

COMMITTEE REPORTS

] YOUTH CO-ORDINATING TEAM

As a result of a meeting of representatives of the various youth conferences existing in the country, a Youth Co-ordinating Team was formed in October 2003. It is comprised of members from Chaguanas, Petit Valley, La Horquetta, Mucurapo, Scarborough, Paramin, Sangre Grande, Siparia, and co-ordinated by Sr. Angeliqe Taylor of Deigo Martin.

The teams mission is to lay the foundation for a sustained membership, and activities so far have centred on formation, commitment, evangelization, works of the Society and fun.

The formation is necessary to ensure full knowledge of the Society's basic philosophy and its historical and spiritual genesis. Team members are involved in the research, study and presentation of various aspects of the Society's operations, and the presentation is accompanied by discussion and spiritual reflection.

As part of formation, the Team engaged in a retreat and commitment exercise in July 2004, deepening our personal relationship with God and solidifying unity and camaraderie amongst members.

The Team was involved in two major evangelization initiatives, an Open Day in Scarborough in February 2004, and a balk to confirmation candidates in Arima in June 2004. Both parishes have indicated that a number of young people have joined the Society. The Team will continue its evangelization exercises so as to reach parishes throughout the country and is in the process of designing an information brochure to be distributed during the evangelization activity. The construction of a web log and web page is also in the making.

The Team was involved in National Events like the Palm Sunday Walk, Sport/Family Day and Youth Tea Party. Special mention should be made of the hardworking young members from Chaguanas, Petit Valley, Scarborough, Mt. Lambert and Siparia who provided tremendous assistance during the Sport/Family Day which was held in May 2004.

Junior conferences have been formed in Carenage and Mt. Lambert and senior members have indicated interest establishing junior conferences in Mayaro, Arima and St. Finbar's, Deigo Martin.

.....*Youth Co-ordinating Team*

We urge senior members to provide adequate spiritual, financial and technical support to all junior conferences; it is this encouragement that will guarantee the sustainability of the Society in the Archdiocese.

The following is a breakdown of the junior conferences:

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| Chaguanas | 11 members |
| Petit Valley | 40 members |
| Scarborough | 12 members |
| Sangre Grande | 10 members |
| Carenage | 12 members |
| Mt. Lambert | 10 members |

] THE PRISON COMMITTEE (Y.T.C.)

For the year under review, our membership increased to 26 as well as the lads who are assigned to us. We had our largest number of lads during this period forty four (44). Our first Day of Reflection was held on Sunday 14th March 2003 at the Chapel at Nazareth House, Port of Spain. Fr. Ventour was our Spiritual Guide.

Most members are assigned to two lads whilst the remaining few are assigned to one lad. Members visit their assigned lads on a monthly basis taking the provided toiletries to them as well as other items that their lads might have requested. When we, the members visit our lads, they are encouraged to give off their best to the programs they have at their disposal and also share with them the redemptive power of Jesus, His peace and His love.

A few of these lads cannot read and write and they are encouraged to participate fully in the Literacy class at YTC. Some are involved in sporting activities and from time to time, requests for sneakers are made to the respective visiting members. Most of them are involved in the various skills training program and they are also encouraged to work hard in order to become employable on their discharge. One of our lads, Jevon Charles reached the final in the RBTT Debate. Most of our lads are involved in the mentoring exercise to schools.

Holy Mass is offered for the intervention of God in the lives of the lads every quarter of the year to which members attend. In order to meet our expenses, a Cake Sale is organized every quarter at various Churches.

....Prison Committee YTC

Our expenses include the purchase of toiletries, which are given out once per month, a Christmas Luncheon and gift for the lads. May I take this opportunity to sincerely thank those Conferences who have made contributions, monetary or otherwise and also those who have hosted our Cake Sales. The support of the conferences is indispensable to the operations of this ministry.

Our meetings are held at 4:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the Secretariat. New members are always welcome.