

We would like to remember our spiritual "Father" Msgr. Bryan O. Walsh whose birthday would have been on June 19th. He will always be remembered by all of us Pedro Pan kids for his decisive actions to save us from Communist Indoctrination.

At this time I would like to remind everyone of our project "Stories about Msgr. Bryan O. Walsh". Let's honor him this year on the Tenth Anniversary of his passing with a collection of stories. We have received some very beautiful stories, so let's keep that momentum. We can include any Poems you have written, either in English or Spanish. See details below.

Please make sure you read several important announcements in this Newsletter.

Remember Our Mission!

Love,

Carmencita Romanach

OPERATION PEDRO PAN GROUP, INC. (OPPG)

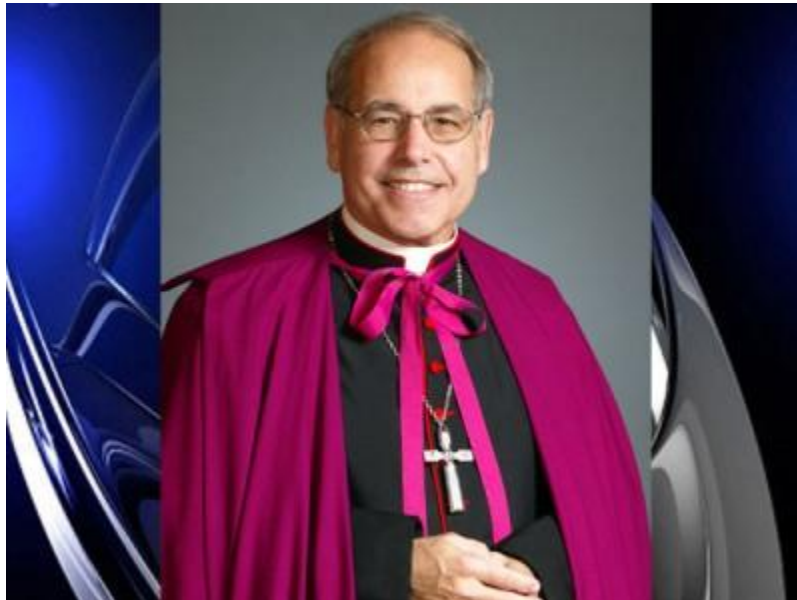
A National Charitable Organization

www.pedropan.org

<http://www.facebook.com/OPPGI>

June 15, 2011

Pedro Pan News



It is with great pride that Operation Pedro Pan Group, Inc. recognizes all Pedro Pan children that have become very successful professionals, talented artists and active and productive members of communities all across this nation, but especially those who made the choice to follow His Footprints and have dedicated their lives to the Church and its work. Such example is that of recently installed Bishop Felipe de Jesus Esterez to the Diocese of St. Augustine.

Bishop Esterez came to the United States at the age of 15 through Operation Pedro Pan. He holds a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from Montreal University in Canada,

a Master of Arts degree from our local Barry University, and a Doctorate in Sacred Theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. After being ordained a priest in Fort Wayne, Indiana in 1970, he was a member of the Canadian Society of Foreign Missions and a missionary in Honduras until 1975. At that time he came to Miami and was incardinated here in 1979. Bishop Esterez was made a prelate of honor with the title "Monsignor" in 1981 and named an auxiliary bishop of Miami in 2003. He was installed as Bishop of the Diocese of St. Augustine on June 2, 2011 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Jacksonville, Florida.

Monsignor Bryan O. Walsh's total commitment and leadership served as the role model that inspired our Pedro Pan children. We could almost see him sharing the joy as one of his "kids" became Bishop of the Diocese of St. Augustine. Msgr. Walsh was ordained on May 23rd, 1954 at the Nombre de Dios Mission in St. Augustine, Fl.

A group of Pedro Pan including our President, Carmencita Romanach, our First Vice President Carmen Valdivia and our Second Vice President Juan Pujol with wife Haydee made the trip especially to Jacksonville to share this joyful and meaningful day with our Pedro Pan brother Bishop Felipe de Jesus Esterez.



June 14, 2011

A group of Pedro Pan with Mayor Pizzi and the Miami Lakes Council Members

Mayor Michael Pizzi, from Miami Lakes, wrote on June 6th, 2011:

In honor of members of our community who came during Operation Pedro Pan to realize the American Dream, I would like to name a street in Miami Lakes “Pedro Pan Way”.

Naming a street “Pedro Pan Way” will enhance the Town of Miami Lakes and will serve as a fitting tribute and memorial to the people who arrived in the United States with little material assets yet have created the foundation that has added to the fabric of this community.

On June 14th, 2011 Mayor Pizzi officially made the Motion during their Town Hall Meeting.

It was unanimously approved by all Council Members!!!!

It was decided that 82nd Ave. North of 154th St. will be named "**PEDRO PAN
WAY**"

Mayor Pizzi was very proud to announce that this will be the first time a street will
have this name.

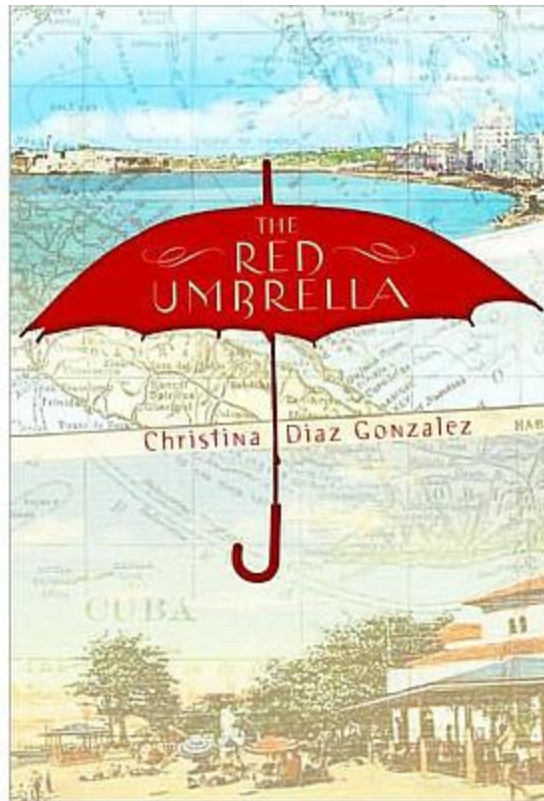
We want to thank Mayor Michael Pizzi and the Miami Lakes Council Members for
this initiative

that honors the memory of our parents that made the most difficult decision

to send us to this country

to live in Freedom

Stay tuned for Official Ceremony to name Pedro Pan Way in the following
months.....



We are proud to announce that the book *The Red Umbrella* written by Christina Diaz Gonzalez and based on the historical events of Operation Pedro Pan is now a required reading book for Florida International University (FIU)'s incoming Freshmen class this Fall 2011.

Christina is a "pichon" de Pedro Pan as both her parents (Esperanza and Delfin) and her mother in law (Olivia) are Pedro Pan themselves. She captured our Pedro Pan story with deep sensitivity and respect. She researched every line in the book that you will read. The result is this wonderful book that has made the delight of many.....

In case you have not read it, we strongly recommend it. It is also a wonderful way to introduce our children and grandchildren to our story.

Not only every Pedro Pan that reads the book can relate to the story...like it was his/her own..... but our grandchildren love it as well!!!

Christina has received several awards for the book during this past year and will be speaking to FIU's Freshman class in both the Maidique and the Biscayne campuses. All Pedro Pan are invited to attend this presentation by Christina...See below for details.

MAIDIQUE CAMPUS:

Place: FIU Ballrooms, 11200 SW 8th St., Miami, FL

Date: Wednesday, September 7th, 2011.

Time: noon

BISCAYNE CAMPUS:

Place: Wolfe University Center Auditorium, 3000 NW 151 St., North Miami, FL

Date: Thursday, September 8th, 2011.

Time: 2 p.m.

Remember Monsignor Walsh.....Write your stories about him!



June 19, 1930-December 20, 2001

Project: Stories about Msgr. Bryan O. Walsh

As a Tribute to Msgr. Bryan O. Walsh in the tenth Anniversary of his passing this year we want to gather a collection of short stories about him to publish them in booklet form, our website and face book account, etc..

Guidelines for the Project:

1. Article's length: two pages, 200- 500 words approximately.
2. Stories can be either when you were a Pedro Pan child or when you met Msgr. Walsh as an adult.
3. Theme: A story of an interaction with Msgr. Walsh (we want to have as many aspects of Msgr. Walsh's personality so it shows all these aspects: as a father figure, as a disciplinarian, as a very intelligent person, as a loving and caring man, as an administrator, as a priest, as a mediator, or as many other aspects as are possible)
4. Persons that met Msgr. Walsh and are not Pedro Pan can also submit their stories.
5. Stories can be submitted by email to: members@pedropan.org

and/or mail to: Operation Pedro Pan Group Inc.,

11352 NW 65th St., Doral, FL 33178

6. Deadline to submit stories: July 31st., 2011.

We want to gather as many stories as we can about Msgr. Walsh as a Tribute to him. Don't worry if you are not a "professional writer"....we want stories from the heart...that is what we are looking for. We will edit the story if necessary and will send it to the author for authorizing the final product of his/her story before publishing it.

We will accept any Poems you have written about Msgr. Walsh or any stories in English or Spanish.

SAVE THE DATE

Please save the date.....November 18th to 20th, 2011 at the Miami Beach Resort and Spa in Miami Beach, Fl.

This year we are celebrating the Closure of our 50th Year Anniversary For those of you that came last year.....we are planning this year to be even more special and we have many activities for you.....

It is going to be a very special weekend for all to remember!!!

All the Events will be recorded for posterity....Don't miss this opportunity!!!!

Stay tuned for details coming soon.....

Wichita Pedro Pan

The Wichita Pedro Pan's 50th Anniversary Reunion will be celebrated June 23rd to 26th, 2011.

We wish this group of Pedro Pan brothers/sisters the best during this unique Reunion.

Our thanks to Pedro Pan Lazaro San Martin and Leonardo Viota and many others that have made a great effort for a successful Reunion.

This captures the essence of what being a Pedro Pan really is.....

Sharing and celebrating in brotherly love....

With each other!!!

Congratulations to all the Wichita Pedro Pan....

OPERACION PEDRO PAN
50th
YEAR REUNION

MARIANA BOYS HOME
WICHITA, KANSAS
★★★★★**1961-1968**★★★★★

WHEN? : Thursday, June 23 at 3:00pm
& June 26, 2011 at 10:00am

Thursday, June 23rdMariana Home visit 3:00 to 6:00 Dinner at Tommy's Restaurant. Open bar, dance floor, Open dinner Menu.

Friday, June 24thCivic Act of Appreciation to Wichita and others. Ceremony and lunch at Eberly Farm. 10:00 - 4:00.
\$50.00 per person.

Send payment to Valentin Gómez ahead of time or make arrangements with him.
Evening on your own. Spend time with old friends. Open Grouping.

Saturday, June 25th.....Visit and tour of Bishop Carroll at 9:00 AM. Starting at noon Linda and Julian Guerra will host with LECHON ASADO AND TRIMMINGS until you want to leave. Beer provided. Bring other drinks if you care to do so.

Sunday, June 26th.....Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Joseph's Church.
Tour of the grounds after mass. Official end of the event.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Lázaro San Martín 316-640-3421 or Leonardo Vieta 305-794-7406.

ALBUQUERQUE PEDRO PAN

The Albuquerque Pedro Pan are planning a Reunion for 2012!!!!!!

Plans are already made.....

If you are a Pedro Pan from Albuquerque and have not made contact with the group...

Hurry up!!!

They want to find all of you who went to Albuquerque.....

Contact us at members@pedropan.org

or Ernesto Perez at: gallo46@bellsouth.net

MAY 18, 19, 20 2012

Jueves 17 **Arrive to ABQ - Hotel Albuquerque , Old Town \$109/room**

PM Social, catching up time at hotel lounge

Viernes 18 **On your own during the day**

Separate meetings by La Villa Boys, Foster Home ladies, Rio Grande HS and Albuquerque HS grads.

Visit Old Town, Down Town, la Villa, UNM.

6 PM - 10:30 PM: "GET ACQUAINTED DINNER PARTY"

Nativity of the BVM Church Parish Hall

<http://www.n-bvm.org/>

Price estimate: \$35 per person. Priest not included.

Catered Cuban, food, music

Sabado 19 **AM TIME TBA RAIL RUNNER to Santa Fe.**

<http://www.nmrailrunner.com/>

<http://www.santafe.org/> Great treat for spouses and partners and all the family.

8 PM DINNER

In Albuquerque at St. Clair Winery and Bristo.

Estimated price: \$35-40 per person. Priest not included.

Dinner Blessing by Pastor Alberto Delgado

<http://www.stclairwinery.com/>

Domingo 20

9:30 AM MASS

At Queen of Heaven Church

Fathers Fernando Rubio and Juan Mendez, and possibly, Father Frank Pretto celebrating Mass.

10:30 AM BREAKFAST

At Queen of Heaven Parish Hall, courtesy of Fr. Johnny Chavez

Rest of day on your own

Lunes 21

Return home

Some will continue on to Grand Canyon and las Vegas (See Ernesto, gallo46@bellsouth.net)

Atlanta Pedro Pan

The Atlanta Pedro Pan Group keeps growing.....Thanks to the efforts of Emy Botet....that is determined to find all the Pedro Pan in the area...

They have celebrated their third Lunch Reunion last June 5th, 2011 at the Atlanta Cuban Club.

The group meets every month at the Atlanta Cuban Club.

The next Reunion will be on July 10th, 2011.

All Pedro Pan and their children are welcome to come....

RSVP Emy Botet at ebotet@yahoo.com/404 775 0440

If you are visiting Atlanta.....just drop by and meet this fun group of Pedro Pan that live in Atlanta.

Looking for Pedro Pan

ATTENTION:

Pedro Pan that went to St. Vincennes Orphanage in Lansing, Michigan want to find all Pedro Pan that went there for a Reunion at the end of Summer. If you went to this orphanage please send us your personal information so that you can be included it in the Reunion.

Send your information or comments to: members@pedropan.org

Guillermo Seoane is looking for the following Pedro Pan that were placed in foster homes in Evansville, Indiana:

Eddie and Jose Yanis, Berta and Humberto Paravicini, Jesus Hernandez, Fernando and Miguel Jimenez

If you have any information please contact us at members@pedropan.org

Calendar of Upcoming Events – OPPG

Saturday, June 18 at 10 AM - Breakfast

Place: La Casona Restaurant, Miami

Saturday, July 16 at 10 AM - Breakfast

Place: La Casona Restaurant, Miami

Thursday, July 28 at 10 AM- OPP Presentation

Place: Holocaust Museum, Naples, Fl

Saturday, September 17 at 10 AM - Breakfast

Place: La Casona Restaurant, Miami

Saturday, October 15 at 10 AM - Breakfast

Place: La Casona Restaurant, Miami

Friday, November 18, Conference-History of Operation Pedro Pan/Fiesta Cubana Cocktail Party.

Place: Miami Beach Resort

Saturday, November 19 - Thanksgiving Dinner-Dance

Place: Miami Beach Resort

Sunday, November 20 - Thanksgiving Mass

Place: Miami Beach Resort

Saturday, December 17 at 10 AM - Breakfast

Place: La Casona Restaurant, Miami

Tuesday, December 20, at 7 PM- Memorial Mass for Msgr. Bryan O.

WalshPlace: St. Dominick Catholic Church, Miami

Operation Pedro Pan Group, Inc

A National Charitable Organization of the former Children of Pedro Pan

161 Madeira Avenue, Suite 61 Coral Gables, FL. 33134 - [\(305\) 554-7196](tel:(305)554-7196)

members@pedropan.org

www.pedropan.org

<http://www.facebook.com/OPPGI>