

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!

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Please detach and return with your donation to: Mission Office, P.O. Box 9023, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-9023.

NAME: _____

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If you would like to designate your donation, please indicate project here (i.e. agriculture, school)

PLEASE PRAY:
We adore you, Jesus our Shepherd and Savior. And we praise and thank you for your living among us. We ask you to walk beside your missionaries as they seek to proclaim your Gospel. Cherish, guide, and strengthen them; help them to be patient when they meet frustrations, and encourage them when they are disappointed. Lead them, we beseech you, along the path you desire for them. For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever. AMEN



Our story begins with an invitation. Bishop Conners from the Diocese of San Juan de la Maguana in the Dominican Republic invited Bishop John McCann to sponsor two parishes in his Diocese. Saint Peter the Apostle in El Cercado and Our Lady of Fatima in the remote mountainous region of Hondo Valle became a part of the official foreign mission to the Diocese of Rockville Centre. The Inn of the Good Samaritan in the capital city of Santo Domingo, which provides care for the sick and the poor, was later added to the mission which continues to flourish under the faithful support of Bishop John O. Barres and the generosity of our donors for over the past 40 years.

Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ provide help to those in need but also receive their assistance; therefore creating a ministry for the poor aided by the poor. A parishioner from St. Edward in Syosset said of his recent trip to the mission, "the day we delivered a bag of beans to a hut, which was unfit for a human being, the Spirit opened my heart at what I saw. I now tell people that when you truly see the poor, smell the poor, hear the poor, touch the poor—you will never forget them."

With your generous support, especially prayers, our Diocese and you can continue "to sacrifice, to share and to serve others," a commitment which is at the very heart of our Catholic Faith and within the heart of every missionary disciple. Please consider donating today as you are able.



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Diocesan Mission to the Dominican Republic
A people united in Christ
Un pueblo unido en Cristo



Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit
~Matthew 28:19

“Among our tasks as witnesses to the love of Christ is that of giving a voice to the cry of the poor.” ~Pope Francis



Woman planting in a St. Peter and Paul Federation of Farmers' Greenhouse



Students at Fe Y Alegria School



Women's Micro Enterprise member shelling peanuts to produce Nutrifort.



Visiting doctor in the remote, mountainous region of Hondo Valle



Your donation to the community of El Cercado supports many projects and enterprises including:

- St. Peter & Paul Federation of Farmers, promoting sustainable agriculture, animal husbandry, soil conservation, and reforestation.
- A Women's Micro Enterprise whose members produce for sale marmalades, peanut butter, honey, and a protein bar, **Nutrifort**, for malnourished children and the elderly.
- **Fey Y Alegria: San Francisco Javier School** which currently serves students K-8. A high school is under construction.
- Parish Social Ministry which serves over 28,000 people in the remotest and poorest parts of the country. Promotion of health, distribution of food, prevention of domestic violence, potable water projects and latrines, medical clinics and legal human rights workers are all provisions of the ministry.

"It is a testament to the generosity of our Diocese and dedication of our missionary team how many countless lives have been changed. Children have been nourished and educated, families live with dignity, the elderly are cared for, tiny farms yield fresh produce, and clean water flows into the villages. The small chapels and churches built by donors exemplify the mission hands of God and touch the people in Word and Sacrament. While so much has been done, so much more needs to be accomplished." ~ Deacon Ray D'Alessio

"What strikes me most about the people is that they have so little, yet are proud, grateful and happy about the things we take for granted. It makes one wonder who has the right perspective on life." ~Kevin T. Murphy

"Photos I had seen did not prepare me for what I saw in person— poverty beyond comprehension. Although they may not have a fancy house, no electricity, no running water, little to eat, they are not POOR! They are rich in spirit, in the love of Christ, you see it on their faces and you feel it in their presence. It is inspiring!" ~Deborah DeVoe

Your donation designated for Hondo Valle supports:

- **Nutrifancia** which provides nutrition counseling, healthcare referrals, breastfeeding education, and supplemental food and vitamins to families at nutritional risk. 70% of children involved in the program are diagnosed as malnourished or underweight. This is a cooperative education program that promotes participants to share their knowledge with other families.
- The building of a church in San Juan Santiago and chapels at outpost stations
- Aqueducts for potable water
- Construction of safe and sanitary latrines
- Technology subsidies for Our Lady of Fatima parish which serves the vulnerable and remote community of Hondo Valle
- Construction of homes. The average family lives in a one room, dirt floor, tin roof shanty.



Your donation to The Inn of the Good Samaritan supports patients seeking healthcare in the capital of Santo Domingo. The Inn is a medical hospitality house that takes referrals from 28 parishes in the Diocese of San Juan de la Maguana. The Inn provides:

- Transportation of patients to and from the hospitals
- Organization of health services for patients from remote regions
- Non-clinical support services for patients recovering or preparing for procedures.
- Three meals per day and a clean bed for patients and their families
- Proper sanitary facilities
- A secure family atmosphere
- Hope, faith and love of the religious sisters who serve at the Inn.