

Newsletter, December 2015

A LETTER FROM SISTER IMMACULATA

Dear Friends.

That lovely time for Thanksgivings is here and so it is time to stop and reflect on what we are grateful for. Personally I am so thankful to the LORD for having survived quadruple bypass surgery. Following my five month absence from the Peru mission I was pleased to discover that everything was running smoothly.

A few days following my return we began the new YOUNG CHURCH PROJECT - RONALD PUSAK CENTER that had been planned for the youth. With the necessary funds on hand thanks to Danny O'Sullivan and some other generous friends from Boca Raton we started Phase One.

The lot, donated by local government and cleared and leveled for free by the Mayor of Porvenir is now enclosed by a brick wall. The large patio is ready for dancing and games and from the graded area, really a retaining wall, one can sit and watch the activities on the patio. The two planned meeting rooms still await some generous donors.

In 2015, the Irish Mission celebrated 50 years of mission in the three huge districts outside the city of Trujillo of which Alto Trujillo is an extension. In April 2016 the two groups of sister, Mercys and Bon Secours will celebrate their 50 years arrival. November 22nd marked 25 years for me here in Peru. I have exceeded my stay in Boca Raton which was 24 years.

As we celebrate in Alto Trujillo, St. Joan of Arc will feature No. 1 in our feelings of gratitude! When Msgr. McGraw visited here, he spoke about the "oasis" in the middle of the sand: San Jose Church with its roofed patio, Pastoral Center, Library, Technical School and soon the new Young Church Project.

We thank God for all of you who made it possible to have such facilities and also for the fact that you enable us to continue the service we provide on a daily basis. The Care Centers continue to be in huge demand, also the library. Santo Toribio School where our 41 special children attend was presented recently at an international missionary congress in Trujillo and stole the show.

We enjoyed the recent visit of Marjorie, Antonio, Jenna and Missy. Hopefully in 2016 we will welcome some more visitors as we celebrate 50 years of Mercy in Peru.

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May you have a truly blessed Christmas and may the Lord continue to bless you and your family.

Gratefully,

EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PERU

OCTOBER - MISSION TRIP

Marjorie, Antonio, Jenna and Melissa went to Alto Trujillo and Mache. They embraced the people, especially the children, and proclaimed "our lives were changed!"

They attended the dedication of the YOUNG CHURCH ("IGLESIA JOVEN") PROJECT - RONALD PUSAK CENTER. The Center will feature instructions and performances by the youth of the San Jose parish from the surrounding area to a Christian environment with opportunities in the cultural art; dance, music, drama, film. They met with the active young leaders from IGLESIA JOVEN and collected more than 35 letters asking for the support of the building project to keep the young away from gang violence and drug dealing.



We are seeking to raise \$67,000 to complete the center with meeting rooms, kitchen and bathrooms. When making your donation please specify that you would like to support the YOUNG CHURCH PROJECT - RONALD PUSAK CENTER.

NOVEMBER - CETPRO GRADUATION

CETPRO celebrated the graduation of 77 students from the Technical School, which many were very poor women who are very thankful for the generosity of the Father's Table Foundation and supporters.

CETPRO is vital for the adult community to be trained in skills to develop businesses to earn a sustaining income like sewing, shoemaking, hair styling, cooking and computers.



INTRODUCING SISTER ERICA

A Mercy Sister committed to support the Good Shepherd programs. She is a leader, religion teacher in the public school, who engages high school seniors in loving God and encourages dance performances. She extended her outreach to teen break dancers who perform on city streets, at red lights!! Bringing them into a faith based club and a safer stage.

Thank you Sister Erica for your enthusiasm and leadership!



UPCOMING EVENTS JANUARY 2016 - SEND A CHILD TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

January is Send a Child to School month, for the Ministry of the Good Shepherd. A child cannot attend school in

Peru without having the necessities: uniforms, shoes, books, supplies, registration fee and after care. The cost is \$120. per child, and includes a nutritious snack. In Peru the school year begins in February, January is the crucial time to help these little ones so they can get an education and better their lives in the future. If you would like to make a Donation to the Send a Child to School Program, please make a notation on your check that indicates "Send a Child". For more information, please contact Cristy Manceri at: (561) 251-1733 or e-mail at csmanceri16@gmail.com All donations are tax



deductible and 100% continues to support Sister's mission. Any amount of your donation is greatly appreciated.

The communities where the Sisters serve are growing and progressing. We are blessed by your generosity to be able to give the Sisters of Mercy the funds needed to serve the poor in all the programs that enable them to develop to their fullest potential with faith. You are an integral part of this ongoing work to build "the reign of God."

We wish you and your loved ones a very blessed Christmas and a fruitful New Year!

The Ministry of the Good Shepherd Board Members