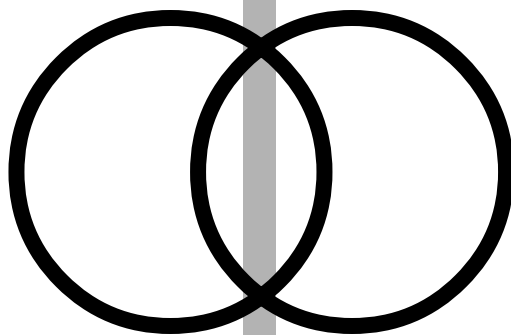


News about our Sister Parish

San Jose

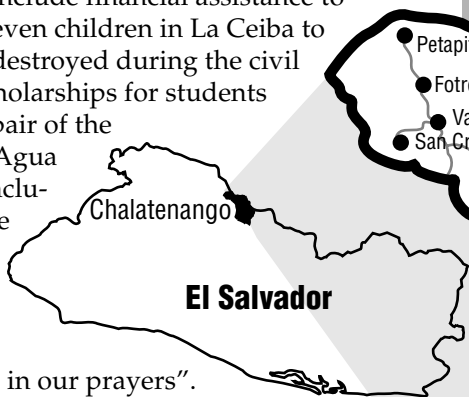
No. 3



Sister Parish Relationship

Last February Padre Manuel reported that “we have formed a pastoral council with which I will reflect and consult on pastoral issues and will also work with the Sister Parish process.” From this Pastoral Council of the Parish of San Jose we are informed that, “within the council we have formed three committees: the Sister Parish Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Receiving of Delegations Committee. All of this is so that the Sister Parish Project can function as well as possible”.

In the name of all the communities in the parish, the pastoral council expressed their “profound gratefulness for the valuable economic support” which St. Francis has sent. Their projects include financial assistance to a single mother of seven children in La Ceiba to replace their house destroyed during the civil conflict; financial scholarships for students (three currently); repair of the rectories of Ojos de Agua and La Ceiba. In conclusion they tell us, “We share with you our joy upon having shared a part of our community life. We remember you often in our prayers”.



San José Parish in northern El Salvador comprises 32 villages scattered over 350 square miles. Padre Manuel serves this entire area without salary and few resources.

El Salvador: A new legislature begins business

On March 16 Salvadoran voters elected all 84 members of the National Assembly and mayors of 262 municipalities. The FMLN made significant gains in their number of assembly seats and mayor offices, including that of San Salvador. The new National Assembly was sworn into office on May 1, heralding the beginning of a new phase in El Salvador’s political life. For the first time, the national legislature reflects a nearly even balance between the governing rightist National Republican Alliance (ARENA) and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), the party of the former guerrilla organizations. Time will tell how effective they will be in resolving the problem of land redistribution and the growing economic crisis in the agricultural sector. (ref. June 1997 issue of the CENTRAL AMERICA/MEXICO REPORT).

Medals and a Mitre

by John Medcalf (from THE TABLET February 22, 1997)

There is much trepidation and anger over the Archbishop of San Salvador, Fernando Saenz Lacalle, accepting the rank of Brigadier-General in the army. As Archbishop of San Salvador he is occupying the post formerly held by the murdered Oscar Romero, hailed as a martyred saint by



many in Latin America. Archbishop Oscar Romero, Bishop Joaquín Ramos, six Jesuit priests and their housekeepers are merely the flagship of an armada of martyrs who died for their faith at the hands of soldiers obeying the orders of their superiors. Does it make any sense at all for an archbishop to swear solemn allegiance to such an army?

The painting of our altar cloth



Committee reports:

THE DELEGATION COMMITTEE had to postpone the August trip. They were unable to get enough adults to make the trip in August, but will continue planning future visits. If you are interested in traveling to El Salvador on future visits, call Jack Michaels at 242-6972.

Corpus Christi procession in El Jícara

Sister Parish Video Available for Home Viewing...

Bob Boroughs, a member of the Education Committee, has been working with Rosanne Michaels and Sandi Montgomery who visited El Salvador in December, to create a narrated video presentation of their trip. A copy is available for any parishioner to borrow....just call Rosanne or Jack Michaels at 242-6972.



THE PRAYER COMMITTEE continues to make rosaries as gifts for our Sister Parish, and distributes special prayer cards to St. Francis Parishioners.

Family in La Ceiba who received financial assistance from us to build a new house.

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE is researching materials to form the basis of our El Salvador library. We hope to include books, videos, along with copies of articles and bulletins from such sources as The American Conference of Bishops, Maryknoll Peace & Justice Committee, Catholic Relief Services, etc. A bibliography of material available through the Burien Library has been prepared and distributed to the school and the young adults, and will be made available to our parishioners. Remember to check the Sister Parish bulletin board in the vestibule for the latest news, pictures, and current events!



THE FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE is making

arrangements to have embroidered items from La Ceiba in time for our Parish Bazaar.

Next Sunday, July 20th, you will have the opportunity to support our Sister Parish with a special collection after each Mass.

Volunteers repairing rectory in Ojos de Agua (Padre Manuel's residence)



GIVING

♥“Go, give to the needy sweet charity’s bread, For giving is living”, the Angel said.

♥“Must I keep giving - again and again?”

My peevish, petulant answer ran. ♥“Oh!”

said the Angel, piercing me through, “Just give ‘till the Master stops giving to you”.