

Soon it will be Christmas

Nov 26, 2010

By Lucia Carneiro

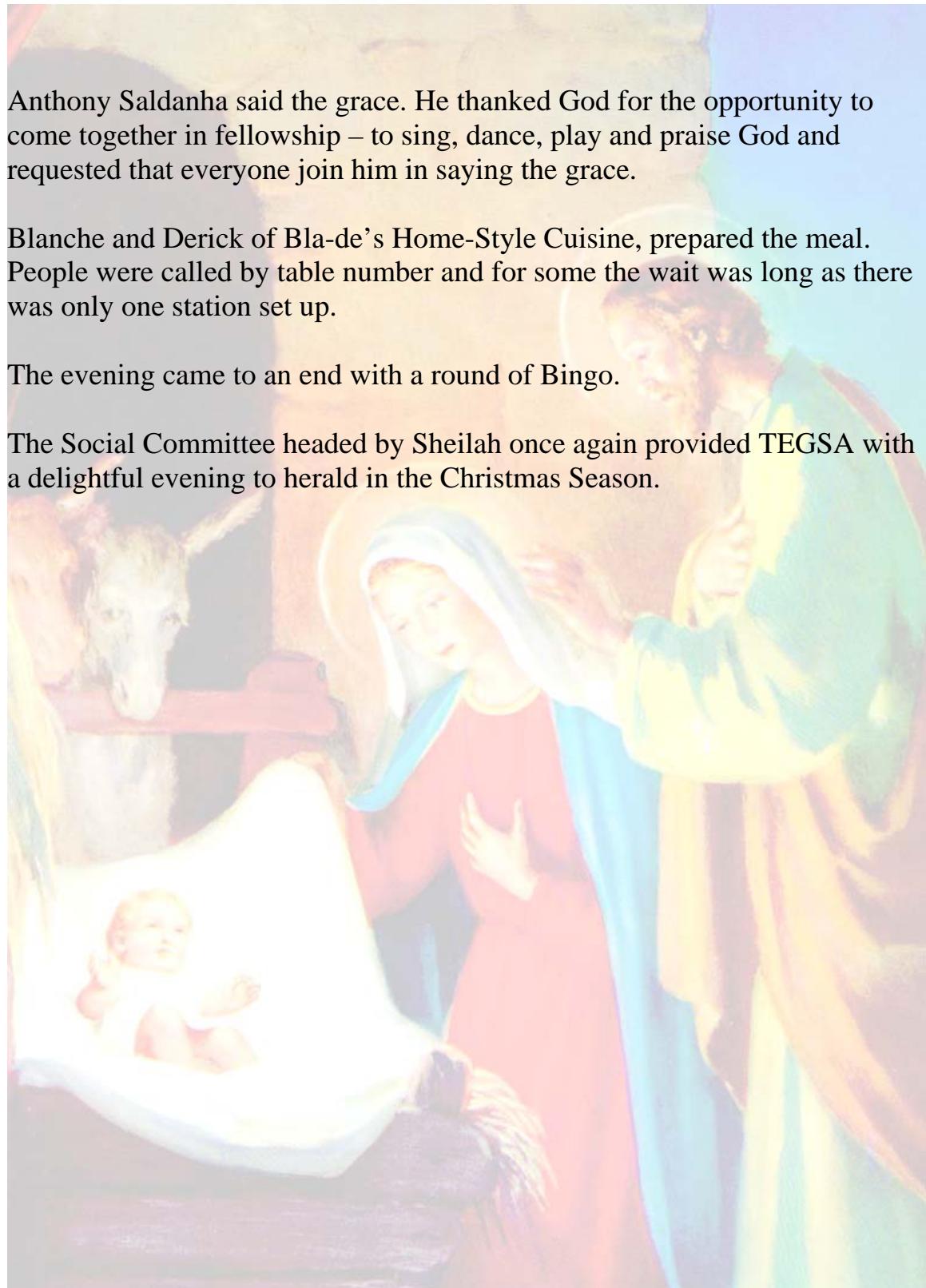
‘Soon it will be Christmas’ hosted by the TEGSA was a lovely way to ring in the Christmas Season. The hall looked festive, all the tables were covered with red and in the centre there stood the manger with a star shinning above it. The Manger would soon come alive, as we would watch the magic of the Christmas Story unfold.

Just before the enactment of the pageant the President, Olga Madeira, announced a moment of silence to mourn the passing away of Felix Remedios.

And then the story began – Sheilah D’Souza the cultural secretary gave a grand rendition on ‘O come O come Emmanuel and Shirley D’Mello narrated the nativity story. This was supported by a choir led by Joaquim Menezes who added richness and nostalgia by filling in parts of the story using timeless carols. They were accompanied by Kelly Paul on the mandolin and Michelle Glean on the keyboard.

As the story unfolds the shepherds were out in the meadow tending their flocks. Suddenly an angel appeared played by our child star–Dominic Cava and announced the birth of Jesus. This was followed by the arrival or Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus in swaddling clothes. Mary seemed very connected to Baby Jesus and as she held him close to her, Joseph gently tapped her shoulders reassuring her. They made a picture perfect Holy Family. Then from a distance came the Three Kings majestically dressed in flowing robes following the star. All the characters seemed so real and truly brought the story of Christmas to life. Everyone then joined in the singing of carols. The season of Christmas had truly begun. This was the highlight of the evening. It filled the room with nostalgia and warm memories of Christmas’ past.

There were stalls with vendors selling Christmas sweets like culculs and festive foods like sorpatel and sannas. Before the end of the evening most of the stalls had sold out.



Anthony Saldanha said the grace. He thanked God for the opportunity to come together in fellowship – to sing, dance, play and praise God and requested that everyone join him in saying the grace.

Blanche and Derick of Bla-de's Home-Style Cuisine, prepared the meal. People were called by table number and for some the wait was long as there was only one station set up.

The evening came to an end with a round of Bingo.

The Social Committee headed by Sheilah once again provided TEGSA with a delightful evening to herald in the Christmas Season.