

Dear Friends,

We are presently in this lovely season of Thanksgiving - Advent - Christmas and at this time of year my thoughts always go to St. Joan of Arc and the Ministry of the Good Shepherd who make so much of what goes on here in the Peru Mission possible. Recently we had a four day visit from Msgr. Michael McGraw, pastor of St. Joan of Arc Parish, and Jerry Fickel, President of the Ministry of the Good Shepherd. As we traveled the length and breadth of our Human Settlement, Alto Trujillo, which now has 63,000 residents, what was so noticeable was that every now and again one encountered an "oasis" that was so obvious in the midst of the sand, the dirt and the poverty. These "oasis" are the pastoral centers, churches, schools, Care Centers, library/study centers, Health Care, that give dignity and life to the people of the area. The San Jose complex, consisting on the church, library, pastoral center and now the completed Technical School and Bakery stands out in Barrio 2A as a tribute to St. Joan of Arc Parish and The Ministry of the Good Shepherd. In the farthest corner of the settlement stands the new pastoral center LIGHT OF CHRIST, blessed in June 2010 and funded jointly by the Good Shepherd and the Bishops Conference of Spain. Mass is celebrated there every Sunday and currently we are offering a course there by a psychologist for parents on the raising of children in the midst of so much violence - also a project of Good Shepherd. This year it was a source of great joy for us that the President of THE FATHERS TABLE FOUNDATION, Dan Gilardi, his lovely daughter Brooke, Barbara Roth, who wrote the initial project for the Technical School, Marjorie O'Sullivan and Jerry Fickel were here for the inauguration of the new buildings in the school. We



Sister Immaculata shows Msgr. Michael McGraw the surroundings of Alto Trujillo

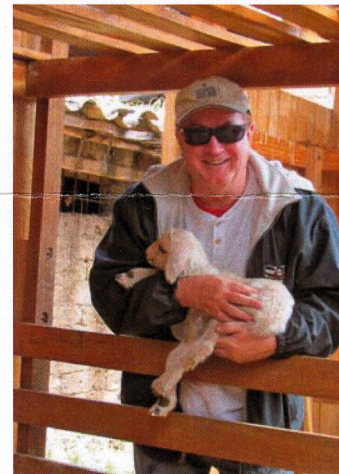


Students at Mache welcoming Msgr. Michael McGraw and Jerry Fickel

now have a really fine Educational Center as well as the provision of 90 scholarships annually provided by THE FATHERS TABLE FOUNDATION and THE GOOD SHEPHERD. The scholarships are mainly for class materials as it is very difficult for poor people to provide such for technical courses. And once again, thanks to the generosity of members of the Good Shepherd we are currently in the midst of plans for Christmas celebrations for children, youth and adults. We are assisted by students at Third Level who are being sponsored by the Ministry. They form a vibrant catechetical team and give generously of their time and talents to the church. All of this has been made possible because we are blessed to have generous friends in Florida and other states who have a sense of solidarity and love for the poor as Jesus did. We have so much to give thanks for. May you be blessed in this special season of the year.

*Sr. Immaculata Murphy*

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Msgr. Michael McGraw holds a newborn sheep in Mache