



Latest Happenings In the Diocese: Diocese of Mandeville celebrates 25 years as a Vicariate and Diocese

On June 25, 2017, the Diocese celebrated 25 years of existence as a Vicariate and Diocese at the Kendal Conference Centre in Manchester. Over 1,000 persons from all three Dioceses, as well as specially invited guests, friends and supporters from Jamaica and overseas turned out to celebrate the momentous occasion.

Throughout the day, participants were taken through a fulsome history of the Diocese, from its early beginnings with Bishop Paul Boyle, C.P as Apostolic Vicar and later its first Bishop, through the time of Bishop Gordon Bennett, S.J., Bishop Neil Tiedemann, C.P., and Archbishop Charles H. Dufour, D.D., who is currently serving for the second time as Apostolic Vicar. In addition to the telling of the history, the youth of Holy Spirit Church, Maggotty, dramatized the events for the entertainment and education of their audience.



Mrs. Eda McLaren receives an Award of Appreciation from The Most Rev. Charles H. Dufour while Bishop Nicola Girasoli, Apostolic Nuncio, looks on.



The choir from the Diocese of Montego Bay led the praise and worship, while Christopher Bird, and 10- year-old Zane Maher of St. Paul of the Cross Cathedral, were among the soloists of the day. The youth of the each parish displayed their creativity through the creation of banners depicting the chosen theme: “A New Heaven, A New Earth”. Student

Left: The Montego Bay Diocesan Choir leads the gathering in Praise and Worship.



representatives from the schools of the Diocese were also present in their uniforms, accompanied by their teachers, to take part in the day's activities.

Archbishop Charles H. Dufour, Apostolic Administrator, gave the morning's main presentation. As he expressed pride in the growth and progress of the Vicariate and Diocese of Mandeville over the last 26 years, he exhorted persons to build the kingdom by spreading it. He called on lay persons to take on a greater role in the Church so that the kingdom of God in Mandeville 'will progress from being a small seed into a big tree, providing safe shelter, where the birds will come and nest in our branches.'

Before Mass, Special Certificates of Appreciation were presented to persons who have given outstanding service to the Diocese of Mandeville over the years.

A number of dignitaries attended the Mass, and brought greetings, including The Hon Sally Porteous CD JP, Custos of Manchester and Dr. Peter Phillips M. P., Leader of the Opposition.



Above: Students of Sacred Heart Academy perform a song.
Below: A Banner created by the youth of St. Vincent Strambi Catholic Church, Bull Savannah



The main celebrant for the Mass was Archbishop Nicola Girasoli, Apostolic Nuncio, while Bishop Mark Bartchak, Bishop of Altoona Johnstown, gave the homily.



L-R: Bishop Mark Bartchak, Diocese of Altoona Johnstown accepts a Certificate of Appreciation from Archbishop Charles H. Dufour, Apostolic Administrator, Diocese of Mandeville, and Archbishop Nicola Girasoli, Apostolic Nuncio.

Above: The Most Rev. Kenneth Richards, Archbishop of Kingston.
Below: Students of St. Joseph Basic School, Cross Keys.



Below: Archbishop Charles H. Dufour greets Dr. Peter Phillips, Leader of the Opposition..



(Back Row, L-R): Bishop Mark Bartchak, Diocese of Altoona-Johnston, Archbishop Kenneth Richards, Diocese of Kingston, Archbishop Charles H. Dufour, Diocese of Mandeville and Archbishop Nicola Girasoli, Apostolic Nuncio pose along with Priests and Deacons at Mandeville's 25th Celebration as a Vicariate and Diocese.

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