

DON'T MISS THESE DATES

- Nov 13-14; 20-21** Sign Christmas Scroll.
- Nov 20** St. Francis Bazaar. Gifts from El Salvador are for purchase.
- Dec. 16** Remember Silvio and his new bride in your prayers.

Christmas Scroll

Once again we would like to send Christmas greetings to the people of our sister parish. A paper scroll will be placed in the vestibule of the church so that St. Francis parishioners may write messages. If you have a picture of yourself, your family, your pet, etc., you could send that along. Pictures that are printed on plain paper instead of photographic paper are easier to attach to a scroll and send. Scrolls and colored pens will be ready for messages after the Masses on Nov. 13-14 and 20-21.



Love Birds

Many of us remember Silvio Rodriguez Lopez, who came to Seattle as a member of the 2001 delegation from El Salvador. Silvio is getting married December 16. St. Francis parishioners Amy McManamon and Tom Fletcher will attend the wedding in El Salvador.

See more photos online at <http://home.comcast.net/~wardian4/vision2004/images/picsandstories/>

QUARTERLY COLLECTION

Next week is the quarterly collection for our sister parish. Please be extra generous because part of the collection will be



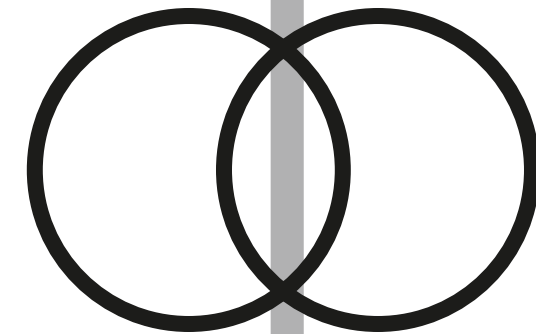
used to put on a special Christmas dinner for the elderly and part will be used for a Christmas party for the children.

News about our Sister Parish

San Jose

October 2004

No. 32



Sister Parish Relationship

Woodworking technology is not common in our Sister Parish but could prove to be a powerful new tool for learning and development. John McAvoy donated a wood lathe and sent it with those who traveled to our sister parish for the Vision Clinic last June. In December he will go to El Salvador with Amy McManamon and Tom Fletcher to share some of his expertise as a wood craftsman. He plans to take a power miter saw, a carv-

ing set and several hand tools with him. First he will need to build a workbench and set up a woodworking area. Then he will present a workshop on how to use the tools for personal projects and for generating income. Building woodcrafts AND new relationships will lay the foundation for a constructive future. Thanks Amy, Tom and John!



Bringing cutting edge technology to our Sister Parish

A NOTE FROM PADRE MANUEL

Last June, six St. Francis parishioners and a group of optometric physicians from Seattle conducted a vision clinic in our sister parish, examining over 1080 people's eyes. Many eye-glasses and sunglasses were distributed. Padre Manuel wrote us regarding their visit:

I want to share my thoughts about the vision clinic and comment a little on what the people say about it.

It has been a beautiful experience, as we could see how the group of doctors and everyone on the team endeavored to serve. It was beautiful to see how each one very competently fulfilled their duty. Even though some got sick, they worked hard; and the people were very surprised by the effort. It was beautiful to see how everyone was very friendly; even though not everyone spoke Spanish, they communicated through the language of love.

The donation of glasses has helped the people a lot. There are some that are now able to read at the parish meetings, and they say thanks to the brothers and sisters of the parish. Others say that they were able to be examined and realized that their vision was good. The people are very grateful for the idea you all had to come with the vision clinic. Each time, the people talk more about the sister parish. The people remember Joan (Wardian) for her charisma with the children, and Matt (Wardian) for the movies and for the joy he showed.

We believe that it has been a way to further unite us and make our lives more solid in following Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God and to you for the love you have for us. Also, thank you for the lathe, the soccer balls, and the donation of \$5,000.

The process of evangelizing that we've begun in the parish is very interesting, since we are preparing the people first (formation). We have done a prayer campaign for three months, and the training and orientation to the mission process lasts three months.

We are already training educators and area coordinators. In October, we begin training 50 missionaries. Another parish will help us with 50 more. We'll have 100 missionaries serving for four Sundays, four hours at a time. Then we'll have a closing, with prayer in homes. The people in El Zapotal are responding very well. More people are coming to Mass and more people are committing themselves.

So long, greetings to all.

Padre Manuel Alas



TINA MENJIVAR SHARES HER FEELINGS ABOUT THE VISION CLINIC DELEGATION:



I want to tell you that we are very happy about the visit. It was an unforgettable and lovely experience to see the feeling of brotherhood and the desire to help people. They (the delegation) were in my house on Sunday, June 13. We gave them a simple lunch, served with love. I feel like I'm dreaming when I remember that day, seeing so many people who didn't know us, but who were here, only for the desire to help us, their brothers and sisters.

Thanks to God, for He has blessed us.

Tina Menjivar

