



"Let the holiness of God shine forth" (cf. Mt 5, 16)

item 295

SAC parishes on Long Island, NY

The diversity of demographics and lifestyles are only one of the challenges faced by the Pallottines ministering to **two** separate parishes on the east end of Long Island. Five miles apart they are both located within the Diocese of Rockville Centre.



- **St Andrews [Sag Harbor]:**
St Andrews is one of the oldest churches on Long Island, built in the mid to late 1800's. It is the larger parish and has been staffed by Pallottines since 2004.
- **Queen of the Most Holy Rosary [Bridgehampton]:**
Built as a mission church around 1914 it became a parish in 1925, and a Pallottine responsibility since 2009.

Fr Peter Devaraj sac initially arrived into St Andrews in 2004 in the role of Administrator. Subsequently, when the second parish was added, he became Pastor of both. I – **Fr Manuel Zuzarte sac** – came in 2009 to support him with the additional workload.

Essentially both of our parishes are located in tourist hotspots. That is the nature of this part of New York State and our ministry is significantly impacted by the variations of people movements.

The resident population of **St Andrews** [right] is composed of both young as well as senior parishioners. In the winter months many of our seniors go to the southern States, substantially cutting into an already small base. The focus and style of our ministry has to alter accordingly. This becomes easier, being a larger parish, where we can offer programs that are of interest to most – religious education, faith formation, social gatherings and so on.



On the other hand in **Queen of the Most Holy Rosary** [below] the parish base is over the age of 69. In such a small, more senior oriented community, it is not so easy to keep people motivated. Our pastoral care program includes home communion calls for those sick, healing Masses, pastoral visits to hospitals and nursing homes. Even tasks like locating lectors and Eucharistic ministers can become a challenge within such an elderly population.



Both see their numbers triple in the summer months. The influx of second home owners, summer visitors and even weekend adventurers leads to a larger Mass attendance, more requests for baptisms and marriages and, unfortunately, for funerals. This workload keeps both priests and pastoral support staff quite busy, from the Memorial Day weekend (weekend of last Monday of May) straight through the Labour Day weekend (weekend of first Monday of September). However we find the diversity of the people we meet in those months, and the kindness of both the local and seasonal parishioners a wonderful

inspiration and support.

Even though the variation is great, the love of God at both parishes is strong and the Holy Spirit is with us as we strive to bring the love of Christ to young and old. We are blessed to work in a beautiful seaside area where the beauty of God surrounds us.

Manuel Zuzarte sac [BA] – Sag Harbor – USA
December, 2014
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item 296

mission: in the lands of sunrise

My recent visitation to our mission in Taiwan convinced me once again that east Asia is a fertile ground for evangelisation and that the people of God are indeed eagerly waiting for the good news.

There are a number of things that touched me profoundly.

The first was the very gentle and hospitable nature of people. They are very respectful, polite and welcoming. It was not difficult to feel at home amidst those affectionate people. My visit included an opportunity to meet with three local bishops and all of them were true pastors and exercised their ministry with great humility and simplicity.

The second was the fluency with which our confreres are already speaking the Chinese language. Each letter looked like a spider web to me but, after just 10 months of language study, they are able to celebrate Mass and preach without any difficulty. Such commitment makes a true missionary.

A third factor that astonished was that one, and perhaps even two, young men are willing to enter into our Society. In a country which is just two percent Catholic, this has to be seen as a true blessing from God. The future will depend on these local vocations.

Much more can be written about this mission. We are at the doorstep of mainland China so let us hope and pray that our Chinese speaking confreres will land there too.

We need to rediscover our missionary identity as Pallottines. We must not hesitate when the people of God are calling out to us. Courage, creativity and trust in divine providence are hallmarks of a missionary.



The next Pallottine Asian mission, in Vietnam, is a dream that is on the way to realisation. We are a pilgrim people and missionaries and apostles of Jesus. Let us keep moving towards the promised land.

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12.01.15
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sac asia oceania e-bulletin

you commented...

on #154 By the grace of God we have got a vocation from Taiwan by name Joseph. He has expressed his willingness to enter our congregation to serve God.

ST 04.01.15

thanks very much for your weekly session of pallottine information. It is incredible interesting every magazine or news that you sent for us.

I was surprised to read of a decrease in the Christian presence in Taiwan, given the phenomenal growth occurring in nearby countries such as the People's Republic of China and South Korea... And Fr Stanislaw certainly was faithful in a time and places of unimaginable hardship. His closing remarks about martyrdom, "if it eventually comes", were poignant in light of the expressed views of the subject of at least some jihadis in our own day. As I read him, martyrdom wasn't, and isn't, something to be sought, but is acknowledged as a possible consequence of discipleship. Martin Luther King, whose 86th birthday falls this week, said it succinctly: "If a man has not discovered something that he will die for, he isn't fit to live."

MB 11.01.15

With great joy we announce to you that on January 12th, 2015, during the IV Ordinary General Assembly of the Union of Catholic Apostolate, a new General Coordination Council was formed. It is composed of the following members:

Ex officio:

Fr. Jacob Nampudakam SAC
 Sr. Ivete Garlet, CSAC
 Sr. Izabela Świerad, SAC

Elected:

Sr. Salete Cargnin CSAC	Brazil
Fr. Derry Murphy, SAC	Ireland
Fr. Stanisław Stawicki, SAC	Poland
Ms. Donatella Acerbi	Italy Laywoman
Ms. Cheryl Sullivan	Australia Consecrated Laywoman
Fr. Frank Donio, SAC	USA
Mr. Marek Kalka	Poland Married Layman
Ms. Sonia Saldana	India Married Laywoman
Sr. Marta Lohi,	SAC Tanzania
Fr. Eugene Niyonzima,	SAC Rwanda/DRC

Substitutes:

Mr. Corrado Montaldo	Italy Layman
Sr. Stella Marotta, CSAC	Italy
Sr. Bożena Olszewska, SAC	Italy