



# Mission Uruguay

## ✝ Diocesan Newsletter ✝

Issue Number 33 – January 2011  
Iglesia Anglicana del Uruguay, CC 6108, Montevideo 11000, Uruguay

### Latest Diocesan News

On behalf of the Friends, I must issue an apology for the long delay in preparing and distributing this latest issue. The Diocese has been under tremendous pressure and has lost, through retirement, some of our key sources of material and translation. However, I'm delighted to report that Fr. David (see details of his Ordination to the Priesthood below and in photographs to the right) is now delegated to provide regular updates for us. But, not only that, our intrepid traveller and reporter, Revd. Charles (Bradshaw) is now on an extended working visit to Uruguay and will be bringing back much more in the way of news and progress.

Nick

### Ordination to the Priesthood

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of November, our Cathedral, Holy Trinity, was once again the place for a new ordination. The Rev. Deacon David Waszuk was ordained to the Holy Orders of Priesthood by the Diocesan Bishop Miguel Tamayo. Also present were the Suffragan Bishop Gilberto Porcal and the clergy of the diocese.

The celebration was accompanied by brothers and sisters of other churches: Methodist, Baptist, Roman Catholics.

The sermon was delivered by Bishop Tamayo, who after ordination, invited the new priest to join the rest of priests in the Eucharistic celebration.

Fr. David Waszuk was assigned to work in the parish of Santa Maria (Rivera) and Mission San Andrés (Tacuarembó).

### Study leave

As you may know I have been involved with 'The Friends' since 1985 when we set up this group. My involvement came from a sabbatical in the southern cone of Latin America where I was researching a paper of what happened to the Church under military government. Both Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay and Chile were emerging from many years of brutal government and I wanted to see how the Christian communities had reacted. It was during this time that I met with Bishop Bill Godfrey and 'fell in love' with the vision and work of the brand new Diocese.

Over the years I have helped to promote this



vision and fund raise but also visit. I have made five visits to the Diocese and spent three of them doing small pieces of work in Salto and Montevideo. In 2008 a small group of us went to Uruguay to see the consecration of then Church at Salto built in memory of our friend Cathy Harrison. During this visit Fr Gilberto, soon to be Bishop designate invited me to come and spent some time working with him in Salto.

So it is that on January 23<sup>rd</sup> I shall leave to spend eight weeks in Salto and also hoping to visit many of the projects in the Diocese. My wife will join me for the last three weeks and also we are organising another group visit which will tour the country, visiting churches on the way. The itinerary of this tour is enclosed but as yet it still needs to be priced. If the tour interests you please let me know.

What fascinates me about the Diocese is how they can do so much with so little. At times I have been a Vicar in parishes when I had more assistant clergy than Bishop Bill had in his Diocese. Often my parish income exceeded the income for that Diocese. Obviously ours is an expensive country. Buildings are expensive to build and clergy in the UK are an expensive item as we all know. But the transformation that I have seen in the Diocese over these years has been inspirational. When I first saw the Cathedral at Montevideo it was run down and a night shelter took up the rooms next door. Today the cathedral looks good and attached are offices and meeting rooms essential for meetings and training. Still the soup kitchen exists underneath.

I have always enjoyed being in Salto where I spent my first placement in the Diocese. Again it was centred on the run down Church of St Luke and the small children's project that was held in a lean to with a tiny kitchen. I have a lovely photo of Matt Godfrey (now a naval chaplain) working making sandwiches. It's all so different now with a new church (built in memory) of Cathy Harrison, a large play group base, a place for doctors and social workers right at the heart of the barrio Fatima. St Luke's has been transformed and Bishop Gilberto has plans to try and build a base where young people can come to do their homework in peace.

The Gospel is about transformation and that I what I have seen over the years. Not just the buildings but also people. The sheer energy and creativity of the younger clergy is a joy. I look forward to being useful in my time at Salto. In preparation I am having one to one Spanish lessons. I hope to come back refreshed, with my vision renewed and with many stories to share with you.

*Charles Bradshaw Vicar of Woldingham.*

At the end of Charles' working visit, Janet and a few (UK) Friends of the Diocese are joining him from Feb 26<sup>th</sup> to March 7<sup>th</sup> 2011 with the following programme:-

- Day 1 Leave for Uruguay
- Day 2 arrives and stay in Montevideo to two nights
- Day 3 City tour including lunch at the Mercado del Puerto for lunch
- Day 4 Leave for Colonia del Sacramento, overnight Fray Bentos or nearby
- Day 5 Tour the factory and meet the Anglican Church there then we leave for Salto
- Day 6 Salto, visit to city, two church projects.
- Day 7 To Thermas de Arepey (overnight)
- Day 8 Return to Montevideo with an overnight ON an estancia
- Day 9 A horse ride in the morning before leaving for Montevideo.
- Day 10 Leave for the UK

## HIV Aids Project

Training Workshop "Accompaniment to people living with HIV / AIDS"

From our experiences in the pastoral task of supporting people who live with HIV / AIDS arises the need to share them with others. This was the starting point for us to make a trip to Cuba, where targets were mixed, because we did not only share our experiences, but the kind of exchange between people of different dioceses allowed us to see our daily life from another perspective.

From our personal and group experience in St. Stephen's Household ("Hogar San Esteban") we have a background that in attempting to pass it, we had to ask ourselves questions like "Why are we

doing it?", "How are we doing our work?", "What's our level of commitment?" We wanted to be as faithful as possible to our real work among this people, and not just working patterns in ideal situations. We wanted to reflect our accomplishments, goals, mistakes and worries, joys and disappointments.

We also learned from our Cuban brothers, with their point of views about these issues, from their character and context, making it an extraordinary contribution for all parties. It was such a great experience, the sharing of ideas was so successful, that it took on its own "life and ideas", resulting inter alia in the Anglican Network Anglican on HIV in Cuba. This was the result of one of the most important goals of the Workshop, the idea of spreading the knowledge acquired in the course and the awareness of people on HIV prophylaxis and the inclusion of brothers and sisters who live with HIV, stressing the similarity of the disadvantaged, the poor, the lepers in times of Jesus, with the disadvantaged and excluded today.

It was not simply speakers and audience. Everyone who participated, regardless of role, contributed in such a way that we all grew in experience, both for the professionalism of the presentations, as for the commitment and desire to assimilate what we learned.

**Danilo Sosa, Seminarian**  
Pastoral Team Member of San Esteban  
(St. Stephen's Parish).

## Rivera

Finally, after several years and many prayers, and thanks to donations, we could buy a house in the town of Rivera. At the moment we are working on the reforms necessary for it to function as a parish, parish office and parsonage.

In the coming months will be completion of the works and will perform the inauguration of the Parish. Suffragan Bishop Gilberto Porcalis ministering to the community, traveling from Salto. In the near future Father David Waszuk will attend the parish, traveling from Montevideo, and working with the seminarian Ione Gomez, a resident of Rivera. Photos are on the next page:-





## St. James, Colon

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of July, the small community of St. James the Apostle in the Barrio Nuevo Colon, Montevideo, celebrated its patronal feast.

The Eucharist was presided over by Bishop Miguel and co-celebrated with the parish priest Father Manzoni. The liturgy was animated with songs accompanied on guitar by one of the deacons of the diocese, David Waszuk, and there were also several confirmations and receptions that strengthen the local leadership. Among those confirmed or received there were employees of the "Children's Day care" that the Church, in partnership with state organizations, holds there for the benefit of poor mothers so that they can work to support their families.

The small temple looked radiant with flowers and lights for the glory of God and in loving and grateful remembrance of the Apostle St. James, patron of the parish.

beginning with a meeting of the Diocesan Pastoral Team with the Children's Day Care staff who work there. We enjoyed group sessions and shared a pot luck lunch. The meeting finished with the Eucharistic celebration presided by Bishop Miguel. All of us who shared this time agree that it was an experience we won't forget.



There were Confirmations and great joy among those of us who were present, as we could see the new parish hall recently built and the parish renovated and painted.

## San Augustin

On May 26 the Church celebrated the Feast of St. Augustine of Canterbury, patron of our community in "Jardines del Hipódromo", Montevideo.

For that reason a nice day took place in the parish



## La Trinidad, Fray Bentos

By the grace of God Parish Fray Bentos, "La Trinidad", is being revamped. Masses are held in a rented hall while the work is finished, what we expect to happen in the coming months.

We are all very excited about this project, in which each contributes to the extent possible, while willing to make the reopening of our beloved parish.

We ask for your prayers.



## ITAU

This year the ITAU continues its educational work with two programs, the Training for Ordained Ministry (ITAU-Seminar) and the Lay Ministry Formation (ITAU-Lay).

ITAU-Seminar Program involves two seminarians: Danilo Sosa (San Esteban Parish) and Ione Gómez (Rivera). The Rev. Deacon David Waszuk has surrendered his finals this year and is academically qualified for ordination to the Priesthood.

Both seminarians are currently studying the art of Systematic Theology annual EDUCAB Program (open learning) of ISEDET of Buenos Aires. The course began in April and ends in November. The subject is guided by the Rev. Leonardo Goyret with the operational collaboration of Rev. Marcelo Chiesa.

As EDUCAB Program is an ecumenical one, fifteen people from different churches were enrolled in this annual course (apart from the seminarians mentioned): four Anglicans, two Roman Catholics, two Methodists, four Brethren, two from Christian Diversity and a Baptist.

As for the spiritual processes related to the formation, seminarians are served by a team of Chaplaincy, made by Bishop Miguel, Bishop Gilberto and the Rev. Gonzalo Soria. They serve their practices in their communities, guided by the ministers responsible for them.

ITAU-Lay Program continues in its third year, the consolidation phase. Training in Pastoral Care is in charge of Rev. Livan Echazabal. Community Animation's Training is in charge of the Rev. Gonzalo Soria. Faith Education's training program is coordinated by the Rev. Heber Castaño.

ITAU-Lay Program began in 2008 with thirty-four participants, nine of them who are in process of completion. ITAU Team, upon completion of the Program cycle, will conduct a thorough assessment of these three passed years, in order to formulate a new proposal for education of the laity, taking into account the experience gained through this years.

## Building Hope

### Description of the need for this project:

Since 2001 the church became a presence in Fray Bentos, thanks to the reopening of the chapel. Through our pastoral work we got to one of the suburbs of our city. Because of the concentration of people, especially children, and poverty that characterizes it, we decided to focus our mission there.

One of our first activities was to organize a support group at school and catechism to children of families close to the parish.

These households consist of very large families, young mothers with 8 or 9 children, who despite having a core as housing, their economic situation was of great poverty. The economy and production of the city did not contribute, until now, to find solutions to this reality.

The support and catechesis group was very positive for the children as they managed to finish their school year and pass the grade. Many of them were baptized and took communion in our community, creating a bond that lasts until today.

On our return to Fray Bentos (we were 5 years out, from 2004 to 2009) many of these girls, today with 14 to 18 years, were already mothers, having left the educational system and plunging into the monotony and a process of gradual loss of hope.

When we speak of hope, we are not talking about waiting for something or someone, but we are speaking of an attitude to stand up to achieve different objectives. If we speak of hope with the background of faith, we are also talking about standing up to transform and transcend the everyday, and detect the presence of God in their lives, and achieve holiness in daily life.

This circle in which these young mothers are engaged leads to material and spiritual impoverishment waiting for a government plan to help their situation and exposed to engage in any proposal that dehumanizes life and empties the meaning of human existence.



### **Have we helped alleviate this need today?**

The community has followed the progress of these girls, young mothers today, seeking to keep alive the flame of faith and hope but we feel that we need more than our presence and prayers. We need concrete actions to accompany our prayer and presence.

### **Our proposal**

Promote a network of godparents to provide a scholarship for young mothers and help them to insert into the education system through an apprenticeship in UTU or other facility with state recognition. It will be a course that allows them to quickly incorporate the skills of a craft (cooking, hairdressing, nursing, etc.).

While the person will know who is sponsoring, the sponsored person will not know who her godparents are. Information about the progress or difficulties of the youth mothers will be sent to the godparents. All information regarding sponsorship is confidential. The sponsorship commitment is annual.

### **What are the specific activities that are part of this project?**

Each student agrees with the leaders of the program which course will she be taking, and in agreement with the youth, a study plan will be established, which the person undertakes to comply. This will be achieved depending on the grade they had at the time of desertion. Participation in the program involves a commitment to attend a mandatory weekly workshop and a fortnightly meeting with the tutor who will work in the program.

The young receive, as a benefit for participating in the program, a scholarship of 2000 Uruguayan pesos (almost £64)

The grant is subject to compliance with the agreed both on studies as well as weekly and biweekly meetings.

### **What are the results that the parish hopes to achieve through the project? What will the impact of the project be?**

We hope that young people can assimilate Christian values and attitudes

as well as experience a personal encounter with Christ and with their brothers and sisters.

The incorporation of a trade or knowledge that allows them a job opportunity and a better quality of life. We will seek the incorporation of skills and attitudes that will enable them to work.

We hope that the community be involved in this task and transformed from an encounter with these mothers who will be Christ to the community remembering the words of the Gospel: "When you did it for the least, you did it for me." (Matthew 25:40)

In the first year we hope to work with 10 mothers, taking into account the impact of this action in the family and neighbourhood. All these young people live with their parents or in-laws, in households that include 12 to 15 people. The impact of the scholarship on the family budget is important because it would increase approximately by 30%, which now enters a month in these families. It will also be a different model for her sisters and neighbours, showing the possibility to live in a different way and aiming for personal and spiritual growth. We estimate that each of these mothers is closely linked, on average, with about 20 people.

### **How is the project being overseen and by whom?**

The parish council will monitor the progress of the project through:

- a) Visits to the house to see the real needs of the young person who asks for the program help
- b) Visits to the study centre and monitoring studies at home
- c) Meetings of the working team to evaluate each situation
- d) Through the weekly meetings
- e) Personal interviews with each youth

### **And what about the funds for the project?**

It is our intention to create a network of organizations, individuals, companies, who want to sponsor the project and help in its support.

Each sponsor will receive a monthly report which he or she could share and

encourage more people to support us.

We believe that transparency is a prerequisite of any Christian; accounting and management of funds shall be consistent with this principle. Monthly expenditure reports will be also send.

Please, pray for us. May God bless you. Gonzalo Soria+

## *Recent Donations*

We are indebted to those Church Families which continue to offer significant support to the work of our Church in Uruguay. In particular we have received sizeable donations from :

- Southwell Minster
- St. James, Birstall
- Queniborough
- And, from another long-term supporter, St. Mark's (Brampton, Chesterfield)

Please remember that we are still seeking to raise funds to support not only the many projects you read about in this Newsletter, but also the others we have not yet, or recently reported on. If you are able to send a donation or to do some fund raising, please do not hesitate. Our Treasurer, Sheila Harrison, will be delighted to hear from you.

## *Newsletter Contact (& Secretary)*

Rev. Charles Bradshaw is now in Uruguay and is collecting more information on project progress to report back to you in another newsletter, later this year.

Nick Roberts at 2 Upland Rise, Walton, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S40 2DD.

Tel. 01246 233590.

E-mail: [nick.roberts@bcs.org](mailto:nick.roberts@bcs.org)

## *Friends Treasurer*

**Sheila Harrison:-**

8 Front Street, Birstall, LEICESTER, LE4 4DP



Regarding the second parish which I'm looking after, the Parish San Pablo Apostol.

This is set up in a semi-rural, semi-urban district. There the work is intense and very good.

We are with the small community looking after around 200 families, semi-urban and rural, trying to strengthen them so that they spend their days better.

We have 5 groups of people who have formed through the cooking and gardening workshops.

We plan also to focus attention on children 12+ years and in turn I am giving the catechism to a group of 20 children.

In addition, we have celebrations Wednesdays and Saturdays.

We are working to collect funds to be able to have our own parochial hall as at the moment the chapel serves as one. In addition, the chapel acts as a classroom for the CAIF and the workshops, as a clinic, as a tea room ....etc.

As you can see, there is a lot of work and we are doing it with lots of love, listening to the voice of God who guides us and directs our actions.



We send you a big hug from this small country in the South of America.  
We remember you with much affection and always, always, we pray for you.  
God Bless You., Padre Alejandro, Vicky and Joaquim







Very best wishes from Uruguay.

With Virginia and Joaquim, we remember you with great affection. Here we are working very hard and are dedicated to developing the Integral Mission by supporting the poorest families in our country

At the moment, I am looking after two parishes, the Mission & Centro Comunitario Santiago Apostol in the Colon Dsitric , around 15 minutes from the centre of Montevideo. A very impoverished zone with high levels of family poverty everywhere. There, we recently finished a building in order to better look after the families and provide them with tools so that they have a better quality of life.



In this centre, in addition to celebrating the Eucharist twice a week, sick people are visited and the most needy are cared for.



Also, we have CAIF centre for Caring for Children and Families in which we are currently looking after more than 150 families giving food to the smallest and giving social and legal advice to the rest of the family.



We are developing the pottery fully and workshops for cookery, workshops for market gardening, social skills and lifestyles.

We are also planning new courses in bee-keeping - very interesting !



## Important News from the Diocese

One week after seeing the opportunity for women's ordination to the priesthood dashed in a vote by orders in the Tenth Synod of the Province of the Southern Cone meeting in Buenos Aires, the Diocese of Uruguay has voted in an extraordinary Diocesan Synod to seek another jurisdiction with which to share their ministry.

The vote in the Province had been specifically requested by the Diocese of Uruguay and sought to allow diocesan option in the matter, rather than Provincial wide adoption. Uruguay felt that after a nine year hiatus since the previous vote for Province-wide approval, a patient wait would be rewarded. That was not the result and so the Uruguayan Synod took this measure to move away from the Province.

The Synod was held on November 12<sup>th</sup> in the capital city of Montevideo and the motion to quit the Province was proposed by the Diocesan Council and passed with a simple majority vote in orders according to the Uruguayan canonical process.

Bishop Miguel Tamayo then informed the Primate, Hector 'Tito' Zavala, Bishop of Chile, the other Bishops and the Executive Council of the Province. The diocese requests that permission for transfer from the Province take place within the year and that if this is not possible an appeal would be made to the ACC to arrange for oversight as directed in Provincial canons.

+Frank Lyons  
Southern Cone Province Officer for Communications

## Revd Charles in Uruguay – January 2011

This year the Diocese of Uruguay has suffered two heavy blows. USPG has withdrawn all its funding for most of the work in South America because of its

own funding crisis. Sadly there was no warning about this.

Also the Church in Canada has ceased to support this Diocese because it own problems caused by legal bills due to the mistreatment of young people and the Inuit peoples.

Thankfully there is more support for some of the social outreach programmes coming from the local government here but it always comes with strings.

So clearly the work of the 'friends' is very welcome indeed.

Over the next months I will be able to share some of the development work with you as I will be seeing all of the projects that we have supported in their past. I have already seen the work with young street kids in the Posada Belem and the aids ministry in San Estaban. Some of you will remember Jorge; he was at the cathedral on Sunday with his wife and child. I have visited Santiago Colon which is being prepared for its reopening in February. The Church looks great and it was lovely to see the wall display of St James Leicester and also the chalice and pattern that they gave for the Eucharist. Thanks to a generous donation from my Parish in Woldingham a new roof has been put on the family centre and also new bathroom and toilets. The whole site looks very well cared for.

In my first days I spent a great deal of time with Fr Alejandro who is a very clear sighted hard working young priest looking after Colon and Progreso as well as directing the social projects in Montevideo. Pray for him as he carries an enormous work load.

I preached at the service for the English community on Sunday in the cathedral and with the help of a translator preached another sermon with the Spanish community.

For the next three weeks I will be in Salto at the invitation of Bishop Gilberto. He is very isolated up in this part of the country. Plans are now afoot to plant a church in Rivera and I look forward to seeing this work next week.

'Friends of the Diocese' - we have much to do together.

**Charles**

## Friends gift of £2,500 is very welcome!

Earlier in the newsletter, we reported on the substantial donations from various Churches which in total allowed us to despatch £2,500 with Charles for the Diocese in Uruguay.

**Thank you !**

## Gift Aid

If you are able to gift aid your donation (you are a UK taxpayer), then please do so – it makes such a difference. Although the Friends is not able to claim back the tax directly, we do have an arrangement for the Diocese of Southwell to make the claim on our behalf.

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| Address in CAPITALS incl. PostCode ➡ | of  |
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|                                      | ⌞ Tick here if you want Southwell Diocesan Board of Finance to reclaim tax on behalf of the Friends of the Diocese of Uruguay on this donation and any donations which you make from this point on. |