



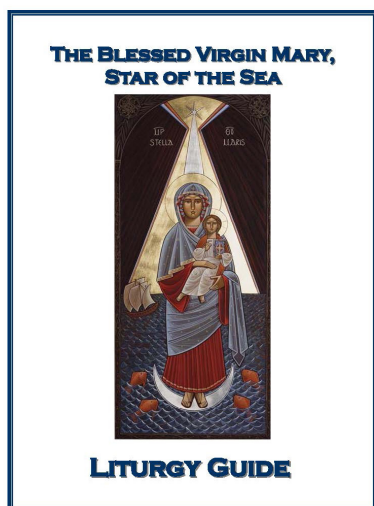
# Catholic Maritime News

SUMMER 2018

VOLUME 88

## Call Upon Mary, Star of the Sea

In 2006 the Apostleship of the Sea published a beautiful liturgical guide for the Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of the Sea (<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/cultural-diversity/pastoral-care-of-migrants-refugees-and-travelers/apostleship-of-the-sea/upload/The-Blessed-Virgin-Mar-Star-of-the-Sea-Liturgy-Guide-Votive-Mass-text-Liturgy-of-the-Hours.pdf>). The devotion to Mary, Star of the Sea, is an ancient devotion within the Church. I noticed this year that the AOS in the UK is celebrating masses throughout the month of September (and into October) honoring and asking the intercession of Mary, Star of the Sea, for our seafarers and for all of us involved in the maritime industry. Writing in the 1100's, St. Bernard of Clairvaux proclaimed: "She, I say, is that shining and brilliant star, so much needed, set in place above life's great and spacious sea, glittering with merits, all aglow with examples for our imitation. ... When the storms to temptation burst upon thee, when thou seest thyself driven upon the rocks of tribulation, look at the star, call upon Mary. When buffeted



by the billows of pride, or ambition, or hatred, or jealousy, look at the star, call upon Mary. Should anger, or avarice, or fleshly desire violently assail the frail vessel of thy soul, look at the star, call upon Mary.... In dangers, in doubts, in difficulties, think of Mary, call upon Mary. Let not her

name leave thy lips, never suffer it to leave thy heart. And that thou mayest more surely obtain the assistance of her prayer, see that thou dost walk in her footsteps. With her for guide, thou shalt never go astray; whilst invoking her, thou shalt never lose heart; so long as she is in thy mind, thou shalt not be deceived; whilst she holds thy hand, thou canst not fall; under her protection, thou hast nothing to fear; if she walks before thee, thou shalt not grow weary; if she shows thee favor, thou shalt reach the goal." (quote taken from Pope Pius XII, Doctor Mellifluus, 31) What a beautiful image for our ministry – a ministry of collaboration and walking with people on life's journey! As you well know, seafarers face many dangers, doubts and difficulties, yet with you walking beside them they know they are not alone. This image struck me especially as I heard some chaplains share the story of the Newlead Granadino, a ship that was abandoned in the Port of Baltimore. The seafarers were abandoned on their ship for nine months due to the economic decision of the ship owner. Literally abandoned and limited to living on the ship itself, eventually Port Chaplains found out and in an ecumenical partnership began to take care of these men. They were abandoned, but not alone because of the kindness (and ingenuity) of some Port Chaplains. May God bless you and your families, and may Mary, Star of the Sea, hold your hand and walk before you always,



*Bishop Brendan J. Cahill*

*+ Brendan Cahill*



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Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees, & Travelers

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We encourage you to visit our website which has user friendly navigation tools. Check out our interactive map with a list of AOS chaplains and contacts, know about news and events and other relevant information.

## Contact Catholic Maritime News

We welcome your comments, feedback and suggestions.  
Tell us what you think by sending an email to [AOS@uscgb.org](mailto:AOS@uscgb.org).

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### Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America (AOSUSA)

is a professional membership association of chaplains/associates, cruise ship priests, mariners, student mariners and affiliate members.

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## Apostleship of the Sea Ministry: Love in Action



*Sr. Joanna Okereke, HHCJ*

There is no better way in bearing witness to the Good News that God is love than through the Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) ministry. The dedicated and loving apostolic work of the Catholic Church through AOS ministry is fulfilling the Mission of Christ by offering hospitality and pastoral care to seafarers, fishers and their families. The AOS Chaplains and their team cares and ministers to the seafarers, they support the seafarers in their faith in a multitude of ways, including transport to Mass at seafarers' centers or local parishes; arranging Mass or Eucharistic services onboard ship; organizing prayer service, distribution of literature and faith articles such as rosaries and icons to mention but a few.

Life at sea is challenging, long periods of separation from family, friends and community. Most often the seafarers look for someone to talk to, laugh in the company of, and cry with. They are away from their homes, their families and friends, for months. However, the AOS Chaplains and Volunteers provide the seafarers a home away from home. When seafarers arrive at the ports, there is hope, knowing that this is a place where they are welcomed, cared for and their spiritual needs fulfilled; this is love in action. Jesus said, "The greatest commandment is to love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. He went on to say that the second commandment is just as important. You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:36-39). In imitation of what Jesus Christ laid down for us; the work of the Chaplains is to bear witness to God's love, pouring out a generous love to all they serve.

Pope Francis reached out to seafarers on the Sea Sunday of July 2017, he said, "I entrust sailors, fishermen, and all those in difficulty on the seas far away from home, to the motherly protection of Mary, Star of the Sea". Friends, keeping the faith, living it on land and sea is not easy, it is challenge. I encourage the faithful to find out how they can help and give a voice to the seafarers needs. Perhaps it can be through prayers for Seafarers, perhaps involvement with the local Seafarers Centre/Stella Maris Centers, or a donation to the work of AOS; this is love in Action.

In Matthew 25:40 it is said, "Truly, I say to you as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me" Love is not a

matter of words, let your love be genuine and in action. The Seafarers' centers give visiting seafarers the chance to relax in a friendly and safe environment. They are encouraged to communicate with their families by post, telephone or internet, depending on what is available. Other services include: exercise and leisure facilities; shops, phone cards, souvenirs; books, clothing; and a restaurant or cafeteria.

Are you called to bear witness to Christ through ministry? Do you have special devotion to care and support people? Perhaps, through working with the seafarers and carrying out the AOS pastoral care ministry, you can be fulfilled? Is God calling you to a chaplain or a volunteer of the work of the AOS? Please contact the national office at 202-541-3359 or e-mail [Jokereke@uscgb.org](mailto:Jokereke@uscgb.org). Come bring your love of ministry into Action. "I was a stranger and you made me welcome" (Matthew 25:35).

### **Vatican calls for prayers, support for seafarers, who face many risks**

**By Carol Glatz**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) ~ The Vatican invited Catholics to pray for the 1.2 million seafarers around the world who work under difficult conditions and make huge sacrifices in their profession.

Seafarers "play a significant role in our global economy by transporting from one corner of the world to another 90 percent of all the goods we use in our daily life. For this reason, today while we pray for all of them wherever they are, we would like also to express our gratitude for their tough work full of sacrifices," said a message for Sea Sunday, celebrated July 8.

In the message, Cardinal Peter Turkson, prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, invited Catholics around the world to remember seafarers and the sacrifices they make.

Those working at sea are "forced to live for several months in the confined space of a vessel, away from their families and loved ones, missing the most important and meaningful events in their families ~ birthdays, graduations, etc. ~ and failing to be present during times of trials and difficulties, such as sickness and death," he said in the message.

Other challenges they face include:

- Inadequate time to rest and relax when the ship is in port.
- Difficulty in getting permission to go ashore because of company policy or because of "restrictive and discriminatory regulations imposed by governments."

- Denied access to the ports and vessels for many chaplains and volunteers with the Apostleship of the Sea and Stella Maris Centers.
- Violence and piracy at sea.

Vessels and their crews being abandoned in foreign ports, often with unpaid salaries, without food and fuel provisions for the vessel, or without proper documentation making their immigration status uncertain.

The cardinal thanked the world's Stella Maris chaplains and volunteers for providing "material, spiritual, legal and psychological support to several crews of abandoned vessels."

He called for the full implementation of amendments to the Maritime Labor Convention and respect for the convention's spirit that would concretely improve the well-being of all seafarers.

The cardinal also supported efforts by the International Maritime Organization "to prevent and significantly reduce marine plastic pollution from the shipping sector and in curbing greenhouse gas emissions from ships, as it implements other regulations that will mandate cleaner-burning fuels at sea."

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*In the Spring issue of the Catholic Maritime Newsletter the gentleman standing next to Bishop Cahill, Eugene (Gene) Titus, was incorrectly identified as Andy Middleton. Gene Titus volunteered weekly as an AOS ship visitor at the port of Baltimore. He belonged to the Ignatian Volunteer Corps. Shortly after the bishop's visit, Gene suffered a stroke and died. May his soul, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Please keep Gene's family and all AOS volunteer's families in your prayers.*



## Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

**Pray for, but also act with love toward maritime workers, says bishop**  
By Rhina Guidos

WASHINGTON (CNS) ~ Bishop Brendan J. Cahill celebrated the Annual Maritime Day Mass in Washington May 19 asking those present not just to remember, but to do something for a group of people most never think about but who are nevertheless vital in the daily functions of the world.



*Most Rev. Brendan Cahill, Bishop of Victoria and Bishop Promoter of the Apostleship of the Sea Celebrant and Homilist Maritime Day Mass*

From catching food to mobilizing products, maritime workers deserve the care and concern of others but also a token of appreciation, whether it be a simple gift such as a calling card to call home or even toothpaste, said Bishop Cahill, of Victoria, Texas, in his first national Mass celebrating seafarers as the bishop promoter of the Apostleship of the Sea ministry.

The ministry, part of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, sets aside one day each year to pray as a church for mariners and "people of the sea." But throughout the year, via a network of chaplains, religious sisters, lay workers and volunteers, the ministry raises awareness of the plight of those who work in the maritime world. They also tend to these workers' spiritual needs, a task made difficult for people who spend months at a time on the water.

Bishop Cahill reminded those gathered for the Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception of Pope Francis' call to not become indifferent to others. He spoke of the pope's call to encounter, to meet with brothers and sisters of different backgrounds. The

Mass, he said, was a step in that call because it shows "our connectedness, our care, our concern for our brothers and sisters." But he also asked for commitment in doing small, if concrete, acts for them so that they know others care about them.

Sister Joanna Okereke, national director of Apostleship of the Sea, said the prayers and other acts offered during the National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea May 22 this year, help those who work in the maritime world. It encourages them, strengthens them, and uplifts them in their work, she said.



*Rev. Monsignor Vito A. Buonanno, left, and Rev. Cyprien Niyitegeka, far right concelebrated Mass with Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill*

"It is very important for people to know that these maritime people are special people, precious people who work for us in the sea, all alone out there in the sea, for months, sometimes nine months at a stretch," said Sister Okereke, a Sister of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus.

Some of them have lives of hardship and sacrifice and yet their work contributes to the food on the table for many around the world, she said. Even if a person doesn't consume food from the sea, over 90 percent of goods in the U.S. are transported via water, she said.

"So, this maritime industry is a very important ministry," she said, yet those who work in it are forgotten people. "But the church said, 'No, we are here for you because you are also a child of God.'"

To heed the call of what Bishop Cahill asked of others during the maritime Mass, people can pray regularly for seafarers and "people of the sea," but also volunteer to visit ships and those who live on them, she said. If the person wishing to donate or help in some form lives near a port, he or she can drop off donations with Apostleship of the Sea



chaplains, donate to the ministry online, or keep the needs of seafarers in mind around Easter and Christmas, holidays that are often difficult for them to celebrate, she said.

The Apostleship of the Sea reaches out to seafarers,



fishers, their families, port personnel and all who work or travel on the high seas, said Sister Okereke.

The work of the Apostleship of the Sea in the U.S. began in 1976 and is part of the Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees and Travelers in the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. However, the ministry began in Scotland in 1920. While there's a spiritual side, the ministry days these days has come to also include being a voice against smuggling and human trafficking affecting workers in the fishing and maritime industries.

Bishop Cahill, the new bishop promoter, was actively involved in port ministry in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston prior to his appointment as bishop of Victoria. He was ordained a bishop and installed to head the Texas diocese in 2015.

He succeeds Bishop J. Kevin Boland of Savannah, Georgia, who served as bishop promoter of the Apostleship of the Sea from February 2008 until June 2017. In the United States, the ministry serves in 58 maritime ports, representing 47 dioceses.

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*Bernadette Hence, Senior Program Manager, US department of Education, Sr. Julianna Asuzo, HHCJ, and Celine Yowa Dogbory at the AOS display before Mass*



*Joining in the celebration of the Maritime Day Mass, with the other participants (below) representatives from the fishing communities Angela Sanfilippo, Lector, and Nina Groppo, praying the general intercessions, are both from the Massachusetts fishing community.*







## National Maritime Day -Oakland

By John Claassen

The interdenominational Seaman's Club, International Maritime Center, at the Port of Oakland, was honored to host the National Maritime Day celebration.

The theme for Maritime Day 2018 was "Toot your horn, past, present, and future." Hank Ryan, director USDOT, MARAD read President Trump's official Proclamation. The ceremony included a tribute to all seagoing officers by Captain Nick Niem of the council of American Master Mariners; and tribute to the ratings who serve aboard ships, by Nick Marrone Jr. of the Seafarers International Union.

National Maritime Day is a long tradition of recognition for those who serve in today's US Merchant Marine and to honor to those mariners who had lost their life at sea.

Rev. Jamieson Prevoznak, IMC gave a special blessing and tribute for the spiritual wellness of seafarers.

A small boat provided by MARAD took flowers and scattered them over the bay in honor and remembrance as Joy Kin played Amazing Grace and Eternal Fathers Strong to Save. The event was also supported by the San Francisco Marine Traffic Division of the US Coast Guard with a countdown to a Toot of the Horn. All vessels within the SF Bay Area were authorized to sound 3 prolonged blasts simultaneously. This special toot and recognition is anticipated to be nationwide in all ports, rivers, and tributaries of the United States in 2019.



**Top:** Rev. Jamieson Prevoznak, Chaplain, Seafarers ministry of the Golden Gate. **Center:** Maritime Day event attendees observe the program with John Evalle, representative from Congressman John Garamendi office. Next, his aide, and then Hank Ryan, Director USDOT, MARAD.

**Bottom:** Captain Margaret Reasoner, Patriot Services, IMC Board member and MC. John Claassen, (AOS) IMC Board Chair, Gene Dawydiak, Supervisor Marine Surveyor, USDOT MARAD, Tyler Talan and Jacob Shadle, Naval Reservists assigned to USDOT MARAD and Dave Nolan, Manager Marine Personnel, Patriot Services. **Top Right:** Joy Kin, Margaret Reasoner, Rev. Nancy Smith



## National Maritime Day

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) celebrated National Maritime Day on May 22, 2018, to honor the U.S. Merchant Marine and recognize the contributions of the American maritime industry. The theme “Voices! Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow” encompassed presentations throughout the ceremony.

Bishop Brendan Cahill, Bishop of Victoria, TX, Bishop promoter of the Apostleship of the Sea in America, was asked to pray the invocation and Sr. Joanna Okereke, HHCJ, National Director, Apostleship of the Sea, the benediction.

Elaine Chao, United States Secretary of Transportation, recognized the many representatives of American Maritime Academies, U.S. Merchant Marines and, Merchant Marine veterans who served from World War II through other wars including the Gulf War.

The ceremony included the awarding of medals, to those who “sailed into harms way”, responding to requests during wartime and recognition of those who responded during the 2017 hurricane season. A wreath presented in Memory of those who gave their life in service to our country, was followed by the benediction given by Sr. Joanna Okereke, HHCJ (pictured bottom left).

A video of the celebration can be viewed at: <https://www.marad.dot.gov/education/national-maritime-day/>



Left to Right: Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill, Bishop of Victoria, TX and Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill, STD, Bishop of Victoria and Bishop Promoter of the Apostleship of the Sea, Sr. Joanna Okereke, National Director, Apostleship of the Sea, Mark Howard Buzby, a former United States Navy rear admiral who is Administrator of the United States Maritime Administration, and Dr. Michael Skaggs, representing the North American Maritime Ministry Association (NAMMA).

Photos on this page are used with permission of NAMMA

## Catholic Maritime Ministry Highlights Port of Mobile

Ship arrivals at the Port of Mobile (Port) have steadily increased by 12% over the past two years and are expected to continue as the impact of increased capacity at the container terminal increases. Of the approximately 32,000 seafarers who visited the city last year 40% were Filipino, the majority of whom are Catholic, and seafarers from the Ukraine, Poland, Russia, China and India.

The Catholic Maritime Ministry of Mobile started the year with a few changes: Deacon John Archer was welcomed to the ministry and one of our long-time ship visitors was wished goodbye.

The primary function of the ministry is to visit vessels and provide needed ministerial and social services to the crews that we encounter. The AOS team visited some 400 vessels during the past year. During the visits the spiritual needs in addition to the temporal needs of crews are evaluated.

Fr. Lito and staff celebrated Holy Mass on board 12 vessels during the past year. Centered on the Eucharist, the Mass included music when possible as well as time for sharing and visiting of the crew.

The temporal needs were met by the purchase of sim cards, which provided local access for cell phone use, and the crew's frequent request for transportation to local shopping. Ms. Alma Braggs has transported some 2,000 crew members to various locales this past year.

The most unique service provided this past year was with a Mexican crew from the city of Veracruz. The crew of seven men are onboard a vessel had not been paid for their services. The staff became aware of their plight in December 2017 when a phone call was received from a concerned port worker. Some of the crew arrived in October of 2017, others in November.

For four months the staff made regular visits to the ship and crew to ensure that they receive appropriate provisions and care. They have provided spiritual support by providing bibles and spiritual reading materials, transportation to

Mass at the Cathedral and Our Savior, an excursion to a Posada with the Hispanic community and coordinated outreach from Hispanic community especially Ms. Olgar Villar and Fr. Jose Mesa SJ.

Our transportation services have allowed the crew to shop for provisions, send money home when some cash was received from the ship owner, attend a Mardi Gras parade and in general not feel like they are imprisoned on the ship.

As of this writing three crew members have returned home the remaining four await their turn. While some payments have been made the crew still awaits payment of their full wages. We will continue to work with NAMMA partners (The Seaman's Church Institute and International Transport Workers Federation (ITF)) to ensure the seafarer's interests are represented.

In addition to the ship visits the ministry must interact with others in the Archdiocese, around the port and the city. This year we have focused on improving awareness of the ministry and the plight of the seafarer. Some of our major activities this past year have included:

- Interview with Rob Herbst for Catholic Week, MINISTERING TO 'INVISIBLE PEOPLE' August 10, 2017.
- Lent and advent booklets have been provided for the crew's reflection during their time away from church communities.
- Transportation to Sunday mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
- Collection of bibles at the Cathedral for distribution to crews.
- Meetings with International Ministries (Baptist Ministries) to improve collaboration of ministry services.
- Active involvement in the Propeller Club for updates on port activities, networking, and improved communication with port stakeholders.
- Annual Maritime Memorial Mass on May 22, 2017 which included a ride aboard the Duck Boat to lay wreathes for those members of the maritime industry who died the last year.
- Formation of a Ministry Advisory Council to provide feedback, industry expertise and to assist in setting priorities for services to and with the entire port community.
- Collaboration with the Williamson High School Maritime Academy to collect and distribute Christmas snack bags to the seafarers.
- Distribution of some 300 T-shirts to select crews during the Christmas season. Shirts were provided





through the generosity of a Propeller Club grant

- Welcome crew and lay chaplain of the USS Philippine Sea to make them aware of all Sunday services during their 2017 Mardi Gras visit.

~~ If you could assist us a few hours each month by visiting ships (climbing required); driving crews to stores for shopping or mass; answering phone calls or maintaining our web presence at home, please contact Fr Lito Capeding (Lcapeding@mobarch.org) or Deacon John Archer (jarcher@mobarch.org) Visit us at Facebook; catholic maritime club of mobile (aos-usa)



*Mass at the Cathedral with Fr. Lito Capeding*

## **“New York/ New Jersey Ports Host Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin C.S.S.R. for blessing of Ports Cruise”**

**By Captain John J. Decruz**

The United NY/NJ Sandy Hook Pilots' Association provide year-round pilotage duties serving the ports of New York, New Jersey and their surrounding harbors. We are licensed by the two states and federally by the U.S. Coast Guard. We service every foreign flag vessel that enter the port as well as U.S. Flag vessels registered to foreign trade.

My role as the New York President is to represent the pilots and our day to day business in all facets of the industry. I am also a licensed pilot that is placed in an elected position as President each year. One of my duties as President that I enjoy to the fullest is hosting the Annual Blessing of The Port. With the assistance of Father John Corbett of The Stella Maris Church in Port Newark, this event has been a part of New York Harbor for many years now.

In 2017, we had the honor and privilege of hosting The Archdiocese of Newark's' first Archbishop, Cardinal Joseph

W. Tobin, C.S.s.R. The Blessing of The Port Cruise was a total success with a record turnout of parishioners and friends of the Catholic Church. For the first time, a full Mass by Cardinal Tobin was held on the Pilot Boat New York.



*Mass and blessing of the port with Cardinal Tobin CSsR*

The basis for holding a Blessing of The Port is to provide our ports and the people who work hard keeping it safe and functioning, the blessing and the protection of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Port of NY and NJ is the largest and busiest port on the entire East Coast United States. Close to 1 Million tons of cargo enter and leave our port facilities with thousands of working class people making it all happen. Not only pilots help to keep the shipping cargo flowing in and out of our ports. Just to name a few of the contributors; Longshoreman, Terminal managers, Truck Drivers, Tug Boat Operators, Ferry Boat Companies and the local law enforcement agencies like NYPD and FDNY.

I hope this gives you a good idea of how important the Blessing of The Port reaches out to so many. The Sandy Hook Pilots' are proud to be able to host this event each year. With the Blessing of God, this will continue for many years to come. God Bless!



## Sea Sunday & Texas Open By Fr. Sinclair Oubre

The Apostleship of the Sea of the Diocese of Beaumont, funded through the generous contributions to the Bishop's Faith Appeal, observed two major events during the week of July 8 - July 13.

For more than 80 years, the Apostleship of the Sea, the Catholic ministry to the people of the sea, has observed Sea Sunday on the second Sunday of July. AOS' goal has been to draw parishioners' attention to the important service seafarers and fishermen provide to their fellow citizens, and invite the Catholic worshipping community to pray for seafarers, fishermen, their families, and all the people of the sea.

Fr. Sinclair Oubre, J.C.L.,

MNI, Diocesan Director for the Apostleship of the Sea, hosted Sea Sunday at his parish, St. Francis of Assisi in Orange, Texas on Sunday, July 8, 2018. Gathering at the 10:30 A.M. Mass, Fr. Sinclair, a member of the United States Merchant Marine and holding a rating as an Able Bodied - Limited, and a 100-ton Near Coast Master's License, celebrated the Mass of Our Lady Star of the Sea, and incorporated special intercessory prayers in the Mass.

Following the Sea Sunday Mass, reception was hosted by St. Francis of Assisi Parish and Apostleship of the Sea volunteers. A highlight of the reception was a children's corner with crafts and activities related to the maritime industry. Fr. Sinclair expressed great appreciation to Cathi Sulak, her children and volunteers who made the children's corner such a great success.

Later in the week, Texas Parks & Wildlife announced that Texas Open would take place on July 15, 2018. Texas Open is the shrimp season opening along the Texas Gulf Coast. Shrimp season closes every year in the middle of May. The closure allows shrimp to migrate from the brackish waters of the Texas coast, to the deeper waters of the Gulf of Mexico,



*Sea Sunday Mass, Celebrated by Fr. Sinclair Oubre, at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Orange, TX*



*Homily at Sea Sunday Mass*

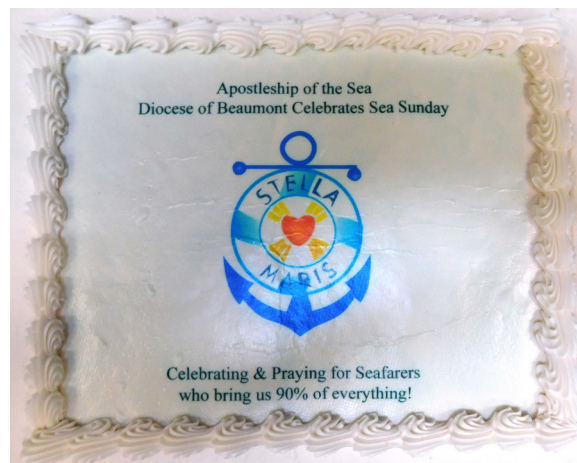
and also to grow into a more profitable size.

In anticipation of Texas Open, Fr. Sinclair went to JBS Packing docks in Port Arthur, the largest shrimp processing facility in the US, and to Tommy Dock on Pleasure Island to bless 8 crews and the boats as they were making final preparations to head out to the Gulf.

Going on board of some of the vessels, Fr. Sinclair prayed from the Book of Blessings for fishing boats and gear. After he blessed the boats, he also sprinkled the fishing gear, and the house where the crew lives with holy water.

Since many of our fishermen are Catholic, the opportunity for a priest to come to them to bring God's blessings for a safe voyage was greatly appreciated.

Fr. Sinclair noted that Southeast Texas is very concerned about hurricanes, but there are special concerns for our 450 local shrimpers and their 160+ shrimp boats. To get caught in a hurricane is tremendously frightening for our shrimpers, but trying to find a safe harbor in such critical times, can be very challenging.







*Reception After Sea Sunday Mass with Childrens Corner*



*Left to Right: Billie Ewing, wife of Deacon Tommy Ewing, his father sailed on Texaco Tankers Fr. Sinclair Oubre, AB-Limited and 100 ton Near Coast Master's License. Captain Joseph LaFleur, Unlimited Inland Master's License. Scott Rollins, father sailed on Sabine Towing & Transportation's tankers. Mary Rollins, father also sailed for Sabine Towing & Transportation's tankers. Scott's dad helped Mary's father get a position with Sabine, and eventually the seafarers' children married.*



*Fr. Sinclair Oubre Blessing of Fishing Boats and Crews*



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**Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers**  
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## Sea Sunday

There are over one million seafarers around the world the majority of whom are Filipino and world-wide an estimated one third of seafarers and fishermen are Catholic.

Sea Sunday is celebrated around the world to raise awareness of the seafarers, to pray for them, and to raise funds to support ministries to the people who work on the Sea. Churches around the world marked Sea Sunday with Mass and prayers for seafarers, their families and those that support them.

Pope Francis, in his Sunday Angelus address in St. Peters Square, prayed "I pray for them and their families as well as for the chaplains and volunteers of the Apostleship of the Sea"

Cardinal Peter Turkson, Prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, released a message for Sea Sunday 2018, detailing the hardships seafarers face daily.

Cardinal Turkson's Message for Sea Sunday 2018 can be found in full on the Vatican's website:

<http://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/it/bollettino/pubblico/2018/07/08/0527/01152.html#ing>

