

June 11, 1930.

Rev. Aristides Villafañe,
Box 324,
Puerta de Tierra, P. R.

Dear Father Villafañe:

At the time that St. John's vestry consulted me in regard to the land upon which their church of St. John the Baptist might be built I made them in effect the following proposition:

"The Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society owns a piece of land at Stop 20, Santurce which is to be used for St. Catherine's Training School building. This land is large enough for the training school, a church and a parish house. Therefore in the name of the Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society I offer to the vestry of St. John the Baptist Church the privilege of building their church upon this land on condition that said church ~~might~~ ^{may} be used by any or all congregations of the Episcopal Church in San Juan for their services."

My proposition was unanimously accepted by the vestry of St. John's Church.

You have established a Spanish congregation in Santurce in addition to the congregation already existing at St. Luke's Church. Naturally the nucleus of this congregation has come from St. Luke's Church. In other words you have somewhat divided your St. Luke's congregation. In accordance with the above mentioned proposition accepted by St. John the Baptist vestry you have the right to hold your services at the St. John's new church building. Of course it would be necessary as you have done to consult the rector of St. John's in regard to the hours of service for the Spanish congregation and you would, of course, offer to pay as far as your ability permits any added expense incurred by St. John's vestry on account of your services, but in answer to your question I would say that your congregation is entirely independent of St. John's vestry, merely it is using that building as part of the inherent right protected for your, or any other congregation by the Bishop. In other words there are three separate and independent congregations using the same church building and I ~~do~~ expect you to make a separate report to convocation of all services, official acts, receipts and expenditures similar to the one you make for St. Luke's congregation.

Hoping that the above will answer your question satisfactorily and asking God's blessing upon all your work, believe me always,

Very sincerely and affectionately yours,

CBC/H

Puerta de Tierra, P. R.,
June 11, 1930.

Rt. Rev. C. B. Colmore,
Box 1115,
San Juan, P. R.

My dear Bishop Colmore,-

For some time I have been wondering
what is my standing in the Spanish work of the new
church of St. John's in Santurce.

As I have been called upon to write
a statement now in relation to this work I will be
very glad to receive from you some information in
regard to this matter.

Thanking you in advance I am

~~Respectfully~~ yours,

Aristides Villagane