

**A poem for Rev. Monsignor Alfred C. Culmer
In observance of the 30th
Anniversary to the priesthood entitled,
“A Familiar Walk”,
Written by Mr. Mario A. Newry Jr.,
November 30th, 2006**

I took a familiar walk today...
A walk that took me to
My childhood;
Monsignor Culmer was Father Culmer
At Holy Family Catholic Church.
Through my formative years
Father Culmer taught me that
All our sacraments name and claim
The divine depth that sustains
Ordinary life.
Because of this lesson, I realize
That Christ is present among us
In a very real way,
Filling our Bahama-land
With love and hope in the most
Unexpected places.

I took a Familiar Walk today...
A walk that allowed me to reflect
Upon life's travails and crises.
Monsignor Alfred Culmer assisted me
At the lowest point of my life.
He caused me to see
That there could have been
No resurrection without the passion.
I am a stronger person because
I glanced at the church's history
Of triumph over adversity,
And I can cope better with life
By having the reservoirs
Of Catholicism to draw upon.
This walk makes life worth living
And because of Monsignor Alfred Culmer,
I turned to God for courage and guidance.