

A sudden change in plans



In early March, Sister Immaculata was alighting from one of the many minibuses that transport people (especially the poor) all over Alto Trujillo. She lost her balance, fell and broke her leg. At the hospital, they put five pins in her femur. Then, as she ready to be discharged, doctors discovered a pulmonary embolus and she had to stay more days. She was surrounded by visitors, her community and pastoral leaders and people from the very poor to the President of the Region! Now, she is home in the convent with a hospital bed, a portable phone, a laptop and excellent personal care. She writes: "It was a big shock to my system to go from walking three hours a day to be lying in bed." Her biggest concern is about all the programs that enliven and strengthen the community-child care centers, library, scholarships, transporting special children, catechesis and liturgy, the adult technical school - she wants us to be assured that they are all running under the responsible care of their leaders, coordinators and boards. They are animated by her spirit which of course, is animated by the Holy Spirit and if she prayed much before (which she did) she is positioned to pray even more intensely now. If you would like to write Sister Immaculata, you can at:

**Sister Immaculata Murphy
Apartado 534. Trujillo
PERU
South America**

Childcare centers in Alto Trujillo: A model for serving mothers and children

These Centers are very near and dear to Sister's heart-and now there are 28! Sister began in the late 90's with 10 centers-the cost was \$10,000 then; now it is \$20,000 for the year. Costs include salaries, uniforms for the care mothers, furniture and learning materials, hot lunches for all the children, 2 cooks to prepare them and a supervisor to coordinate everything. Good Shepherd Ministry covered the costs. Then several years ago Padre Aitor, the Spanish pastor for all of Alto Trujillo financed eight more centers using Sister's model.

Now 10 more centers (5 in Barrio 1 and 5 in Barrio 5) are being opened! These will be funded by The Father's Table-a Florida philanthropy- who already gave The Funds to build an adult technical school next to the church. The Centers are based in homes and allow mothers to work knowing their children are safe and supervised after school. These are 10 children in each Center, so 280 children are now served.



During her annual 10 day retreat outside of Lima, Sister reflected on the theme of gratitude. She wrote to us: "afterwards, at prayer time, I had such a strong sense of gratitude for the Ministry of the Good Shepherd and all they do for us. I thought, what could we really do in Alto Trujillo and Mache without them?, very little really. So I prayed for all of you every day. I just felt that my whole response to the meditation was from God".

P.O. Box 837 Boca Raton, FL 33429

www.ministryofthegoodshepherd.org

Ministry of the Good Shepherd

Serving the poor from afar

A St. Joan parishioner, member of Boca Raton and the Santa Ana CCW group, felt drawn to go beyond periodic gifts to the Peru mission. She sought advice from Sister Immaculata-what was most needed? Sister regularly walks the dusty brown sands of Alto Trujillo. She would come upon school age children too poor to afford entry into elementary school. School is not free-costs include registration fees, proper shoes and uniforms, note books and writing materials, maybe getting legal document, providing after school care if mother is at work. Sister estimated \$120US would cover a year.



This began Cristy Manceri's yearly campaign to obtain "scholarships" for these destitute children. Sister insists "an educated community is a community with a Future!" Each year in January, Cristy earnestly recruits from her CCW group and other generous friends. This year she has raised almost \$4,000 which will enable many children who would otherwise languish in the streets, to know the pride and thrill of going to school. What a great investment!

Cristy is our new vice-president of the Ministry of the Good Shepherd and coordinator of the St. Joan International Mission of Friendship. She brings to her work a heartfelt zeal that continues to bear beautiful fruit. She is married to Mark Manceri, has 3 sons and works full-time as a realtor. Where she gets her gracious ways and fierce energy is God's Secret!

Spring fundraiser for the International Mission of Friendship

Our pastor formed this new parish ministry in a desire to nurture among St. Joan parishioners a "mission heart". He hoped we would be curious about the lives of people "far off". Perhaps we might be interested in getting more involved, even traveling to be with people, to understand their poverty-and their richness; to work with them as they struggle to accomplish their goals and dreams.

Monsignor McGraw decided to begin with a specific mission community that had long standing ties to St. Joan-Sr. Immaculata and the mission community of Mercy Sisters in northern Peru. The Ministry of the Good Shepherd was launched over 16 years ago to raise funds for Sister to implement her vision for overcoming harsh poverty. Monsignor saw that Board members were committed and visited Peru regularly to keep up with a marvelous array of projects and programs. Then in late November of 2010, he made the trip to AltoTrujillo and Mache. He spent intensive time with the sisters and Padre Aitor. He was greatly impressed and deeply moved. He determined that St. Joan International Mission of Friendship would regularly support their work through the Ministry of the Good Shepherd.

St. Joan of Arc's International Mission of Friendship in Support of the Good Shepherd Ministry in Peru, invites all of you to the:

SJA ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER

Saturday, April 16

Mercy Center - 5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.

Adult: \$8 Child: \$3

Proceeds from this joyful event benefit Sr. Immaculata's Good Shepherd Ministry. Tickets for sale at the Parish Office. For more information please call Cristy Manceri at 561.251.1733

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