go with her, so I took care of my brother, Yhossua, much more, and took him to school and slept with him. Time passes and my mother communicates with my aunt.



VENEZUELA



YHOJAN HERNANDEZ (12YO)
(VENEZUELA) CONT.

She tells me that there is a job opportunity for my mother and she would send us to look for them. Then, she was very happy to hear those words. The day we came, was sad to leave my grandparents. Since we left, we lasted 5 days. Sometimes we slept in the boat and other times we did not have food and tables. We only ate what the Waraos gave us. I remember that my aunt told us that we were going to return. We cried together that day because I wanted to see my mother and did not want to return without seeing her. That day, I asked God to see my mother again. I cried for a long time. Then, my uncle said that we were going to cross and I felt so happy. We went from one boat to another and all the people went crazy and started stepping on us. My uncle started to fight with these people for stepping on us. After a while, we arrived in Trinidad. I felt a joy that later would change to fright being on the beach in Trinidad, some people with guns and with a different language spoke and I could not understand so they divided us into two groups and we walked a lot. There was no land and there were a lot of mountains. My cousin cried, along with my aunt and my dad carried my brother. We were very scared until we finally got to a place and they gave us juices and sweets. After several hours, they finally released us. A car had arrived for us. We took about 2 hours by road and I could finally see my mother. It was an emotion. We hugged and cried together. From that day until now, my life has been different. Although, I miss my grandparents, I have met beautiful people that God has put in my way to bless and help us before we lived in a placed called Point Fortin. There, at a Church, we met a lot of new people. At first, we did not understand each other, but they always gave us tasty sweets. We met Antonio. He has become our Father, and we love him very much. I thank God everyday.





CARLOS (17YO) & FAMILY (VENEZUELA)

I left my home country on January 11, 2019, as my mom decided. We left Venezuela due to the situation that she was presenting with her work, she worked as a legal consultant in a sports university and in the afternoons and weekends, she worked visiting rural sectors to conduct surveys on the housing situation since she was leading a large project of houses and she was also the possible candidate for mayor of that municipality where we lived, as a result of that being an independent party that she represented, she began to have problems with a director of the housing body, who was head of my Aunt, my mom began to have threats and an arrest warrant because according to them, she was a scammer, but that was not the case, of course, I also knew that in college she began to have difficulties, because she discovered irregular things in public procurement for the benefit of the university. All of this led us to leave the country, just like my aunt did and also because of the economic situation my brother had already come and I did not want to separate from my brother.

My time here has not been very good because of the rejection that we experience living here. I am an athlete. I am passionate about soccer and in Venezuela I trained a lot to get into a professional team. I thought that here I could fulfil that dream, but it was not like that because I tried playing with a local team and at first it went well, but then the coach and the teammates treated me with a lot of racism, so much so that in the games they tried to hurt me. When I saw and felt that I told my mother that I did not want to continue and so on it was. I am always locked up because it has been difficult to work as I am not of legal age and when I have had the opportunity they have exploited me and paid very little for that reason of my age.



YHOSSUA (5YO) (VENEZUELA)

Hello. I am Yhossua and I am 5 years old. I will tell the story of when I lived in Venezuela, in La Horqueta, Tucupita. I really like to dance and sing. I play with my bicycle and my favourite sport is soccer. I love the colour orange and I like to eat chicken with potatoes. But what I like the most is to be with my family.

I have two grandparents, "papu" and "mamu." That's what I call them because I love them very much. My grandfather had a horse called "tittle bird." I loved to ride it with him. At his house, they have many fruit plants (mango, guava) and animals (dogs, ducks, chickens turtle).

When I live in Trinidad, they speak English here. I have new friends and a teacher. She is Linette. When I grow up, I will work with my dad, Antonio.

JUAN REINOZA (14YO)
(VENEZUELA)

My family and I came in March 2020 because the economic situation in Venezuela is very difficult. My parents decided that it would be better to come here to seek a better quality of life because in Venezuela it is very difficult to have a good diet, there are no medical services, my sisters had malnutrition and did not improve, and with what my father earned at work it was not even enough to eat. The salary of a one-month employee in Venezuela is not enough to eat 2 days, much less to buy some medicine. The public services do not work. It is almost impossible to get domestic gas, the water is very scarce, the electricity goes out and can last up to three months or more without being repaired, and there is too much crime. Because of all of that education is also affected.

Here in Trinidad it is different because the services work and my parents have the possibility to work and earn money for food, rent and medicines when they are needed. Here in Trinidad we have not witnessed acts of violence.





**REBECCA COCKBURN
PARISH MIGRANTS & REFUGEES MINISTRY COORDINATOR
OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL R.C. CHURCH, CARAPICHAIMA**

I moved to Couva in 2017. I immediately searched for the nearest Catholic church, a gym and a decent grocery store. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel became my new parish. It has been comforting to be able to worship close to my new home and to meet fellow Catholics with whom I could commune. I knew that God had a plan and that there was a reason I was placed here. Around that time, the Archdiocese of Port of Spain formed the Archdiocesan Ministry for Migrants and Refugees (AMMR) and I, being multilingual, knew that I was in a position to communicate with and help Spanish-speaking migrants. While at the parish one day, I decided to ask some ladies I saw in the church if there was an active Parish Ministry for Migrants and Refugees (PMMR). I learnt that there was talk about starting one, but it had not yet formally taken off the ground. This was when I was introduced to Lynette Frederick who was there at that exact time. She mentioned that she and some other parishioners had informally started PMMR work, but it had not officially taken off. I was invited to join the group.

Since then our parish ministry committee started to meet regularly and eventually, in more recent times (2020/2021), more formal roles were assigned and I now serve as the treasurer and assist with the distribution of clothes and food. Not only do I feel blessed to help others in this way, but I enjoy getting together with members of the group and working towards a good cause. It has been somewhat challenging during the pandemic, but it has not stopped us from continuing to work together, and we meet virtually and in person for distribution days. As long as I am able, I would like to continue assisting in this ministry because God has blessed me with so much and I feel obliged to help others in any way I can.

THE MIGRANT PAGES

IN THIS SECTION WE HIGHLIGHT THROUGH A CLASSIFIED ADS APPROACH, MIGRANT SKILLS & COMPETENCIES, PERSONAL OR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR ANY LEGAL INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITY ENGAGED IN BY MIGRANTS & REFUGEES TO ACHIEVE A DIGNIFIED LIVING WITHIN TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.

WE AIM TO ADVOCATE FOR, EMPOWER, AND SUPPORT MIGRANTS & REFUGEES TOWARDS SELF-RELIANCE, SELF-SUSTAINABILITY, LIBERATION FROM POVERTY / DEPENDENCY, AND PROMOTE LOCAL COMMUNITY INTEGRATION, CONTRIBUTION, AND DEVELOPMENT.



THE MIGRANT PAGES

SEWING & HAIR PRODUCTS

sewing creations from blouses, to hats etc., We make cuts, hems, garments to your likings. hair care products also sold here

Instagram
@costurasarar

Language
Spanish

HAIRDRESSING & MANICURE SERVICES

Whatsapp
868-792-6868

Language
Spanish

Email
Reinaana239@gmail.com

PARTY DECORATION & PIÑATAS

Whatsapp
868-477-9610

Language
Spanish

Email
Yanmarysrodriguez@gmail.com

PRIVATE CONTRACTOR

General Construction work, repairs, remodeling and manufacturing of any project.

Whatsapp
868-783-4733

Language
Spanish

Email
jhonhamme@gmail.com

CARETAKER WITH NURSING EXPERIENCE

Experienced in caring for the elderly.

Whatsapp
868-325-2009

Language
English

Email
kimberly.uzcateguig@gmail.com

Mayaro Area

VENEZUELAN FOODS

The most of Venezuela!
Venezuelan food, grills Charcoal, arepas, empanas, lasagna, A Venezuelan corner, with Venezuelan seasoning.

Instagram
@lo_maximo_de_venezuela

Whatsapp
868-475-3282

Email
Lomaximodvenezuela@gmail.com

Language
Spanish

Penal / Debe Area

HAIRDRESSER & BARBER SHOP

African braids, straightened and dried

Whatsapp
868-317-6002

Language
Spanish

Email
Yuleixishernandez0@gmail.com

Siparia/Fyzabad area

RECYCLED CRAFTS

Whatsapp
868-286-6837

language
spanish & english

Email
misnegras2014@gmail.com

San Fernando Area

PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL

General home electricity services, plumbing for white water and sewage

Email
leonelfm2005@gmail.com

Language
Spanish

FAST FOOD PREPARATION SERVICE

Whatsapp
868-725-7087

Language
Spanish

Email
kleiny_30@hotmail.com

Chaguanas Area

SUPERMARKET SERVICES

Whatsapp
868-486-5952

Email
Yelismar-21@hotmail.com

Language
Spanish

COLD CAKES

Cold cakes to your preference 3 milk, 3 milk with peach, caramelized milk, coconut chocolates, normal cakes by request

Whatsapp
868-326-6450

Email
Alf-mar-vice@hotmail.com

Tobago Area

Language
Spanish

LEGAL SERVICES

You want to buy a house, a car etc, you want to order your personal documents such as titles, divorce etc ... in Venezuela, you can do it from here

legal advice, power of attorney documents, travel permits for children and adolescents, any document that can be validated by the Venezuelan embassy in Trinidad and Tobago

Whatsapp
868-265-0643

Email
mariadelourdes2611@gmail.com

Language
Spanish

BREAD, CAKES & DESSERTS

Instagram
@antojitosvzla1

Whatsapp
868-496-8320

San Fernando
Area

Language
Spanish

LAS PÁGINAS DEL MIGRANTE

COSTURA Y PRODUCTOS PARA EL CABELLO

Creación en costuras desde blusas, hasta gorros y comidas para el cabello

Instagram
@costurasarar

Idioma
Español

SERVICIOS DE PELUQUERÍA Y MANICURA

Whatsapp
868-792-6868

Idioma
Español

Correo Electrónico
Reinaana239@gmail.com

DECORACIÓN DE FIESTAS Y PIÑATAS

Whatsapp
868-477-9610

Idioma
Español

Correo Electrónico
Yanmarysrodriguez@gmail.com

CONTRATISTA PRIVADO

Trabajos de Construcción en General, Reparaciones, Remodelaciones y Fabricación de cualquier Proyecto.

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868-783-4733

Idioma
Español

Correo Electrónico
jhonhamme@gmail.com

CUIDADOR CON EXPERIENCIA EN ENFERMERÍA

Experienced in caring for the elderly.

Whatsapp
868-325-2009

Idioma
Español

Correo Electrónico
kimberly.uzcateguig@gmail.com

Área de Mayaro

ALIMENTOS VENEZOLANOS

¡Lo Más de Venezuela!
Comida Venezolana, Parrilladas al Carbón, Arepas, Empanas, Lasaña, Un Rincón Venezolano, con Sazón Venezolana.

Instagram
@lo_maximo_de_venezuela

Whatsapp
868-475-3282

Correo Electrónico
Lomaximodvenezuela@gmail.com

Idioma
Español

Área de Penal / Debe

PELUQUERÍA Y BARBERÍA

Trenzas Africanas, Alisadas y Secadas

Whatsapp
868-317-6002

Idioma
Español

Correo Electrónico
Yuleixishernandez0@gmail.com

Área de Siparia/Fyzabad

ARTESANÍA RECICLADA

Whatsapp
868-286-6837

Idioma
Español & Inglés

Correo Electrónico
misnegras2014@gmail.com

Área de San Fernando

FONTANERÍA Y ELECTRICIDAD

Servicios generales de electricidad en el hogar, fontanería para aguas blancas y alcantarillado

Correo Electrónico
leonelfm2005@gmail.com

Idioma
Español

SERVICIO DE PREPARACIÓN DE COMIDA RÁPIDA

Whatsapp
868-725-7087

Idioma
Español

Correo Electrónico
kleiny_30@hotmail.com

Área de Chaguanas

SERVICIOS DE SUPERMERCADO

Whatsapp
868-486-5952

Correo Electrónico
Yelismar-21@hotmail.com

Idioma
Español

TARTAS FRÍAS

Tartas frías a su gusto 3 leches, 3 leches con melocotón, arequipe, chocolates de coco, tartas normales por encargo

Whatsapp
868-326-6450

Correo Electrónico
Alf-mar-vice@hotmail.com

Idioma
Español

Área de Tobago

SERVICIOS JURÍDICOS

Quieres comprar una casa, un coche etc, quieres pedir tus documentos personales como títulos, divorcio etc... en Venezuela, puedes hacerlo desde aquí

asesoría legal, documentos de poder, permisos de viaje para niños y adolescentes, cualquier documento que pueda ser validado por la embajada de Venezuela en Trinidad y Tobago

Whatsapp
868-265-0643

Correo Electrónico
mariadelourdes2611@gmail.com

Idioma
Español

PAN, TARTAS Y POSTRES

Instagram
@antojitosvzla1

Whatsapp
868-496-8320

Área de
San Fernando

Idioma
Español



Catholic Commission for Social Justice Updates

HIGHLIGHTS 2021





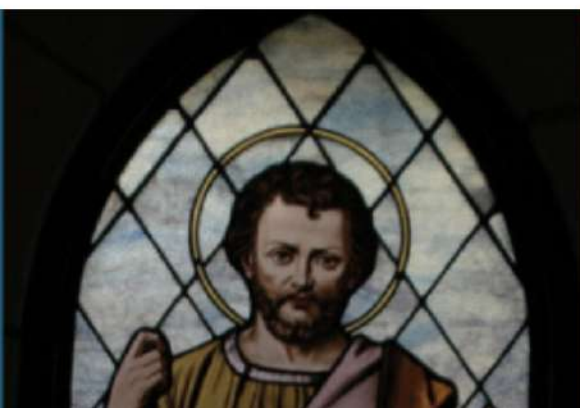
2021 PRIORITIES

- 01** Year of St. Joseph
- 02** Laudato Si
- 03** Family Life Week
- 04** Season of Creation
- 05** World Day of the Poor

ST. JOSEPH

THE CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE (CCSJ)
& THE ARCHDIOCESE'S MINISTRY
FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
(AMMR)

INVITED YOU TO JOIN US ON CCSJ'S
FACEBOOK LIVE STREAM
ON FATHER'S DAY, ON THE THEME:
ST. JOSEPH, ROLE MODEL FOR
FATHERS



Happy Father's Day!

THE CATHOLIC COMMISSION
FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE (CCSJ)
& THE ARCHDIOCESE'S
MINISTRY FOR MIGRANTS AND
REFUGEES (AMMR)

THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

A FOCUS ON FATHER'S WITHIN SOCIETY

Sunday June 20th marked Father's Day 2021. The CCSJ/AMMR marked this day by celebrating the earthly father of Jesus Christ and inviting key societal fathers to speak in a live Facebook webinar.

Live Facebook Webinar including the following speakers:

- Archbishop Charles Jason Gordon
- Andre des Vignes
- Professor Gerry C. Brooks
- Fr. Matthew D'Hereaux, (Men's Ministry)
- Richard Smith, (Men's Ministry)
- Fr. Curtis Gaston Poyer
- Joseph Timothy, CCSJ's Treasurer
- Rhondall Feeles, President of the Single Fathers' Association
- Dr Peter Timothy, Episcopal Delegate Evangelisation Commission




CCSJ Father's Day Special

 Copy link

Happy Father's Day



FROM THE CATHOLIC COMMISSION FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE ARCHDIOCESE'S
MINISTRY FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Watch on  YouTube

THE CATHOLIC
COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL
JUSTICE (CCSJ)
& THE ARCHDIOCESE'S
MINISTRY FOR MIGRANTS
AND REFUGEES (AMMR)
ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK
OF LAUDATO SI



Prayers, Scripture,
Reflections and *Dialogue*

Laudato Si

On Care for Our Common Home.
"For we know things can change".

Watch on  YouTube



LAUDATO SI

WHAT IS... LAUDATO SI?



START WITH YOUR ACTION

For More information
Facebook Page:
CCSJ Trinidad and
Tobago

Follow:
The Laudato Si
Trinidad and
Tobago Chapter



WHAT IS... LAUDATO SI?

Bob Marley said it best. "There's a natural mystic flowing through the air". Yet, it was another song that inspired the name "Laudato Si", Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on the environment. Meaning, "praise be to you, my Lord", the line "Laudato Si" was taken St. Francis of Assisi's "Canticle of the Son" and it is an open letter to all living people on the planet as "we are all interconnected".

The Holy Father affirms that we should love the Earth and her awesome mystery as "a mother that nurtures us and a sister that was created alongside us". The Earth and all her living creatures are not our own for dominion, but rather, humanity must now take up our God appointed mantle as stewards of creation. We are called in our times, to protect the planet for ourselves, all living creatures and future generations.



WHAT IS... LAUDATO SI?

Why is “Laudato Si” a landmark encyclical? Climate change, never officially addressed by a sitting Pope has been an aspect of Catholic Social Justice and Integral Ecology for many years. Yet, the current physical state of the Earth, which Pope Francis refers to as an “immense pile of filth” remains a serious cause of concern. He laments on the growing “throwaway culture”, which goes beyond garbage waste to actual human, as well as plant and animal life. This period in history is marked by rising global temperatures, the extreme loss of biodiversity and the extinction of species.

The time for change is now. Pope Francis calls for an ecological conversion, a revolution of the hearts and minds in how we treat the most vulnerable within our midst, including the Earth.



WHAT IS... LAUDATO SI?

The story goes, three years into his pontificate, the Holy Father on world tour, was deeply moved by the suffering he witnessed because of climate change and injustice.

HOW DO WE CHANGE?

Follow the Catholic Commission for Social Justice's social media and the Laudato Si Movement Trinidad and Tobago Chapter Facebook page for meaningful ways to address Climate Change within our society. The time for prayer and action is now!

Let us be guided by the Holy Spirit in our daily lives and see the poor and vulnerable, which include the Earth and all her living creatures, as an opportunity to encounter Christ.



WHAT IS... LAUDATO SI? KEEP HOPE ALIVE!

Pope Francis reminds us that there is always hope, yet we must understand that we are deeply connected to the planet and all living creatures, God's beautiful creation. Let us be inspired by St. Francis of Assisi's deep joy and admiration of our common home, Mother Earth.



@SOCIAL_JUSTICETT



@SOCIAL_JUSTICETT



- CCSJ TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
- @AMMRRCCOMMUNITY



- @SOCIAL_JUSTICETT
- @CFS_AMMR

#LAUDATOSI6

LAUDATO SI ACTIVITIES MAY 2021:

- CCSJ/AMMR and CEBM are working with Catholic Primary schools to engage students in prayer during Laudato Si week.
- CCSJ Laudato Si article in Catholic News
- Article by our Chair, Leela Ramdeen in Trinidad and Tobago's Guardian Newspapers, entitled: "Caring for our common home"
- Join Us FB LIVE COVID-19 Conversations with Professor Michele Monteil.

- Prayer, Scripture, Reflection & Dialogue on caring for our common home Zoom Session, 6.00-7.30PM
- Join Us FB LIVE to discuss Sustainable Development and Creation 6.00-7.30PM



#LaudatoSi6 CCSJ Schedule of Events Laudato Si Week

SUNDAY 16th MAY

CCSJ Laudato Si article in Catholic News

ALL WEEK

CCSJ/AMMR and CEBM are working with Catholic Primary schools to engage students in prayer during Laudato Si week. Tune in to CCSJ's social pages and let's pray together.

THURSDAY 20th MAY

Article by our Chair, Leela Ramdeen in Trinidad and Tobago's Guardian Newspapers, entitled: "Caring for our common home".

FRIDAY 21st MAY

Prayer, Scripture, Reflection & Dialogue on caring for our common home Zoom Session 6.00-7.30PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83043734719?pwd=STdWU060S0VvU3NEMHFFYUJpQGU1U0T09>

SATURDAY 22nd MAY

Join Us FB LIVE COVID-19 Conversations with Professor Michele Monteil. CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago: 6.00- 7.00 PM EST

SUNDAY 23rd MAY

GLOBAL PRAYER GATHERING. 3 PM CET / 9 AM EST (Pentecost).

MONDAY 24th MAY

Join Us FB LIVE to discuss Sustainable Development and Creation 6.00-7.30PM

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS & LOCAL INFLUENCE



**RESCHEDULED FROM
SATURDAY 22ND
WEDNESDAY 26TH MAY**

COVID-19 CONVERSATION

Join Us FB LIVE COVID-19
Wednesday 26th May
Professor Michele Monteil.
CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago:
1.00-2.00PM EST



Let's Talk
the Vaccine



CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago



Social_JusticeTT

laudatosiweek.org



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CREATION



Ruqayyah Scott
President Economics Society
UWI & Media Personality



Shenelle Felix
Founder Youth Votes Matter &
Founder Youth Voice



Michael Bereaum
Entrepreneur



Darriin M. Narine
MODERATOR
Programme Coordinator
AMMR/CCSJ

**JOIN US MONDAY 24TH MAY 2021
6:00PM-7:30PM**

On the Catholic Commission for Social Justice Facebook Page

NEWS NEWS
**LAUDATO
SI WEEK**



Catholics in Trinidad & Tobago overcoming climate crisis, COVID-19 pandemic

Catholics in Trinidad & Tobago are overcoming the climate crisis and the COVID-

NURTURING VALUES AND VIRTUES IN CHILDREN A PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

SOCIAL JUSTICE

What is Catholic Social Justice? Here's a hint. It has everything to do with YOU!

INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

is about promoting the development of

Parents are the first educators of their children.



Caring For the Earth

Laudato Si, Let's Celebrate the Earth



The Prayer For Earth

Lord, from the beginning of time You entrusted the earth and all of creation to the care of humanity. Give us here in Trinidad and Tobago the grace to preserve and conserve all the gifts you have given us in our beloved twin-island state. May each citizen be filled with a passion for creation so we can see an end to pollution and the misuse of our natural resources in our homes, schools, workplaces, institutions, forests, beaches, and oceans.

Help us to be good stewards of the earth, and to appreciate and celebrate its beauty through practices and initiatives that protect and preserve all that we have for all the generations that will come after us.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Child Friendly Spaces: Nature

LAUDATO SI
NATURE IS
OUR SISTER

Watch on  YouTube

SEASON OF CREATION ACTIVITIES 2021



31 OCT - 12 NOV 2021
GLASGOW

COP26

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

You're Invited

PILGRIMAGE

IT'S THE SEASON OF CREATION
REPUBLIC DAY EVENT
24TH SEPTEMBER
1PM-2PM
MOUNT ST. BENEDICT
CAR PARK
PRAYER, LITANY & HYMNS
FOR THE EARTH

Some people
decide to flee
their home.



LIVE

CCSJ



CHANGE IS A HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE

1PM Monday 13th September
Facebook: CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago



Ms. Marcia Tinto
Laudato Si Movement
Trinidad & Tobago
Chapter



Caroline Mair-Toby
Founder and Director at
the Institute for
Small Islands

JOIN THE DISCUSSION ON THE CRITICAL STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT!
LIVE FROM FACEBOOK PAGE:
CCSJ TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



CLIMATE CHANGE IS A HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE

1PM Monday 6th September
Facebook: CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago



Professor John Acord,
Lead Author
Intergovernmental
Panel for Climate Change
(IPCC)



Lisela Ramchand,
Chair of the Catholic
Commission
for Social Justice

JOIN THE DISCUSSION ON THE CRITICAL STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT!
LIVE FROM FACEBOOK PAGE:
CCSJ TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



THE CATHOLIC COMMISSION
FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE (CCSJ)
& THE ARCHDIOCESE'S
MINISTRY FOR MIGRANTS AND
REFUGEES (AMMR) ACTIVITIES
FOR THE WEEK OF MARRIAGE
AND FAMILY WEEK

MARRIAGE & FAMILY WEEK



#MARRIAGEAND FAMILYWEEK2021

MARRIAGE & FAMILY WEEK 2021

- Monday July 19th 2021 1pm -1:30pm Indigenous Traditions and Family with Eric Lewis, Prince of Moruga, both from the Warao Community. Thursday 22nd July: 5pm - 6:30pm
- Legal Aid Clinic - open to all in need.
- 24th July *Our First Family Games Day - 6.00pm. Special Thanks to Shelci-Marie Narine for facilitating the evening!*
- *Leela Ramdeen's, Chair, CCSJ & AMMR, article in TT Guardian.*

- Sunday 25th July -Article in CCSJ's Catholic News Column on Marriage and the Family
- Tuesday 27th Live Webinar aired to Trinity TV: Theme: What is the glue that holds your family together; and what challenges and opportunities do you and your family face/have in today's world?
- Wednesday 28th July Live Webinar: Roundtable Discussion - Youth and Family "The Young and the Restless" (Youths Views)

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

Press Conference to wider National Community
Catholic News: Prayer Supplement on "The poor
you will always have with you" (Mk 14:7) by Sr.
Juliet Rajah, Catechetical Commission.

8.30 PM Trinity TV: Interfaith Dialogue on
"Poverty" - Archbishop Jason Gordon,
Representatives of the IRO, and the Seventh
Day Adventist Community

ALL DAY: So nice we made it twice!
Let's get cooking and sharing food.
Download CCSJ's E-Cookbook!


6PM- 8 PM: Virtual Vigil: Finding a
place for the poor and vulnerable at
the table of life:

.Living Water Community,
Eternal Light Community,
Zion Community,
People of Praise,
Companions of the Transfigured Christ, Emmanuel Community,
Society of St Vincent de Paul


WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

- Voices of Hope Video Series with Evangelization Commission.
- Daily Prayers for the poor and vulnerable within our midst.
- Partnership with CatholicTT IG page for JPCW.
- Games Day with Family Life Commission
- Spoken Word Competition in collaboration with Catholic Youth Commission.


SATURDAY 13TH NOVEMBER - CATHOLIC NEWS

 **ALL WEEK:** Prayer Supplement on "The poor you will always have with you" (Mk 14:7) by Sr. Juliet Rajah, Catechetical Commission.

SUNDAY 14TH NOVEMBER - TRINITY TV

 **8.30 PM Trinity TV:** Interfaith Dialogue on "Poverty" - Archbishop Jason Gordon, Representatives of the IRO, and the Seventh Day Adventist Community.


MONDAY 15TH NOVEMBER - TUNE IN ON FACEBOOK

 **ALL DAY:** Our youth are exploring the plight of the poor and vulnerable with creative projects and Acts of Mercy.

**TUESDAY 16TH NOVEMBER - DOWNLOAD FROM OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.RCSOCIALJUSTICE.ORG**

 **ALL DAY:** So nice we made it twice! Let's get cooking and sharing food. Download CCSJ's E-Cookbook!

THURSDAY 18TH NOVEMBER - TUNE IN TO OUR WEBSITE AND YOUTUBE.

 **6 PM- 8 PM:** Virtual Vigil: Finding a place for the poor and vulnerable at the table of life. Living Water Community, Eternal Light Community, Zion Community, People of Praise, Companions of the Transfigured Christ, Emmanuel Community, Society of St Vincent de Paul, The Catholic Commission for Social Justice.



World Day *of the* Poor

Daily Activities:



CCSJ TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



**TUNE IN:
VOICES OF HOPE
VIDEO SERIES**




**DAILY & ROSARY &
PRAYER FOR
JUSTICE, PEACE &
COMMUNITY.**



**CHECK OUT
CATHOLICTT'S
INSTAGRAM PAGE FOR
POPE FRANCIS'
MESSAGE FOR THE
5TH WORLD DAY OF
THE POOR**



**SATURDAY 20TH NOVEMBER
- TUNE IN ON INSTAGRAM
OR TRINITY TV**

 **8.15 PM:** Spoken Word



Thank You to All that Took Part!

WHAT ARE ACTS OF MERCY

Will be most affected by climate change!



Learn more about World Day of the Poor every day this week on IG: @catholictr



Faces of the Poor & Works of Mercy CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago



Daily Novena for the Poor & Vulnerable

Religious Organisation & CARITAS

World Day of the Poor

Check out Sr Juliet, Catechetical Directress Prayer Supplement in Catholic News!



Daily Novena for the Poor & Vulnerable

of the poor and vulnerable with creative projects and Acts of Mercy



Faces of the Poor CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago



Daily Novena for the Poor & Vulnerable

of the poor and vulnerable with creative projects and Acts of Mercy

Blog for Women and the CCSJs E-Cookbook!



Faces of the Poor CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago



Daily Novena for the Poor & Vulnerable

of the poor and vulnerable with creative projects and Acts of Mercy



Faces of the Poor CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago



Daily Novena for the Poor & Vulnerable

Scriptural reflections on Poverty



Faces of the Poor CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago



Daily Novena for the Poor & Vulnerable

Family Life Commission

It's GAMES DAY with the Archdiocese Community! LIVE STREAM Facebook Page CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago.



Faces of the Poor CCSJ Trinidad and Tobago



Daily Novena for the Poor & Vulnerable

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

NOVEMBER 13-20TH IS A WEEK OF:

JUSTICE, PEACE &

HIGHLIGHTS

From National Sensitization to Community Prayers and Games, Justice, Peace and Community Week was a resounding success!



JUSTICE

PEACE



COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER 13TH-20TH 2021

**"THE POOR, ALWAYS AND EVERYWHERE,
EVANGELIZE US, BECAUSE THEY ENABLE US TO
DISCOVER IN NEW WAYS THE TRUE FACE OF
THE FATHER. THEY HAVE MUCH TO TEACH US."**

POPE FRANCIS
ADVOCATE MAGAZINE | 57



SPOKEN WORD

Creative Competition For Youth

**THEME:
THE EVER WIDER WE**

Open to:
Adolescents
13-16
Young Adults
17-24

**OVER \$4,000
IN PRIZES
TO BE WON!**

Submit pieces of 4 minutes or less to:
admin.ccsj@catholictt.org by **November 21st**





Inter-Faith Dialogue

WITNESSES OF HOPE AND JUSTICE



Speaker

ARCHBISHOP, CHARLES JASON GORDON

Thank you very much, and thanks for everyone who has come. And thanks for you who are viewing us today. Pope Francis has started this World Day of The Poor in 2015 as a way of really focusing the minds of people of goodwill all over the world to ask the question, what are we doing to alleviate poverty? How are we treating our brothers and sisters who are on the fringe? What are we doing as individuals, as people of faith, as a national community, in looking at working for and alleviating those on the fringe. In the Christian tradition, and in the Catholic tradition, we have a particular way of understanding poverty.



The Scripture says that Christ is the icon of the invisible God, and Jesus says in Matthew 25, “I was naked, I was hungry, I was sick, I was in prison, and you either fed me, clothed me, visited me, or you did not.”

Link Salvation to the Corporal works of mercy, which is the work of alleviating the plight of the poor, of consoling and of giving what is necessary for food, shelter and clothing. That already says something; that the image of God is tied up with the image of the poor.

In the reading, we see our theme for today, “the poor you will have with you always,” and that has been seen by many as a dismissal of the needs of dealing with the poor or of taking the poor seriously. Pope Francis, in his reflection on World Day of The Poor 2021, reflecting on the theme, says, “no, Jesus actually says something much more profound. That wherever you meet the poor, there you will meet God also, and God will always be with you. And therefore to see the poor is to see God. And so the plight of the poor is the conscience of God.

Many tried to downplay the poor, but Jesus did not. The little widow who put in her two coins put in far more than all the others who put in a lot of money. James in his epistle 2:17 says, “you say you have faith, I have good works. In the same way you show me your faith, I can show you my good works.” James is saying that there is no true faith without helping the poor. He goes on to say, “and if a poor person comes to you and says, “I’m hungry, I’m starving and I’m in need”, and you say, “God bless you, I will pray for you, go your way, then you’re not living true faith.” That’s not true faith.

ARCHBISHOP, CHARLES JASON GORDON

In a moment of great prosecution, the Church was under siege and the Roman Emperor had already martyred or killed Pope Sixtus. The Deacon, Lawrence was called to the viceroy and he was told, “bring all the treasures of the Church.” And what Deacon Lawrence did, was he took all they had and handed it out to the poor, and then he brought all the poor to the viceroy, and said that he wanted the treasures of the Church?



Here are the true treasures of the Church.” And he had a parade of the poor, of the indigent, of those who were in this long line of squalor. That's the true treasure. Why? Because that's where we see the face of God. That's where we can encounter God. And that's not sentimental, as if we are supposed to go there and feel nice about [ourselves]. No, it is like Simon of Serene, who is asked to make the burden light or Veronica, who is asked to bring comfort to the Christ in his crucifixion. And so encountering God and the poor is not simply about a sentimentality. It is to do something with the weight of the burden [of the poor] by easing [poverty and suffering] and by touching them.

In our tradition, John Chrysostom says that “don't think that your generosity; you should ask the poor to account for their conduct or to improve their condition as a way of justifying whether or not you will do anything with them.” John Chrysostom says, “the poor have only one plea, their poverty and the condition and the need in which they find themselves. Do not ask them anything else. But even if they are the most wicked persons in the world, if they lack the necessary nourishment, let us free them from hunger.

The merciful are like a harbour of those in need. The harbour welcomes and frees from danger all those who are shipwrecked. Whether they are evil doers, good persons or whatever they may be, the harbour shelters them within its inlet. You too, therefore, when you see on land, a man or a woman who has suffered the shipwreck of poverty, do not judge. Do not ask for an account of their conduct, but deliver them from their misfortune.” That's in John Chrysostom.

That gives a capsule of our tradition and how we understand the care for the poor. It's not whether they're nice, good or bad people. The fact that someone is poor, demands of us, a response of love, compassion and of care. Thank you.

THE COMMISSIONS WITHIN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PORT-OF-SPAIN

"THE DIOCESAN CURIA CONSISTS OF THOSE INSTITUTIONS AND PERSONS WHICH ASSIST THE BISHOP IN THE GOVERNANCE OF THE WHOLE DIOCESE."



"ESPECIALLY IN GUIDING PASTORAL ACTION, IN CARING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DIOCESE, AND IN EXERCISING JUDICIAL POWER." - TAKEN FROM A PRESENTATION PREPARED BY TARESA BEST-DOWNES OF THE CATHOLIC YOUTH COMMISSION

1

Archdiocesan Catechetical Office

2

Archdiocesan Evangelization Commission

3

Archdiocesan Family Life Commission

4

Liturgical Commission

5

Catholic Youth Commission

6

Catholic Commission for Social Justice

7

Catholic Education Board of Management

8

Catholic Religious Education Development Institute (CREDI)

9

Catholic Media Services (CAMSEL)

10

The Pontifical Mission Societies

Archdiocesan Catechetical Office



Directress:
Sr. Juliet Rajah



Vision:

That Life Giving Catechesis for every age and stage of the Christian journey be offered in every parish.

Mission

To provide spiritual, catechetical, moral and ecclesial formation for every age and stage of the Christian journey. The goal of this ministry is to empower all to make their faith " living, conscious and active."



What is Catechesis?

Catechesis speaks of religious education of both children and adults. The Archdiocesan Catechetical Office is responsible for providing this service within Trinidad and Tobago.

This service is extended to the public through a variety of means, from textbooks and workbooks used in Religious Education in all Catholic schools, to workshops and courses, reading material published in both the Catholic News and print, and now, online courses!

Browse through our website, read the About Us, check out our Online Courses or simply scroll to read more about our impact on Catholic Schools and parishes.

Core Business

- Training of Catechists
- Catechetics in Parishes and Schools
- Provision of Catechetical Resources



Contact

Address: 31, Independence Square S, Port of Spain
Phone: +1 6235139

Archdiocesan Evangelization Commission



**Episcopal
Delegate:
Dr. Peter
Timothy**



Vision:

To encourage full active conscious participation in our Catholic population, through the changing of hearts and sustained witnessing of the life of Jesus in our everyday lives, thus increasing all vocations in the Archdiocese of Port of Spain.

Mission

To facilitate the strengthening and developing of all peoples into Eucharistic, Holistic servant-hood within families and communities collaborating with clergy, religious and the lay faithful, to enthusiastically meet their needs through an intimate encounter with the Christ.

To share in the Church's mission of evangelization and Catechetics and assist others to grow in their relationships with Jesus Christ through sharing our common witness to faith hope and love, through which we aim to continue to transform our society in the love of Jesus Christ.

The Commission For Evangelization has 3 primary goals.

These are:

- To bring about in all Catholics, such an enthusiasm for the faith that in living their faith in Jesus, they will freely share it with others.
- To invite all people, whatever their social or cultural background, to share the message of salvation in Christ Jesus so that they may come to join us in the fullness of the Catholic faith
- To foster gospel values in a society promoting the dignity of the human person, the importance of the family and the common good of our society so that our nation may continue to be transformed by the saving power of Jesus Christ.

Core Business

Provide opportunities for persons to experience conversion, formation and become missionary disciples.



Contact

Evangelization Commission
Catholic Centre Chaguanas
1 Rene Street, Chaguanas
868 671 0133, 868 671 4177

Archdiocesan Family Life Commission



Episcopal Delegate:
Mr. Raymond & Mrs. Tricia Syms



Vision:

Families everywhere becoming life giving communities, where each member can realize his/her full potential for wholeness as God's child reflecting the Kingdom of God.

Mission

To proclaim to all people the plan of God for marriage and family life and thus promote the renewal of family, Church and Nature



Core Business

Bringing together the resources of the Catholic Church in Trinidad and Tobago and applying them to the renewal of family life via our ministries to individuals, families and communities.

- Marriage Preparation and Enrichment
- Ministry to Families in Difficult situations – SDW, hurting marriages
- Counselling Services



We Work Towards:

- Developing , promoting and co-coordinating Marriage and Family Life programmes.
- Developing a comprehensive Pastoral plan for Marriage and Family Life.
- Developing faith based services for family life.
- Promoting the sanctity of Sacrament of Marriage as covenant love and God's original plan.
- Helping families to reflect their goodness and uphold their dignity.
- Empowering them to partake in the Ministry that is rightly theirs as families.
- Working to encourage families to participate in the development of the life of the Church and Society.
- Promoting the sacredness and dignity of human life at every stage of its development.

Contact

Family Life Commission
Catholic Centre Chaguanas
1 Rene Street, Chaguanas
(868) 299-1047

Liturgical Commission



Chairman
Msgr Michael de
Verteuil



Vision:

To implement the Sacred Liturgy as decreed by the Second Vatican Council



Mission

Assist, support and promote the spiritual development of the community in parishes, in order to give God the best worship they can.



The mission of the Liturgical Commission is to assist, support and promote the spiritual development of the community in parishes in order to give God the best worship they can.

Core Business

Training of Lay Ministers,
Workshops and Sale of
Liturgical Supplies



Contact

Liturgical Commission
(868) 235-5329

Youth Commission



**Episcopal Delegate:
Taresa Best Downes**



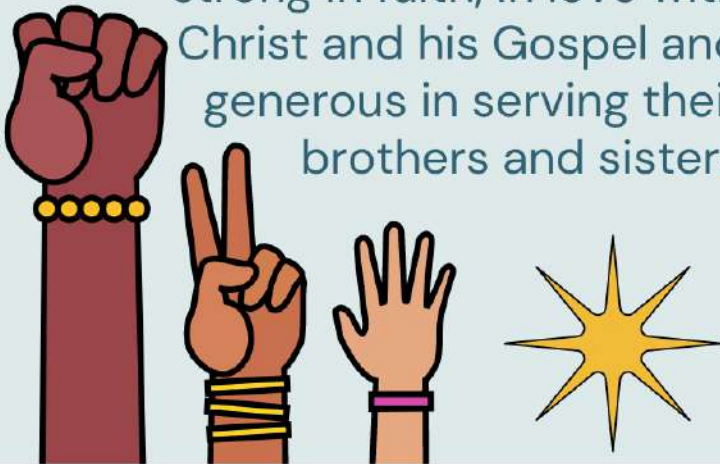
Vision:

Young faith-filled Catholics transformed in body, mind, heart and soul on fire for Christ



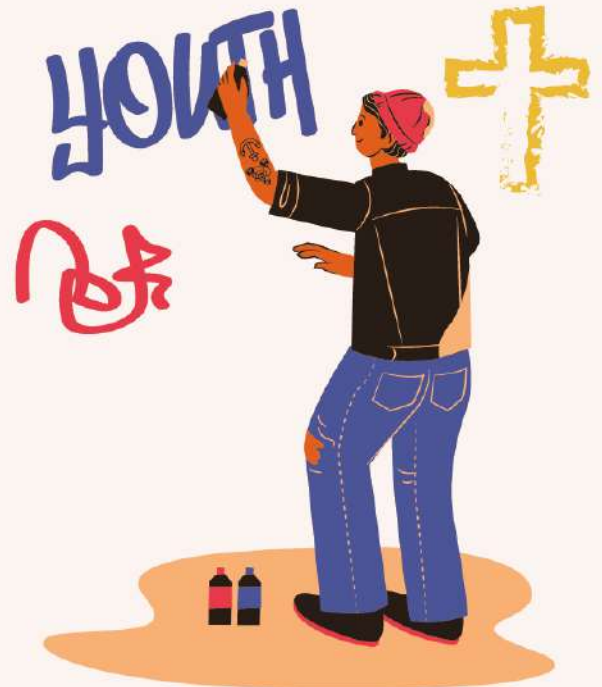
Mission

To build young disciples, strong in faith, in love with Christ and his Gospel and generous in serving their brothers and sisters



About Us:

The Catholic Youth Commission is the office responsible for promoting and championing Adolescent and Young Adult ministry in the Archdiocese of Port of Spain.



Core Business

- Governance of Comprehensive Youth Ministry
- Formation and Accompaniment of Ministry Leaders
- Ministry to Adolescents, Young Adults and Campus Ministry

Contact

Roman Catholic Youth Commission
(868) 235-5329

Catholic Commission for Social Justice



Chair of CCSJ and AMMR
Ms. Leela Ramdeen



We envision a transformed national/world community where Justice, Peace and Love prevails, as divinely ordained by God, and which:

- Ensures human rights, duties and human dignity
- Celebrates diversity and promotes equality
- Promotes the common good, respect for human life and ecology justice

Vision

Mission

Our mission is to be a fearless and unified voice to eradicate social injustice in T&T and in the world, a voice infused with Gospel values that will awaken the social conscience of all citizens and create an empowered population so that all can be active participants in bringing about the Kingdom of God here on earth. We strive to do this through

- Social Justice Education and Advocacy
- Promoting people-centred development,
- And working for the transformation of inequitable structures and systems.

The Archdiocese's Ministry for Migrants and Refugees

In 2018 the Catholic Commission for Social Justice was asked by Archbishop Jason Gordon to lead this ministry in the archdiocese and to assist parishes and religious communities in establishing and operationalizing this important ministry.

Core Business

- Child-Friendly Spaces
- Alternative Care
- Food Distribution and Health Fairs



Contact

Catholic Commission for Social Justice
27 Maraval Road, Port of Spain
1-868-622-6680

Catholic Education Board Management



Chief Executive Office
Sharon Mangroo



Vision

Our Catholic schools are led by principals and teachers who are missionary disciples, steeped in the philosophy of Catholic education who work with parents, guardians and families to ensure each child achieves his/her full potential as children of God and citizens of Trinidad and Tobago and the world community through excellence in faith, academic, physical, emotional and character formation within excellent facilities.

Mission

Each student living their vocation in the world of 2049



About Us:

The Catholic Education Board of Management (CEBM) established in 1934 is a non-profit limited liability company incorporated in 1992. CEBM is the legal and official body, representing the Archbishop and/or Archdiocese in the management of the diocesan schools.

There are 118 Primary, one Private and six Assisted Secondary Schools managed by the CEBM.

RC Schools are located in each Education District with over fifty percent (50%) situated within the poorest Regional Corporations, bearing witness to the Church's "preferential option for the poor."

Core Business

- Teacher recruitment
- Promotion Teacher development
- Teacher promotion
- Primary and Secondary Education
- Facilities Management

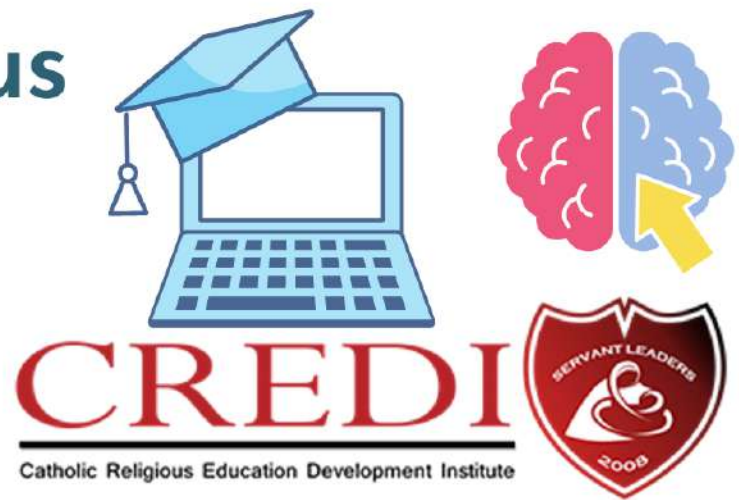


Contact

Catholic Education Board of Management
34B Belmont Circular Road, Port of Spain
1 (868) 623-2302



Catholic Religious Education Development Institute



Chief Executive
Office
Jacqueline
Francois



Vision

Servant Leaders for Human Dignity and Social Justice.

Mission

CREDI is a Catholic tertiary institution committed to developing missionary disciples for service to church and society through transformative programmes of education.

About Us:

The Catholic Religious Educational Development Institute (CREDI) is an educational institution offering a range of programmes aimed at supporting individuals in their development as missionary disciples and servant leaders.

With Catholicism as its foundation, CREDI educates to nurture individuals to develop their vocation and social conscience so that they can be exemplars in their field of work and as citizens of the world.

Core Business

Formation of the People of God and Parish Leaders



Contact

Catholic Religious Education Development Institute
34B Belmont Circular Road, Port of Spain
1(868) 627 9247

Catholic Media Services



GOOD NEWS

**General Manager
Kathryn Tardieu**

Vision

CAMSEL provides relevant, creative communication of the message of the Archdiocese, towards building a church that is faithful, dynamic and connected, regenerating the spiritual and moral values of society.

Mission

- We are the Communications Arm of the Archdiocese of Port of Spain, committed to providing relevant, creative communication of its message.
- We provide products and services that inform and inspire.
- We support and collaborate with Parishes and other internal departments, toward developing a fruitful communications network.
- We operate in service of the Archdiocese, spreading its message to all Catholics & People of Goodwill.

About Us:

CAMSEL are the communications arm of the church. They provide content that informs, forms and inspires across multiple platforms and their most longstanding channel of communications is the Catholic News, weekly publication that has been synonymous with Sunday mass for 128 years! Of course, it is also available online along with exclusive content like our youth and women's blog as well as breaking news! CAMSEL also manages the CatholicTT platform which is the digital hub for our local church.

CAMSEL operate in service of the Archdiocese, spreading it's message to all people and supporting its mission, which is, in its very essence in service of the people.

CAMSEL will be expanding their online platform in 2022 to give parishes their own "microsites" and to bring even more content geared to our specific audiences.

Keep following CAMSEL to see what's new!

Quote

And He said to them, "Go out to the whole world, proclaim the Good News to all creation." – Mark 16:15

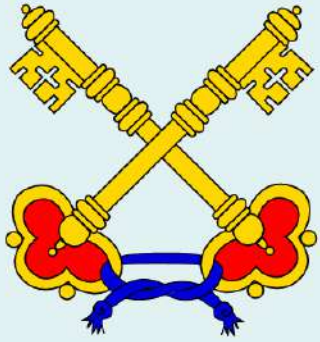


Contact

31 Independence SQ POS
<https://catholictt.org/about/media-center/camsel/>
Facebook/IG: CatholicTT, The Catholic News
Phone: 235-5329



THE PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES



**Directress
Deborah
de Rosia**

Who We Are

The Pontifical Mission Societies are a worldwide network at the service of the Pope to support the mission and the young Churches with prayer and charity.

Mission

The Second Vatican Council states that two activities are referred to under the name of missions: the proclamation of the Gospel and the establishment of new Churches (AG, 6). The charism of the Pontifical Mission Societies is placed in the broad vision of *missio ad gentes* and of the relationship between the local and universal Church.

About Us:

"The Pontifical Mission Societies, known in some countries as *Missio*, is the name of a group of Catholic missionary societies that are under the jurisdiction of the Pope. ... The societies care for and support the younger churches until they are able to be self-sufficient."

Within Trinidad and Tobago, the Pontifical Missions Society was appointed by the Archbishop to co-ordinate and over-see the work of prayer/mission communities.

Core Business

- Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith
- Pontifical Society of the Holy Childhood
- Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle
- Pontifical Missionary Union



Contact

31 Independence SQ POS
<https://catholicTT.org/about/media-center/camsel/>
Facebook/IG: CatholicTT, The Catholic News
Phone: 235-5329

FEED A FAMILY



Your Contribution Counts!

You have helped the Roman Catholic Church provide **24,000 food hampers each month.**

Each hamper feeds a family severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please continue to show your care to these families and more.

Feed a family of four for two weeks

DONATION OPTIONS:

- 1) One family: \$200
- 2) Two families: \$400
- 3) Three families: \$600
- 4) As many families as you can: Unlimited donation

TO DONATE:



**Bank
Deposit
Donation**

RC ABP POS/Archbishop Relief
Republic Bank Account (online or any branch)
Acct# 3405 0905 2501



For payment by credit card,
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Or please call **607-HOPE** to
continue the care today.

Thank you for helping the
Roman Catholic Church carry out its
mission of love and care for our country.



Archdiocese of the Roman Catholic
Archbishop of Port of Spain

REACH FOR SOMETHING GOOD

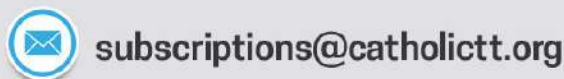
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Archbishop's House
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Port of Spain



rcsocialjustice.org

CCSJ Trinidad & Tobago
AMMR - Catholic Ministry Community



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