

Subject: Stella Maris Newsletter nº 4

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Nº 4 - JULY - 2021

SEA NEWSLETTER

STELLA MARIS SANTOS

The Port Chaplain Message

The Sea Sunday Celebration: Dear seafarers, fishers and their families. Peace and Love! On this 11th of July, when we celebrate the Sea Sunday, I ask God that in his infinite goodness he may enlighten, care for, guide and protect them from all the evils and dangers of the world.



In these 20 years as port chaplain, I have been following daily the trajectory and the difficulties faced in their daily work; I deeply want to sympathize because I know the hard work and obstacles of those who need to navigate turbulent waters and oceans to ensure their family's livelihood, especially in times of pandemic where they remain increasingly isolated, far from their families, their loved ones, homeland and friends;

relembre, you are not alone, always count on a friendly shoulder, because Stella Maris is a home away from home.

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PAGE 01

Seafarer's Message

Hello Fr Samuel, So good to hear from you as usual and for all your prayers and blessings for me and my family and crew, such appreciated. I will write a few words and send them to you as soon as possible. Presently on a ship called Maersk Cairo. It's a pity I will not be seeing you on this ship but hope my next ship will be going to Santos. Life has changed here after Covid situation all over nobody can go a shore any port and a lot of restrictions all over. Once again thanks for remembering me and my family and I will quickly write few lines and send you a photo of the ships crew now if that is ok Take care and stay safe.



The pandemic has been one of the most challenging times for seafarers. Working far from home and family has always been difficult, but in the pandemic this situation has worsened as we cannot go off shore. Work has become the only thing we do for months. Many men and women are stuck onboard, unable to go home; some sailing for over a year. This is extremely tough for our morale and mental health. In times like this I feel so grateful for seamens clubs like Stella Maris, that used to be a safe place for all seafarers. I miss my visits to Stella Maris, meeting Fr. Samuel and just feeling like I had a home away from home. I pray for all seafarers at sea, may you all have the strength to go through this time. Capt Subhash Anchan.

Moments of resting onboard



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My Own Experience!

This Thursday, July 22, I, once again accompanied the Father Samuel, the seminarian Tai and my colleague Arthur on their visit and Mass aboard of the M/V Beatrice ship. In particular, this is one of the most important moments in both my professional and interpersonal life due to the relevance and impact caused in the context religious, social, psychological and human, of the crews that arrive at this port. Furthermore, those who have never experienced this experience cannot measure how great it is to approach, meet, listen, welcome and feel the joy of seafarers with our presence. Even working for ten years at Stella Maris Santos, going on board is always a feeling of being for the first time; the place, the people, the nationalities, the languages, the climate, the smell and the simple fact of getting on board, are challenging and immeasurable aspects for those who work in this pastoral. I also remember that when walking today along the port extension, between the container, pier one to four of the Tiplam Terminal, I observed, beyond the beautiful view, the sympathy and joy of the port workers when they saw us pass by; arriving on board, we were welcomed by the seafarers on duty who led us to a small waiting room; my look and impression were one of gratitude, emotion and joy when I came across a different scene, decorated with typical Philippine Christmas arrangements. This simple scenario conveyed a synergy that involved us emotionally. The team soon began to organize the space, prepare the liturgical material, the table for Holy Mass and little by little, the seafarers were arriving and looking for a place to sit. There, I could see and feel on the faces of the seafarers, moments of great faith, hope, gratitude and longing for their loved ones, as they are people who are months away from home and their families. The Mass celebrated by Fr. Samuel brought hope and gave them more strength to continue their arduous journey of valuable and important work for all peoples and nations. I also witnessed a gesture of great nobility when, at the end of the Mass, the Captain offered a basket of fruit to the father; this attitude represented for me a feeling of sharing, solidarity, kindness, love, gratuity and communion with God. Thanks to the Captain and his crew for providing us with unforgettable moments like these; I ask God to lead them safely through these difficult times of pandemic. Thanks!

**THIS TIME
WAS IN TIPLAM
TERMINAL**



**Marilene Leonel
Stella Maris Santos
Social Worker**

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More Visits and Supports

During pandemic time, the Stella Maris team has been working hard to meet requests for purchases of personal items for the crews arriving at the port of Santos.



The visit on board is always a moment of sharing, listening and humane welcome to seafarers who have been away from home and their families for a long time.



Words of
comfort and
support
onboard!



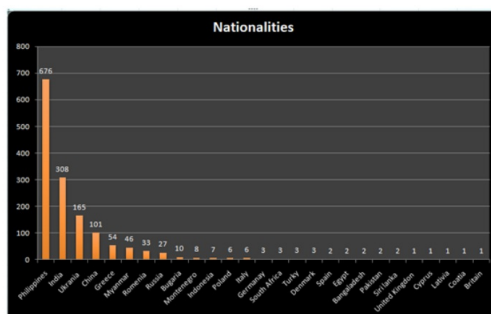
The Fishers are reactivating supporting

The Stella Maris Santos continues to support fishers in the Baixada Santista region with the help of food baskets and hygiene kits. Approximately 150 families are being helped, including fishers and port workers. In addition to more than 1.000 kilos of food directed to various institutions that help drug addicts, indigenous communities and people with intellectual disabilities, as well as others in the public network.



Artisan Fisher Women

Statistics of July 2021

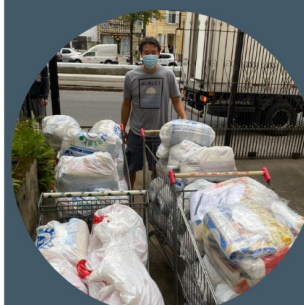


To continue these underful accions, we need volunteers, partners, supporters and donors. Please contact Father Samuel: by email: samufonto@hotmail.com or Whatsapp: 55+ 13 99772-1191. Thank you and God bless all!

Where?

★ Terminal of Fishing

🏰 Our Lady of Navegates Church - Ponta da Praia Santos



Stella Maris Santos Head Office

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