

FROM THE ADMINISTRATORS DESK

Given the long established Maltese and Italian connection at St. Elizabeth, I thought these statistics might be of interest. Unfortunately, they highlight a problem for all of us.

The company that makes *Huggies Diapers* (for babies) is pulling out of Southern Europe, but the maker of *Depends* (for us older people) is expanding its market. How come? Southern Europe is in demographic free fall. Every year there are more deaths than births. Every year there are fewer babies and more of us retiring...until we rest in peace. Southern Europe is like Japan; every year its population shrinks, because deaths far outnumber births. Sorry to be the bearer of bad news, but stayed tuned.

Italy diminishes between 600,000 to 800,000 each year. Greece is also collapsing. In 2016, for every 1000 Greeks in the country, 8.5 children were born and 11 adults died. The Greeks are filling more coffins than cradles. Spain shrinks by 75 every day of the year. Portugal's birth rate fell 14% from 2008 to 2012. (In 2016 Canada's seniors outnumbered the youth who were 14 years of age and under – for the first time in our Northern Neighbor's history.)

This is what the sexual revolution, the pill, "shacking-up", and wide-spread contraception has wrought. In 1968 Paul Erlich authored the alarmist best seller, *The Population Bomb*. It predicted *over-population havoc* for all the countries of the developed West. The supposed *bomb* fizzled; it was fake science. 50 years after the book's appearance we can see clearly what actually happened. Far from a population explosion, the old Mediterranean civilization which we all so dearly admired and loved is falling apart, greying and decaying...without enough children.

What are we to do in the future? Why not obey the first commandment given by God to Adam and Eve: "Be fruitful and multiply" (Genesis 1:28). Over the last 50 years, most of us would agree that modern people have done things "My Way" when it comes to having babies. Let us hope that in the future we might convince

PENTECOST CELEBRATION

You are invited to a Pentecost celebration hosted by the Light of God Community on Sunday, June 4, 2017 starting with a Mass at 11:30 AM in Church officiated by the **Most Reverend Mylo Hubert Vergara, Bishop, Diocese of Pasig, Philippines**. Fellowship and Recollection by Bishop Mylo follow after mass at Cantwell Hall.

Workshops with Fr. Garcia:

Eucharistic Ministers- Saturday May 20th
from 9AM to 12Noon

Readers- Saturday May 27th
from 12:30PM to 3:30PM

Both workshops will be held at the Rectory.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	May 15
8:00 am	† Gaetano Zahra
5:30 pm	
Tuesday	May 16
8:00 am	† Joseph I. Bosso
5:30 pm	† Tessie, †Joseph, †Saviour Schembri
Wednesday	May 17
8:00 am	† Ronald Vannucchi
7:00 pm	† Umberto and †Guiseppina Paoli
Thursday	May 18
8:00 am	† Mary O'Sullivan
5:30 pm	
Friday	May 19
8:00 am	† Josefina Flandez
5:30 pm	
Saturday	May 20
8:00 am	†Clarissa Malabed
4:30 pm	† Leo Bragagnolo
Sunday	May 21
7:30 am	† John Fernandez
9:30 am	† Maria Rebagliati
11:30 am	People of the Parish
5:00 pm	

†Denotes deceased – (L) Living

Sunday Collection May 7, 2017

Weekly Need:	\$ 5,000.00
Sunday Collection	\$ 4,367.00
Over/Under	\$ 633.00
Religious Education	\$ 908.00

If you make your offertory donation by check, without using parishioner envelopes, it would be most helpful if you placed your parishioner/envelope # in the "memo" section of the check.

This helps us input your donation to the offertory data system. **We will not be responsible for donations not credited due to missing envelope numbers (or not having a Sunday collection envelope.)**

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR FIRST COMMUNION RECIPIENTS
FELICITACIONES
A NUESTRO NINOS QUE RECIBEN
LA PRIMERA COMMUNION
MAY 7, 2017



Javier Chavez
Vanessa Espinosa
Oliver Hernandez
Richard Joshua Limon
Brennan Macaspac
Gianna Shayne Macaspac
Seychel Macaspac
Makayla Marin-Valencia
Felicity Sebastian
Jazline Torres
Laura Valencia

Archdiocesan Appeal

"How are we doing?" The assessment assigned to St. Elizabeth parish in 2017 is \$48,470. Thanks to our generous parishioners \$17,942 has been pledged as of May 1st. Eight months remain for us to retire the balance of \$30,528. As soon as the Archdiocese sends an updated list of parish donors, a mailing will go out to St. Elizabeth parishioners who may yet want to help us in this important effort. When Fr. Suan returns from his sabbatical in July, I would be happy to tell him that at least 50% of the total debt, i.e. \$24,000 has been retired. Thanks, Fr. Garcia.

