

## EASTER PORT REPORT 2023

This year our ship visits during Lent, Holy Week and Easter were especially gratifying for Tropical Shipping's Russell Smith, our board member and spiritual projects coordinator. Russell shared his news "...from the Order of Malta I received 278 lovely Rosaries with Instruction Pamphlets distributed to our Seaman List completed on 03/24/23. These Rosary Beads are Our Blessed Lady's most powerful weapon to spread her message of love and mercy. This arrived timely for Lent. The crew are thirsty for prayers at sea during rough weather, hard work, and long hours a half world away from their families. This has brought them so much Joy ". Blessings always, Faithfully, Russell Smith



***Pray  
The Rosary  
Daily***



Rosaries Distributed Includes Instruction Pg.

	date	Number
TC	✓ 3/13/23	13
TE	✓ 3/23 - via TI	16
TF	✓ 3/14/23	all 15
TB	✓ 3/10/23	13
TH	✓ 3/15	17
TI	✓ 3/23	20
TJ	✓ 3/10/23	14
Tdw	✓ 3/15/23	17
TLs	✓ 3/31	16
TL	✓ 3/13/23	12
TM	✓ 3/13/23	all 17
TN	✓ 3/10/23	8
TO	✓ 3/15 via TC	15
TP	✓ 3/16 via Tdw	all 18
TS	✓ 3/15 via TC	all 17
TT	✓ 3/16	17
TU	✓ <sup>20</sup> 3/17/23	18
VV	✓ 3/15/23	16
Total Rosaries		278

Russell Smith  
Tropical Shipping



In addition to Russell's ship visits, our Chaplain Deacon Clay Waddell distributed hams, handmade colored Easter eggs, crosses, rosaries, Bibles and cookies from the Episcopal Church of Bethesda By The Sea youth groups and our PBSCenter to vessels in port and port workers.



Our last Easter Port Report was submitted by our beloved Pastor John VanHemert who enthusiastically promoted and supported our Port of Palm Beach Seafarers Center and on our behalf eagerly visited ships nearly every day, especially Christmas and Easter. He preached God's love always with Bibles in hand and tirelessly visited those who needed spiritual direction. Here's what he said in one of his last emails, "...First, what a blessing to have the privilege and opportunities to bring hope and encouragement to the ships and crews. I tried hard to visit them all, but this was impossible; some ships have a very short stay, I think about 80%. When needed what also really works well is being available beside the ship and meet in circles to share jackets, knitted hats in the cold and share the love of God with prayers to provide spiritual care. Sunday is a good time when there are no loadings". On Ascension Day, May 26, 2022, Pastor John received God's promise of being born to eternal life through Jesus Christ. His spirit inspires our work.

We remain so grateful for the time and resources of our board members, chaplains, volunteers, St. Francis Church, the Episcopal Church of Bethesda By the Sea and Pastor John's legacy for our Port of Palm Beach Seafarers Center Easter activities.