

CHAPEL CHIMES

April, 2009

Editor: Simone Carneiro

*May God be with you and your family
for Easter... and always*



Dear Friends,

We often refer to our parish OLHC as a “family”.

Recently I have recalled this name when...

1. we celebrated the feast of St. Joseph, who was head of the Holy Family and is now universal Patron of the Catholic Church;

2. at our weekly (Friday at 8:15 a.m.) Mass of “Mothers & Others” when I asked the Mothers how they shared their lives with their parents now.

3. At Maria Sieh’s funeral when she died recently at 94 years old. She was the Matriarch of a family of 13 children, 56 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. All 13 children (10 of whom studied here at Chapel) returned from around the world – Australia, Singapore, England, U.S.A. and Brazil – for her funeral.

At her 7th day Mass here at OLHC one Sunday, Tom Sieh (the second oldest) gave a stirring message of how the family has been connected with the Oblate Fathers for over 50 years. Their family unity and spirituality exemplify what we hope is a permanent trait of our present parishioners. We thank the Sieh Family for their example and devotion, something we all hope to continue today.

May God be with you and your family for Easter... and always.

Father Tom Brown, O.M.I.

Mass Schedule:

- Monday & Wednesday at 7:15 am
 - Friday at 8:15am Mothers and Others (except last Friday of each month)
 - Saturdays at 6:30pm
 - Sundays at 10:30am
 - Last Sunday of month 10:30am and 6:30pm
- Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Half-hour prior to each and every Mass; and by appointment

Key Dates for April

- April 4 - Saturday - 6:30 p.m. - Confirmation during Mass
- April 5 - Passion Sunday - 10:30 a.m. - Mass
- April 8 - Wednesday - 7:45 p.m. - Share Council Meeting
- April 9 - Holy Thursday - 8:30 a.m. - Mass
- April 10 - Good Friday - 3 p.m. - Celebration
- April 11 - Saturday - Easter Vigil - 8:30 p.m. - Celebration
- April 12 - Sunday - 7 a.m. - "Sunrise Mass" Ecumenical Mass
- April 12 - Sunday - 10:30 a.m. - Easter Mass
- April 19 - Sunday - 9 a.m. - Parish Council Meeting before Mass
- April 26 - Sunday - 10:30 p.m. - Mass followed by Parish Pancake Breakfast

SHARE

Provides organizational support and resources to the following Social Projects:

Youth Center: Casa da Paz, Lar irmã Inês, Vivenda da Criança;

Professional Education Center: Programa Educar;

Crèches: Creche dos Pequeninos, Creche Primavera, Lar Criança Menino Jesus;

Home for the Elderly: Lar São Francisco;

Children's Home: Lar N. Sra. Aparecida;

Communities: São Jorge and São João Batista.

Fashion Show – 1ª Semana de Solidariedade do Jockey Club São Paulo

At the end of last year, in December, we held a charity fashion show for **SHARE** in which Chapel School students participated. This fund raising event received much publicity and was very successful – we still do not have the final figures as the pictures taken are still being sought and sold!

Regatta at Yacht Club in São Paulo

Aviso de Regata



Regata de Abertura 2009

Data e Local 28 de Fevereiro e 1 de Março de 2009
Represa Guarapiranga, ratas 1, 2 e 3

Organização SPYC e Federação de Vela do Estado de São Paulo



"A Regata de Abertura é aberta a todos os velejadores independente de filiação a clubes ou Federações."

Inscrição

Optimist - Sábado, 28 de Fevereiro, das 10:00 às 13:00.
De mais classes - Sábado, 28 de Fevereiro, das 10:00 às 17:00 e Domingo, 1 de março, das 09:00 às 12:00.

Obs.

Haverá entrega de "KIT Regata" durante a inscrição.
Barco e velejadores não inscritos não se rão premiados.

Taxa de Inscrição:

Recomendamos 1 kg de alimento não-periçhe l por tripulante que será doado à Associação Beneficente Nossa Senhora Auxiliadora



On February 28, 2009, the São Paulo Yacht Club held a sailing competition of which the organizers donated to **SHARE** the amount of the registrations in addition to the food parcels, totaling 150 kg of food, with the enthusiastic assistance of Chapel School Seniors who carefully separated all the food into "Cestas Básicas" to be donated to two Communities: São João Batista and São Jorge.

"Cesta Básica"

Lent being a time of fasting and prayer, we are holding a campaign for **SHARE** towards the *Cesta Básica* and it is already under way - all the information may be found at the entry of all Masses and also in the Chapel School's corridors, where you will see a box for contributions and forms. It is easy to participate! **SHARE** distributes 110 *Cestas Básicas* a month to the social projects mentioned previously so you can realize how important your donation is.

Easter Eggs

SHARE's campaign for Easter Eggs is directed towards the distribution of 1,346 Easter eggs for the children up to 10 years of age, in crèches and youth centers; due to the great number of eggs, please help with buying eggs of 40 g – costing R\$1.59 each to be found at *Pão de Açúcar* supermarkets. The egg is quite small, but it is important the children be remembered and that all eggs be the same size to avoid any fights!

LENNY Special Sale for SHARE

Lenny Moda Praia/Verão, well known by many, will hold a special sale for **SHARE**. They will have various items with promotional outlet prices - not to be missed! This sale will only be held on Monday, April 6, at the Vila Nova Conceição Shop at Rua Escobar Ortiz. We wish you good purchases and that you may help **SHARE** - see www.lenny.com.br

V Bingo for SHARE

And bingo! Last but not least, **SHARE** is again organizing its 5th Bingo with an estimated public of 500 people, AAA class from São Paulo and **SHARE** will receive all results obtained! Our support may be via sponsorship: **Gold** (5 quotas at R\$5,000 – one for each letter of the Bingo with the company's name mentioned whenever the letter comes up, as well as a banner and logo in the audiovisual) and **Silver** (R\$3,000 – banner and logo in the audiovisual). **Tickets:** entry R\$70,00 per person, R\$20 for those up to 12 years of age, with cocktail and drinks included. **Date & time:** Sunday, May 24, 2009 at 4 p.m. **Place:** Espaço Único – R. Quatá, 1022. **Contacts:** Ligia Domingues (tel.: 7100-3192) or Hae Choo (tel.: 9955-6800).

We wish Kareen Brooke a very happy and successful life in the country in São Roque, after 11 years as Parish Secretary. Saudades!

Welcome Vicky Soutter to our Parish Office – she will replace Kareen Brooke as Parish Secretary – stop by and say Hello!

Parish Contacts

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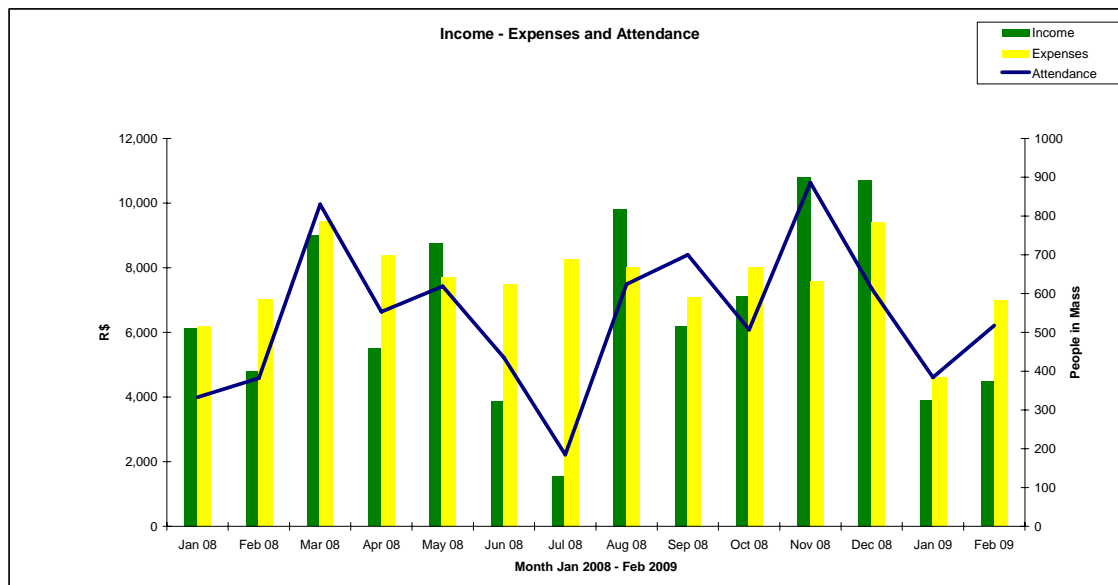
Fellow Parishioners

The Parish Council has asked me to give you a quick update on our Parish Finances. We would like to first provide you with some context to better understand our finances.

Our Parish is a very tightly run operation, we are blessed by being located in school grounds that covers much our fixed costs such as electricity, water and phone but regardless; we have an average fixed monthly expense of R\$8,000 out of which R\$5,650 are salaries. Thus, salaries make up for 70% of the average fixed monthly expense. We also have fixed mandatory contributions to the Diocese and to the Oblates and we have the parish supplies to make up for the rest. Many of you who've lived in the US are accustomed to second collections on weekends to drive funds for vocations and other Diocese drives. We do not do that here but we do have our mandatory contributions to the Diocese which dips into our funds.

Our major source of income are your contributions to the weekend mass collection which in 2008 averaged R\$4,950 per month and made up 70% of the Parish Income. The rest of our income is made up by donations and gifts to the Parish from current and former parishioners living in Brazil and abroad as well as social events geared at improving our income. The initiatives of our ONG are separate from the Parish and are geared only to support our social work.

Here is a graph of the last 14 Months, detailing income, expenses and church attendance



Although we are blessed by a generous congregation, you will note that given that we are made up by a strong expat community, we suffer in those months when we take home leave (usually the US summer season and the Christmas holidays). Our expense line is fairly flat throughout the year but our income suffers when we go on home leave.

Although we shy away from asking from you, if you find it in your heart to increase your weekly contributions, it is much appreciated. We would also appreciate it if you would be willing to invite friends from your expat community to join our Parish. For my family and me, our Parish has been a blessing, we need to recharge our souls on a weekly basis to face life challenges and I am sure that you will agree that OLHC and Father Brown does that superbly.

We are taking other actions such as posting announcements in hotels and major communication vehicles for expats in order to attract new parishioners and as stated before, clearly you can help by inviting new friends who have recently arrived in Sao Paulo. We are also looking at potential ideas for fund drivers and your thoughts are welcomed! Send me or any of the Parish Council members your ideas, feel free to candidly share those ideas with us. Thanks again and as always, we count on every one to keep our little community going!