



**STELLA MARIS**  
CAPE TOWN

...Remember the past, celebrate the present, chart the future...

**100 YEARS**  
1920-2020  
**Stella Maris - AOS**  
**Centennial Journey**



**December**  
**2020**  
**Update**

## Ship visit:



*"Christmas is a season of giving"*

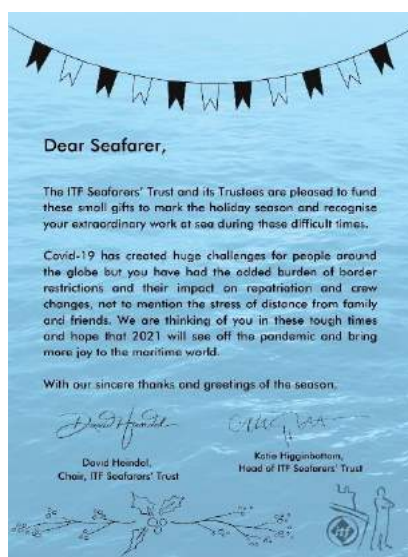


**Ship visit** has been done by the giving the

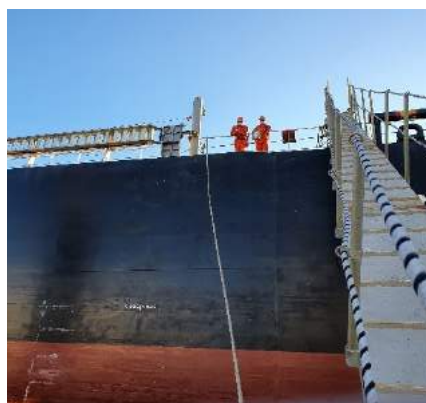
Christmas gifts from ITF Seafarer's Trust. Stella Maris - Cape Town received funds from ITF for the Christmas gifts to seafarers through the assistance of Fr. Bruno Ciceri, Stella Maris - Vatican. In this regard, Fr Talisic bought assorted chocolates and sweets, souvenir items, masks and hand sanitizers, and data for the pocket routers that can be left on board ship and be picked up before departure to their next port of call. ITF required the printing of Christmas greetings from Mr David Heindel (Chair) and Katie Higginbottom (Head). Stella Maris - Cape Town added these to our Christmas cards, and 2021 calendars.



Pict 01. Christmas gift bags for the seafarers.



Pict 02. Christmas greetings of ITF Seafarer's Trust.



Pict 03. Not allowed to get on board the ship.



Pict 04. Allowed to get on board until the deck.

**Requests:** It is worth mentioning here that some seafarers requested visits to the Seafarers Centre or the Duty Free Shop, which required transport for them. Three seafarers requested souvenir items to be included in their gift bags. Two, requested personal items. Aware of the strict Covid-19 protocols, Fr Talisic had to unfortunately decline on their requests so as to avoid the danger of contamination.



Pict 05. Allowed to enter even inside the crew mess room.

Date	Name of Ship	No. of Crew
08-Dec-20	Maersk Copenhagen	24 crew
08-Dec-20	Joides Resolution	65 crew
9-Dec-20	Torm Horizon	25 crew
9-Dec-20	Hector N	24 crew
10-Dec-20	Navig8 Amethyst	23 crew
12-Dec-20	Maersk Altus	17 crew
14-Dec-20	Maersk Cairo	22 crew
14-Dec-20	Asprouda	20 crew
14-Dec-20	Baltic Autumn	23 crew
17-Dec-20	Nord Imagination	20 crew
17-Dec-20	Prantik Sarwar	13 crew

**BENEFICIARIES**  
**OF CHRISTMAS**  
**GIFTS**

**11 SHIPS WITH**  
**TOTAL CREW**  
**OF 276**



#### Thursday, 03 Dec

2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Stella Maris – Cape Town with Tony Trimmel, president of Kalk Bay Fishing Community in planning the kind of donation we could provide to the affected fishers families in Kalk Bay. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations granted Stella Maris – Cape Town a special fund on World Fisheries Day held on 21 of November 2020 to fishing communities and foreign fishers. In this meeting, we have agreed to give *Family Need Parcels* to the fisher families in Kalk Bay. The parcel includes food, toiletries, and school supplies for those with children at school. During December we have been identifying and verifying the families of local fishers who really need the assistance. We have targeted to distribute the *Family Need Parcels* in the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January 2021.

#### Wednesday, 09 Dec

Fr Talisic celebrated the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of “Simbang Gabi” online Mass for the seafarers and their families. “Simbang Gabi is a traditional 9-day Novena Mass at 8:00 o’clock in the evening celebrated by Filipino Catholics starting from 15 – 23 December and then followed by Christmas Eve Mass on the 24 December. With this online Mass, seafarers and their families can perform their religious practice of welcoming the birth of Jesus Christ from home or on-board ship. This is organized by Stella Maris – Manila with the support of Port Chaplains and Scalabrinian missionaries.

#### Wednesday, 03 Dec

Meeting with Taiwanese Consul Mr. David Yang and Joshua, his assistant. They called Stella Maris and MTS to express their gratitude for looking after the needs of Mr Lu Shun-I, a Taiwanese Captain of the arrested fishing vessel Yong Qing Fa no. 666. We continue to visit Mr Lu once a week to see how he is coping.

They handed us Christmas gifts after a brief meeting. Stella Maris and MTS are thankful to their support for Mr Lu.



Pict 06. Fr Rico, Mr Yang, and Joshua from Taiwanese Consulate in Cape Town.



Pict 07. Online Mass invitation ads/card to seafarers and their families.



2021 Stella Maris Calendars and Christmas cards

Stella Maris T-Shirts

Toiletries, Masks, Hand Sanitizers, Multivitamins, and Pocket Wi-Fi

Spiritual Blessings

Food

In spite of several restrictions due to Covid-19 Stella Maris - Cape Town was able to print and distribute 2021 Calendars and Christmas cards for the seafarers and fishers.

We have been handling food, toiletries, masks and hand sanitizers throughout the year. This December, we added multivitamins and souvenir items in the list. As much as possible, we provided them with pocket Wi-Fi or recharge their data to keep them in contact with their families at home. Fr Talisic has taken every opportunity to visit and bless the seafarers and fishers on board especially before they sail.

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> month of collecting personal profiles from the foreign fishers. This month we also started to make contact with the local fishers. With the fund granted by FAO, we believe that we can offer significant service to the local fishers in Cape Town. Year 2021 is ending. We do not regret anything as we have done the best that we can even under difficult circumstances.





## Stella Maris – Cape Town Christmas Special

Dear Stella Maris – Cape Town Volunteers,

Year 2020 has been a tough year for everyone due to the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic. Nations have closed their borders. All walks of life have been affected. All sectors in the society are still struggling to keep up their business, work, and lives. No one is spared from the devastating effect of national lockdowns at different levels. The people of the sea (seafarers and fishers) are among those who have been severely affected.

In this regard, we cannot deny the fact that our ministry and your individual lives have also been affected. I believe that for all the years of service you have rendered to the seafarer and fishers, your efforts have not been appreciated enough. I now take this opportunity to express the gratitude of the seafarers and fishers for all the service you have done. I am also grateful to our donors, who supported our ministry through the years. The Stella Maris is grateful for your unwavering support in the ministry. Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year 2021!

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of the Sea, May the presence of Jesus, God-with-us, who comes not to be served but to serve, be with you and remain with you forever!

Yours in the service of the people of the sea,

Fr. Rico Almedilla Talisic, cs



Christmas gifts, cards, and calendars to Stella Maris volunteers and donors (Mr Anthony Erispe, Mr Mario Assam, Mr Gerard Assam, and Fr Ralph De Hanh).



### SHIPS STATISTICS

71 ships [9] fishing vessels

Hospital Visit

= cancelled =

### Summary:

STELLA MARIS – CAPE TOWN HAS  
SERVED 504 SEAFARERS & FISHERS

CLOTHING: 65

FOODS: 19

HEALTH: 101

COMMUNICATION: 43

CHRISTMAS GIFTS: 276