

# Opus Christi Salvatoris Mundi

*Missionary Servants of the Poor*



*“The tragedy we are experiencing at this time summons us to take seriously the things that are serious, and not to be caught up in those that matter less; **to rediscover that life is of no use if not used to serve others. For life is measured by love.**”*

*(Pope Francis. Palm Sunday Homily. St. Peter’s Basilica, April 5, 2020)*

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Vicar General of Archdiocese of Cuzco.

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## Important Notice

Don't ever tire of praying for priests, especially in these times in which it seems that all the powers of evil have descended on the earth, preying particularly upon the sacred ministers of the Lord.

Pray that they remain faithful, that they be holy, that they be, in short, nothing more (and nothing less) than what they ought to be: *Alter Christus*.

Accompany the Priests and Deacons of the Missionary Servants of the Poor with your prayers!

This newsletter will always be free, some people ask to make a donation to support our work, which is why we include our bank details.



## Sent to Spread Hope

Fr. Walter Corsini, msp, (Italian)

Dear Friends,

*Laudetur Iesus Christus.* I hope that this newsletter finds your homes at peace after so many months of the Covid-19 virus. First the slow realization of the situation, then the long lock-down in almost every country in the world and, finally, the tentative return to normality.

It has been, and still is, an event for the history books. We have been able to remain in contact with many of you thanks to modern means of communication and we know well how many friends of the Missionary Servants of the Poor are among the victims of the pandemic, so many people who loved the poor, people who for many years through their prayers and sacrifices achieved many miracles in mission lands.

These lines are a small way of acknowledging their example. Many of these, even to the last moments of their lives, had the poor very much in mind. We are moved as we discover that some of them made express provisions in their wills so that even after leaving this world their bridge to the poor would not be cut.

During the most difficult moments of the pandemic, one of the priests celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass daily for our dying friends and for all the families affected. Even today, an MSP priest celebrates Holy Mass for all our living family members, friends, oblates, and benefactors while another MSP priest celebrates Mass for the dead. This is surely the greatest thanks and gift we can give.

We have seriously wondered how we should begin thinking about and beginning our service to the poor after this crisis and its consequences. In reality, many of the activities and services in our houses have never stopped and the Missionary Servants of the Poor have continued working, for example, to alleviate the suffering of the sick and handicapped children in the Saint Teresa Home as well as for the poor Andean families which the quarantine has put to the hardest test. We have distributed weekly bags of groceries to these families.

However, we are aware that, whatever the causes of the Covid-19 pandemic, there are **some considerations** that we

must keep in mind after receiving a lot of information and statistics over many weeks through the media. I limit myself to sharing three of them:

The **first consideration** is doubtless the fact that the microscopic coronavirus has revealed our littleness and has exposed our personal and communal limitations. This has been a hard blow for a society convinced of its omnipotence and persuaded of being able to control and manage everything. The race to seek and find an answer to the origin of Covid-19, a legitimate and even necessary task to correctly interpret the situation, has often been marked, however, by not accepting that there may be something that escapes us.

For many, the crisis is the fault of politicians and administrators. Now, the existence of their objective responsibilities cannot be affirmed or denied without prior verification, but



*Children of the Peruvian Andes awaiting the Missionary Servants of the Poor.*

neither can they be used as justification for not being able to foresee and

control everything, since this is like the temptation of “you will be like God” from the book of Genesis.

In itself, the consideration of our finitude should move us to ask the essential questions about life, those that pertain to the very meaning of life: though we discover the “why” of the coronavirus, this time must be for us Catholics a chance to reflect on the brevity of earthly life and to return to seriously asking ourselves, “What must I do to attain eternal life?” (Mk 10:17). For many Catholics, obliged to live without the sacraments for a long time during this pandemic, the first response from our hearts was the observation of the first Christians, “Without Sunday, without the Eucharist, we cannot live.”

The **second consideration** refers to the fact that during this time we have been inundated by stories of the pandemic, by interpretations of these events from different points of view and various levels of authority and competencies (medical specialists, politicians, technologists, administrators, etc. even commentators), everything filtered through the interpretation of the media and their various platforms, sometimes even nuanced with a pseudo-divine flavor. Here also we find ourselves unprotected. We have discovered that our way of thinking is very conditioned by what the media tells us.

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We need to return to the essential, that is, we need to take the road of conversion (a change in the way of thinking) which has always characterized a Christian mentality and which allows us to reach the authentic prophetic and apocalyptic vision of life, in the true sense of these words, that express the capacity to look at reality from the supernatural perspective and interpret it in its true meaning.

“Apocalyptic” means “revelation,” “manifestation.” It means “to remove the veil” of history to see what is really going on. The Christian, through baptism and the life of grace, has received and nourishes in himself the gift of some special lights that allow him to look at the world through the lens of eternity by which he may calmly discern events. Thus, this period of the pandemic in many religious communities as well as in our houses, has been an occasion to increase Eucharistic Adoration, conscious that without the Lord we can do nothing, not even interpreting facts in the right way. If we know Him, we will be truly free of a worldly mentality and we will be able to see reality objectively and with true hope.

The **third consideration** is that the most affected are always the poor for whom the post-pandemic prospect is dramatic because many of them have lost everything, even the little they had. However, the crisis has also revealed that it is precisely the humble and the poor who are always the most sensitive to the sufferings of others.

We have been moved by all the calls we have received from our humble and poor benefactors, as many of you are,

personally affected by the pandemic but still worried about the situation of our children and our poor and desiring to know how you can help. Meanwhile, many of the big industrialists are only worried about the future of their companies.

Through various technologies, many have been able to share with us the situation in our missions, Father Agustin describes those days from Andahuaylillas:

*On April 16 and 18 we distributed food again to families of the students in our schools. On this occasion we could see that for many families the quarantine was beginning to be critical. Among others, a mother of a student told us that she was expelled from the room she rented because she couldn't pay rent. Another family with a special needs child couldn't get treatment at the hospital because of priority given to those with coronavirus. We also see that families don't have the means to be able to pay for basic necessities and have little hope of a solution. Likewise, many vulnerable families have not received the subsidy provided by the State. Although it is absolutely clear that they deserve the subsidy, they are not included in the records. It is estimated that about 40% of the vulnerable families didn't receive the subsidy which is so vital to them. We commend all these families to your prayers so that soon they may be able to see a light at the end of the tunnel. In the meantime, we continue to distribute groceries to these families and teach the children but there are many limitations to preventing this quarantine becoming another assault on our children already so marked by injustice.*

As I said before, the coronavirus crisis obliges us to rethink so many things and discover new ways of being able to continue with what is needed which is required service to the poorest.

We know well that God hears especially the cry of the poor and will not stop raising a new springtime of initiatives and generosity to respond to the cry of the needy. As a result of the coronavirus, we nurture three wishes:

First, that having experienced the impotence that the pandemic has caused us, it revives our humble confidence in Him from Whose hands nothing escapes.

Second, that the feelings of anguish and disorientation that many have experienced push us to be even better witnesses to the fact that only a life of

faith and following the Truth illuminates what is real and allows us to walk with joyful security even when other material certainties crumble.

Third, that the reality of the poor who have been hit hardest by the pandemic helps us renew our missionary commitment with even greater enthusiasm, igniting anew our missionary hearts, and calling many young people to the service of their needy brothers. As Pope Francis has said, “We can’t write present and future history with our backs to the sufferings of others.”

May we allow ourselves to be infected by the love of God, who never disappoints and who urges us to spread hope to other souls.



*Father Agustin, msp, distributing food to the parents of students of the Francisco and Jacinta Marto school.*

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# Missionary Sisters Servants of The Poor

“DON’T LOSE FAITH: GOD ALWAYS LISTENS!”

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My name is Aracely. I am 43 years old and my husband, Fernando, is 48. God has blessed us with two beautiful sons, Alex who is in elementary school, and Manuel Fernando who, God willing, will be starting university.

Fernando, who is a singer-songwriter of Northern music and plays the accordion, supported our family and I took care of the home. We were a very happy family. We frequently travelled and led a comfortable life without being rich. We had plans to start a family business but were unable to carry them out.

On October 20, 2015, Fernando had a benign tumor removed from his carotid artery. The doctors warned us that there could be complications during the surgery like a stroke or hemorrhage and Fernando did, in fact, have a stroke that paralyzed the right side of his body and made him lose his speech but not his memory. He was put into an induced coma because of the seriousness of his condition.

My life turned 180°. Absolutely everything changed. Our dreams and plans disappeared. The first thing I did was to reject God and ask Him why He had done this to us when we had dreams and desires.



*Fernando with his two children.*

One morning in the intensive care waiting room, a woman named Pina told me that she had a very sick husband in the same room as Fernando. She began to talk to me about God and her faith. She told me, “God will provide for your needs.” However, because of my fatigue and my lack of attention to the things of God, I didn’t understand a lot of what she told me. She later gave me some books that talked about Jesus that helped to calm and comfort me.

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As time passed the doctor held out little hope for my husband's life. This was the first time that I turned to God. I prayed and from the depths of my heart asked Him to send me a sign that I was being cared for and attended to by Him in my suffering. The next day a woman named Yesenia sat down next to me, looked me in the eyes and asked me, "What's going on? You don't look good." In tears I told her about my suffering. She said, "Aracely, when I left home today I asked God to guide me to two people who would need this image. I think that you are one of them." She gave me a holy card of the Virgin of Zapopan (from Jalisco, Mexico), a pregnant Virgin of the Expectation. This was astonishing to me since I had challenged God and his response was surprising. It was then that my negative thoughts and my suffering began to abate. Thanks to that holy card of the Virgin of Zapopan I began to become closer to God in prayer.

One morning after his exam the doctor told me that Fernando was beginning to respond. He was moved to the intermediate unit and the following day to a regular room. He was discharged a week later though in a deplorable state. He had lost 33 pounds; he could do nothing for himself and needed to be cared for like a baby. Now began a new stage of suffering for my family. I was very saddened by my husband's condition and felt again that God wasn't listening to me. I felt I was being punished for something. I felt a great solitude like never before and at sea with children to care for and expenses to cover. My suffering increased even more when I discovered that Fernando's

family was not going to help at all. This was when I asked God, "What am I going to do? I don't have a job. My husband's family won't help. I don't want my children to have to leave school because we can't pay. I can only count on the support of my mother and brother." That was when some "heavenly angels," as I call them, arrived to help us with my husband's therapies. They are friends and acquaintances of my husband and mine.

The months passed and then I had another big emotional crisis when I questioned God again. I said to Him, "If you are really here at my side, sent me a white rose as a sign. Then I will know that You are with me and everything is going to be OK." Three months later a lady gave me a white rose along with a parish information sheet. It was very important for me and my children because I saw that God had really responded to my prayer. At the same time, I felt unworthy to receive this response because I had challenged and questioned Him before. I had many conflicting emotions but had hope that everything was going to get better.

Fernando began to recover and to walk little by little. Then he began to speak words and short sentences. He continued with his therapy and treatments but I, despite seeing his improvement, kept thinking how he, having been so healthy, had been reduced so suddenly to such a terrible state. I had another emotional crisis and felt abandoned by God again. I questioned Him again, and again asked pardon. I asked for another sign as an answer to my prayers. I asked Him to send me a rosary.

Some months later I met the Missionary Sister Servants of the Poor. We talked about my situation and they spoke to me of the Word of God. This chat was very spiritually comforting for me. When I was saying goodbye one of the sisters said she had forgotten to give me something and, to my surprise, she produced two rosaries, one for me and one for my husband. Once more, the Lord had answered my prayer. I thought I was going to faint and began to cry. The sisters didn't understand my reaction and asked what was going on. I told them about my answered prayer. At that moment I was convinced that God does exist, and He is alive, He just does things according to His own schedule, not ours. I learned that He works in a very mysterious but glorious way.

Today my husband Fernando's speech has improved and he is able to take care of himself for the most part and, although he has not been able to resume his work, he continues with therapy hoping to be able to someday play the accordion as he did before. The sisters continue to encourage us which has been like a gift from God for us.

By my testimony I want to tell you that, however difficult the situation is, don't lose faith because God always answers your prayers, though in a mysterious way. He always hears us. Thank you. God bless you.

*The Missionary Sister Servants of the Poor in Guadalajara, Mexico continue to visit Fernando's family to encourage them and give them hope in his daily struggle to recover his health.*



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# CHRONICLE

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## MOTHER HOUSE

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 quarantine in Peru, the Sisters have stopped their pastoral work in the villages, school, dining room and oratory, but their work in the Saint Teresa of Jesus Home continues. For example, they have taken care of immigrant mothers from Venezuela who came asking for food for their families; poor people who only have temporary work and not enough money to feed their families; mothers of sick children with no money to take them to the hospital; expectant mothers about to give birth who didn't have clothes for their babies; people phoning to assure us of their prayers and support; people frightened, anxious and suffering seeing their friends and relatives sick with the coronavirus. We have tried to support

them in their need and fill them with consolation, strength, and trust which faith in God gives during these trials.

But this work wouldn't have been possible without the help of people, including those from the country, who brought food, vegetables, and other necessities, and without the help of the benefactors who trusted that everything donated would be for the benefit of people who really need it. To everyone who continues to help us despite having their budgets tighten also and to those who have assured us of their prayers, the Sisters thank you with all their hearts. God reward the generosity and support of everyone during such a difficult time for so many poor families.



*Children of the Saint Teresa of Jesus Home cared for by the Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters in Cuzco, Peru.*

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## MISSION OF THE SISTERS IN PUNACANCHA



*Missionary Sister Servants of the Poor giving catechesis to the parents of students from St. María Goretti.*

The announcing of the Kingdom of God did not cease in Punacancha because of the Covid-19 virus. It is God Himself Who brings about new ways of extending His Kingdom and including everyone who listens to Him and is open to His love. How we wish that all mankind would accept His Kingdom to which everyone is called!

During this pandemic, so as not to spread the virus, celebration of Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and our evangelizing activities were suspended. However, our mission continues though in a different form.

The way we continued our mission was to call people on their cell phones as most people have at least a basic one. In this way we supported families in the different

missions, inviting them to attend Mass online and encouraging them to receive our Lord spiritually and praying the family rosary.

The Holy Rosary was prayed over the speaker so that everyone could be united in prayer putting themselves under the protection of Mary Most Holy and at the same time interceding for all mankind.

Jesus of Mercy Aid Station: So that children could continue with their catechesis at home with the help of their parents, the Sisters put together packets of catechetical activities and Bible workbooks as well as videos of the lives of the Saints and Catholic songs.

We also continued helping the elderly with food.

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## SISTERS' MISSION IN ILO

At the mission in the port of Ilo, the Sisters suspended the Saint Martin de Porres Kindergarten but support the families of the children in a different way providing them with bags of groceries provided by benefactors. We brought food to the elderly in their homes. All this was thanks to Providence, Who doesn't forget the most needy.

We renovated the kindergarten inside and out, painting the wall, doors, chairs and benches and making them nicer so that when the children return, they will be happy and know how important they are to God and the Sisters.

## SISTERS' MISSION IN GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

The Sisters in Guadalajara suspended the activities in the oratory and missions respecting the measures established by the authorities to prevent the spreading of Covid-19, but this didn't stop our missionary commitment. As Saint Paul says, "Rejoice always, pray constantly, in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thes. 5:16-18). We intensified our prayer and community life so we might take up our activities with renewed strength and joy.

It was difficult for many people to remain calm during this quarantine. In emergencies, the Sisters had to help some single mothers as well as families enduring terminal illness or extreme poverty.

In La Loma, one of the poorest ranches in the parish, most parents had temporary work in downtown Guadalajara but because of the pandemic, many of them

lost their jobs and were in dire straits. The Sisters provided them with food which Providence sent to them.



*MSP Sisters distributing food to poor families in one of the barrios of Guadalajara, Mexico.*

## MISSIONARY SISTERS SERVANTS OF THE POOR



*The traditional veil worn by our sisters is a sign of their total consecration to Christ, and of reparation for the sins of the world.*

(More information on page 18)

# Lay people

## Most important help for missionaries

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
 during all of \_\_\_\_\_, commit myself to remain united to you in order to give thanks to God for this new charism of the Church given to the Missionary Servants of the Poor.

My participation will be as follows:

Form of offering	Frequency				
	Daily	Weekly	Fortnightly	Monthly	Other
Holy Mass					
Eucharistic Adoration					
Holy Rosary					

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*“The living Word of God needs to be preached with passion and joy through Christian witness so as to break down even the highest walls that isolate and exclude. It is time for you, men and women engaged in the world of culture, politics, industry...by your way of life, may you be able to bring the novelty and joy of the Gospel wherever you are.”*

(Pope Francis. Message to the President of the Spanish Episcopal Conference) on the Occasion of the National Congress of the Laity. February 2020)

This Spiritual Offering may be sent to our address in Cuzco, Peru. There it will be placed at the feet of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the chapel "Holy Mary Mother of the Poor", in the City of the Boys (Andahuaylillas, Cuzco - Peru).



## EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

SEPTEMBER 14

*Fr. Paolo Giandinoto, msp (Italian)*

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross commemorates the discovery of the Cross of the Lord. It was Saint Helena (c. 250-330), mother of the Roman emperor Constantine (c. 272-337), a Christian convert, who set out to find it. In one of the reports that comes down to us it is told that after investigations they discovered that the Lord's Cross had been buried with the crosses of the two thieves by the opponents of Christianity. Digging at the site indicated, they found the three crosses. It was September 14, 320.

To determine which one was the Cross of Christ, Bishop Demetrius suggested placing the body of a dead Christian on each of the crosses. The dead woman came back to life when placed on the third cross.

The holy relic (known as the "True Cross") was kept at the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher built by Saint Helena and her son, Constantine. But in the year 614, the king of Persia conquered Jerusalem and took the Holy Cross as a trophy. Later, the Emperor Heraclius defeated the Persians and took the Holy Cross to Constantinople and it was later transferred to Jerusalem on September 14, 628.

Tradition says that Heraclius, dressed in all his imperial insignia and regalia, wanted to carry the Holy Cross to Calvary with all solemnity, but the procession was unable to advance. Then Zachariah, the Bishop of Jerusalem, told him that the

splendor of his dress contrasted with the humility and pain Christ suffered on His way to Calvary. Then Heraclius took off all his vestments and donned a simple tunic and walked barefoot with the Cross to the summit of Golgotha.

To avoid another loss of the Cross, it was divided into four parts. Three of these were preserved in Jerusalem, Rome, and Constantinople. The fourth part was divided into splinters and sent out to churches around the world.

This feast invites us to love the Cross which was the instrument of our salvation. We must lovingly embrace it when it appears in our life as Christ loved and embraced it for our salvation, knowing that our pain, when united with that of the divine Redeemer, becomes a means of union with God and the salvation of souls. The Missionary Servants of the Poor celebrate this feast with great devotion with a day of fasting and Eucharistic Adoration. And every day we pray this beautiful prayer at the foot of the Cross: "I adore you, Holy Cross, adornment of my Savior; I adore you, Holy Cross, on which Jesus died for me; I adore you, Holy Cross, by which comes my resurrection."

May the Most Holy Virgin teach us to remain steadfastly at the foot of the Cross with the confidence of knowing "that the sufferings of the present time can't compare with the glory that will be revealed in us" (Rom 8:18).



*Thanks to your  
help, one more  
child can be fed  
in our houses of  
Cusco, Perú*

*Thank you for all that you do*



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# How can I help the poor?



- By making yourself an echo of the cry of the poorest, by sharing this newsletter and all of our material (which you can request for free) with your friends and family. You can also organise missionary retreats which our missionaries can lead.
- Offer your sacrifices and prayers, together with faithfulness to the Gospel and the Pope, so that every Missionary Servant of the Poor can be a living witness for Jesus in the midst of the poor.
- Sending us your Mass intentions
- Coordinating a specific project with us or supporting projects that we carry out daily.
- By remembering us in your will and leaving a legacy to the Missionary Servants of the Poor.

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By way of one-off or regular donations  
(monthly, bimonthly, quarterly, annually, direct debits, etc ...)

**Our bank details in the UK: Bank name: Co-operative Bank**  
**Account name: Missionary Servants of the Poor TW**  
**Sort Code: 08 92 99 Account No: 65441594**  
**(Registered UK Charity number: 1134707)**

**With your help, one more child  
will be fed in our centres in Cuzco, Peru.**

# We Invite You to Share our Missionary Work in Peru as...

**Young laywomen** who wish to give all their love to abandoned children, to stretch out their arms, like Mary, to the Child Jesus Who is present in these children.

**Young laymen** who wish to give their hearts to Christ, to give their talents and skills, whatever they may be, to the service of the Divine Master, so His work can be realised in all human circumstances.

**Priests and seminarians** to take the Body and Blood of the Redeemer to the most remote and abandoned sites of the Andean Cordillera, and to announce the message of love and salvation of Christ Crucified and Risen.

**Full-time contemplatives**, gathered together to live an austere life in a cloistered community, to give glory to God, to intercede for all the members of the Church along with Mary, our mother, and to make reparation for the sins of mankind.

**Married couples** who wish to open their families to the poorest, as a small domestic church that is transformed into a shelter of love shared with those who suffer.

**Young people** who are searching and who, during a year of experience in the poor countries, are inclined to discern with an open heart, and are willing to listen to what mission the Lord is calling them.

Full-time contemplative:

Seminarian

Priest

Consecrated layman

Consecrated laywoman

Consecrated married couple

Oblate

Associate member or collaborator

Name .....

Street .....

City ..... State .....

Postal Code ..... Country .....

Telephone ..... Occupation .....

Age ..... Level of Education .....

Email .....

Seminarians, please mail  
your request to:

House of Formation  
Holy Mary Mother of the Poor  
Carretera Mazarambroz S/N  
45110 Ajofrín (Toledo)  
Spain  
seminario.msp@gmail.com

All others, please send this form to the  
following address:

Missionary Servants of the Poor TW  
10 Chicheley Gardens  
Harrow HA3 6QH  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44-(0)750-042-1991  
msptw.uk@gmail.com

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# FROM THE WORLD

## THE MISSIONARY IS A MENDICANT WHO NEEDS BROTHERS AND SISTERS

*(Excerpt from a Homily of Pope Francis in Bangkok, Thailand, November 21, 2019)*

The missionary is “a mendicant who recognizes that he needs his brothers, sisters, and mothers” says Pope Francis during the celebration of Mass in Bangkok on November 21, 2019, Feast of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary.

Meditating on the words of Jesus in the

### EXCERPT FROM A HOMILY OF POPE FRANCIS

“Such was the case with the missionaries who first set foot in these lands. By hearing the Lord’s word and responding to its demands, they came to realize that they were part of a family much larger than any based on blood lines, cultures, regions or ethnic groups. Impelled by the power of the Spirit, their bags filled with the hope brought by the good news of the Gospel, they set out in search of family members they did not yet know... Not only to share with them everything that they themselves could offer, but also to receive what they needed to grow in their own faith and understanding of the Scriptures.

“A missionary disciple is not a mercenary of the faith or a producer of proselytes, but rather a humble mendicant who feels the absence of brothers, sisters and mothers with whom to share the irrevocable gift of reconciliation that Jesus grants to all. ‘Behold I have made ready my dinner; go therefore to the streets and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find’ (cf. Mt 22:4.9). For us, this invitation is a source of joy, gratitude and immense happiness, for it enables us to “let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being. Here we find the source and inspiration of all

Gospel, “Who is my mother and who are my brothers?” (Mt 12:48), the Holy Father affirms that “the loving design of the Father” is “much greater than all our calculations and provisions and can’t be reduced to a handful of persons or a determined cultural context.”

our efforts at evangelization.

“All of us become missionary disciples when we choose to be a living part of the Lord’s family. We do this by sharing with others as he did. He ate with sinners, assuring them that they too had a place at the Father’s table and the table of this world; he touched those considered to be unclean and, by letting himself be touched by them, he helped them to realize the closeness of God and to understand that they were blessed.

“Dear communities..., let us continue to go forward in the footsteps of the first missionaries, in order to encounter, discover and recognize with joy the faces of all those mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, whom the Lord wants to give us and who are absent from our Sunday table.”



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# Missionary Servants of The Poor

## THE FARM AT THE CITY OF BOYS IN ANDAHUAYLILLAS

*Fr. Agustin Delouvroy, msp (Belgian)*



The farm at the City of Boys exists to provide food for the beneficiaries of our work. Every day the Missionary Servants of the Poor feed more than a thousand people:

**The children cared for each day** in all the Movement's centers: 600 children in our schools, 50 sick and handicapped children in our Saint Teresa of Jesus Home who can't attend school because of their illness or disability, and about 250 children throughout the permanent missions our Sisters staff and the weekly missions of our Sisters and Priests and Brothers in the mountains around Cuzco.

**The salaried personnel** who work on the different projects carried out for the benefit of our children in our schools, workshops, farm, and orphanage. All these persons, about 180, receive a free meal during their workday.

**The consecrated members of the Movement** who work and live in our centers and number about 80.

Our farm is a model of agricultural entrepreneurship and also benefits the

villages around the City of Boys and, another very important aspect, serves to keep the boys in the City entertained and busy.

The City of Boys covers more than 74 acres with another 50 planted in crops. Since 2007, when the City of Boys was founded, we have progressively increased our agricultural activities and it now includes raising cows, sheep, and pigs so we may become self-sufficient in food production, particularly milk and meat. Feeding more than a thousand people a day requires effective production, supply, storage, and distribution logistics.

Our current level of production is considerable and is the fruit of a good degree of autonomy and reasonably sized undertaking which avoids overruns in operation and maintenance costs.

Our cattle-raising allows us to cover the following needs:

**Complete self-sufficiency in milk production** (about 350 liters a day) and its transformation into milk, yogurt, and cheese for current consumption in all our centers.

**50% of the meat required for feeding our children.** They all receive at least a little meat daily and fish on Friday.

**Our operation involves mostly manual, non-mechanized labor:** harvesting potatoes and corn, planting vegetables, harvesting forage, feeding the animals, cleaning the stables. This allows us to employ poor people who live near us.

**Our current cattle-raising situation:** Stables for cows (with sections for birthing, newborns, and calves), stables

for hogs, another for sheep, a milking room, and a dairy that produces yogurt and cheese and is equipped with a refrigerated room.

**Future goals for the farm:** To maintain the current level of operation and production while at the same time make small investments to achieve a better

output of the new facilities, to be able to better mechanize the farm to increase its cost effectiveness.

By “**cost effectiveness**” we do not mean that we intend to turn a profit by it. We don’t sell any produce from the farm. All of it is destined for the poor we care for. If the production exceeds our needs, we donate the extra to other charities in Cuzco. This is why we always need help with our farm. All the operational costs are assured thanks to your generosity. However, it’s not a project that depends on being profitable. Its profitability is its ability to nourish a great number of poor children through good nutrition (a high level of anemia and malnutrition is found in the Andes which has disastrous consequences for children), it gives jobs to families near us, offers a good example of how to run an agricultural operation and, above all, supports the education of the children that God has entrusted

*Crops at the City of Boys that supplement the nutrition of all the children, employees, and Missionary Servants of the Poor*



to us. Our farm constitutes a real investment in the future which can do nothing but bear abundant fruit for the poor of Peru.

This is why we need to be able to count on donations year after year to perpetuate this project. The funding of the salaries for employees is the most difficult undertaking. The contributions and faithfulness of the donors who help us constantly are decisive and we warmly thank them!

We would also like to thank with all our hearts the Saint Devota Foundation of Monaco which has helped us for several years with this project. We hope that they will be able to continue to help us.

During these last years, their help has allowed us to improve some facilities on the farm, particularly the sheep barn in 2018, and also to acquire equipment like a generator, plus helping with human resources required for this project and the feed cost for raising cattle. We greet everyone who supports the Saint Devota Foundation and who help it daily, assuring them of our prayers and those of the children.

*Digging potatoes at the City of Boys in Andahuaylillas, Cuzco, Peru.*



## *S.O.S. to young people*



*“In the meantime, many attractively packaged offers will come your way. They may seem appealing and exciting, although in time they will only leave you feeling empty, weary and alone. Don’t let this happen to you, because the maelstrom of this world can drive you to take a route without real meaning, without direction, without clear goals, and thus thwart many of your efforts. It is better to seek out that calm and quiet that enable you to reflect, pray, look more clearly at the world around you, and then, with Jesus, come to recognize the vocation that is yours in this world.*

*(Pope Francis. Apostolic Exhortation Christus vivit, no. 277)*



*With the Missionary Servants of the Poor, you can achieve this ideal – through a life of deep prayer and generous self-giving to so many brothers who suffer all types of marginalisation.*

# Holy mary mother of the poor house of formation



*"Serve God, be good and do everything with joy, with constancy, with humility. Don't try to learn a job but carry Christ in your heart so you can offer Him to others unreservedly, especially to those who most need Him."*

(Pope Francis. Reply to a letter from Cuban seminarians, April 2014)

"Here I am, Lord, I come to do your will" (Psalm 39)  
If you want to be a Missionary, here there is a place for you!

Why not?



## Summer Camp for Young Men

Ajofrín-Toledo (Spain)

From 1 to 21 August 2020

email: [casaformacionajofrin@gmail.com](mailto:casaformacionajofrin@gmail.com)

Deadline for inscriptions:

31 May 2020

Contact us for further information

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# In Praise of Contemplatives

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Would you like to join our Contemplative Servants of the Poor who dedicate most of their day to prayer and Eucharistic adoration, and who also dedicate numerous hours to manual Labour in order to help the poor?

*You have chosen, or more exactly, Christ has chosen you, to live His Easter Mystery with Him in time and space. May all that you are, everything you do each day, be it the Office recited or sung, the celebration of the Eucharist, the work done in your cell or in community, respect for the cloister and silence, the voluntary or imposed mortification of the rule, be taken on, sanctified, and used by Christ for the world's redemption.*



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Like Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, you too can offer your contemplative life to God to benefit the neediest.

I, .....

from the Monastery of: .....

Address: .....

City: .....

Country: .....

commit myself to live the obedience and poverty of my surrender to God in my monastery for the Missionary Servants of the Poor, so that the Kingdom of God may come to the poorest.

Date

Signature

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# TESTIMONY OF ELISÁNGELA AND ALEJANDRO

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*Laudetur Iesus Christus!*

My name is Elisángela. I was born in Sao Paul, Brazil, but live in England with my husband Alejandro who is from Lima, Peru. On August 15, 2019, the Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, we officially celebrated our vows as Oblates in the Movement of the Missionary Servants of the Poor in the hands of Father Alvaro Gomez and in union with all the beautiful missionary families at the Nazareth Village in Andahuaylillas, Cuzco. It was a very special moment in our lives. We feel the joy and peace that only God can give us and also the firm assurance that we are where we are supposed to be.

Our testimony of conversion (or path to conversion as I prefer to call it) is a path that God has laid out and we continue to follow. Though we

occasionally wandered, by the grace of God we always returned and we will continue with His grace until we arrive at our destination, eternity with Him. A priest once told me that we should always have Heaven as our goal so that if we miss our goal we at least have Purgatory to catch us. I think this was good advice.

**Elisángela:** I was raised in a Catholic family. My father didn't always go with us to Mass on Sunday but my mother always did and it was she who guided me on the path to God. I always liked my Catholic religion. After two years of catechism I received my First Holy Communion and then I became an aide to the catechism teacher. I loved to participate in the youth groups and for some years I thought of becoming a religious but unfortunately didn't have the chance to enter any community. As an adult, studies, work, and friends suddenly became new priorities and, without realizing it, I began to neglect my spiritual life a little. At this time, I was living in London trying to improve my English and my job opportunities.

**Alejandro:** I come from a big Catholic family of eight children. My father had been a seminarian with the Jesuits but changed his vocation after meeting my mother. I feel blessed to have been

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raised in a Catholic family. As a young man, unhappy with the lack of security and economic opportunity in my country, I in London.

unhappy with the lack of security and economic opportunity in my country, I in London. decided to travel to see the world for myself. I left the university and my job to begin again in London.

**Elisángela:** I travelled to London with a friend from my English class who had already been there and had arranged a job as a nanny with an English family with three small children and a dog. All went well and I had plans to stay for only six months. On my first day free, I decided to pay a surprise visit to my friend in downtown London. When I arrived at the student housing, a very well-mannered guy opened the door and told me to wait in the waiting room. But since my friend didn't come, we got talking and, finally, we went together to the supermarket to buy something to make lunch. We still didn't know each other but this was the beginning of a beautiful friendship. Later, when I attended the university, we finished our studies at the same time. About four years after our first meeting, we married.

**Alejandro:** Life in London was difficult for me. I struggled daily with the culture, the language, and the different religious ideas. Everything was completely different from what I was accustomed to. I later returned to school and was able to get a job in my profession. But during those years of discernment I was

very lonely. Despite work, studies, and many friends, I sensed something was missing. Maybe I was wanting to start a Catholic family like I had in Peru. I wasn't sure what God wanted of me. My prayers were to do the will of God. And God, at the moment He chose (which is always perfect) sent Elisa to my door...

**Elisángela:** Our Holy Mother Mary has always been present in our marriage, which we consecrated to her on May 13 in the Basilica of Mary Help of Christians in Lima. Since then she has always helped us during good times and bad. Our Mother Mary is a faithful mother, well-chosen by our heavenly Father. God has also blessed us with two gifts from heaven, our children Angela and Lucas. With them He has strengthened us spiritually to continue on the path to holiness which we often strayed from when young. And, like the merciful Father that He is, not only healed our hearts but has also given us everything necessary on our path of conversion, because He knows us better than we know ourselves!

**Alejandro:** When I told my father that I had found a wife, his first question was, "Is she Catholic?" I now understand better and am thankful how God has always taken care of, guided, and protected me from the evil in the world despite all the mistakes I've committed in my life. All I can say is, "Thank you, my merciful God!"

**Elisángela and Alejandro:** Our children were growing up and for two years we tried to start a youth group in

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our parish but, as hard as we tried, all the doors were closed. We began to think that this wasn't in God's plan. Then in 2014, Elisángela met Father Giuseppe and the mission met Father Giuseppe and the mission of the Movement during a silent spiritual retreat in London. It was a light in the darkness. I remember saying to Alejandro when I got home, "I have met a holy priest." I invited Father Giuseppe home to meet my family. He was like a gift from God to help us begin our youth group called "HOLY" (Hope for Our Lady's Youth). We started on November 13, 2014, with eight young people (two of them our own children). Father Giuseppe told us HOLY sounded like a beautiful apostolate. Since then we have met on the 13th of each month in honor of the Virgin of Fatima. We pray the rosary with its litanies, read the scripture readings for the day, and then watch a film or documentary about God or the Faith, we have a snack, and then share what we have learned.

Father Giuseppe celebrated Holy Mass on the first and second anniversaries of HOLY in 2015 and 2016. Most of the kids are about to go on to university so we have decided to invite new kids, a new "lot" for the Lord. We are going to invite the young friends of our children, the kids in catechism classes, and also the young people at the chapel at the airport. We will continue praying that other families open their doors to these youths and in this way share their Catholic faith. The young people can sometimes seem unreachable, but it

isn't their fault. They are very alone and confused in this world.

We commend them all to your prayers and also the HOLY youth group. We pray that God may help us as a family so that we may always be open and obedient to His holy will in our lives and in the lives of those we meet.

**How we became Oblates:** Father Giuseppe spoke to us about a "Family Camp" that the Missionary Servants of the Poor conduct in Italy. Last year he put us in contact with Father Walter and we had the chance to spend a beautiful summer with several of these families. During this "Camp" we learned how we could help the mission as Oblates. The Lord touched our hearts there. We asked Father Walter if he would contact Father Alvaro so that he could officially bless and seal our vows. As always, God's timing was perfect. We are convinced that He has everything prepared. Our son Lucas went to Ajofrin, Toledo, Spain for the Young Men's Camp with some other young men from the HOLY youth group and our daughter Angela went to the Girls Camp in Cuzco which was a perfect time for us to visit the mission in Andahuaylillas, Cuzco, Peru, and make our commitment official as Oblates of the Missionary Servants of the Poor.

The time spent with the missionary families in the Nazareth Village in Andahuaylillas was a marvelous time which we will always carry in our hearts. No words can describe how touched and honored we feel. These

married couples all full of the work of the Holy Spirit, shared their testimonies with us. Each of the families (Alvarez, Bakonyi, and Csabo) showed us every part of the mission and how they daily care for the poor with much love and respect. During our celebration on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption, with Father Alvaro and all the missionary families, we felt euphoric and surrounded by living saints.

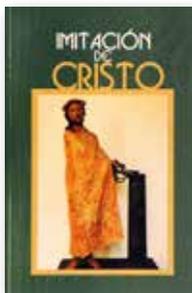
My dear God and dear Holy Mother Mary, thank you for this gift of making us a part of the Missionary Servants of the Poor as Oblates! Help us to serve the mission well so as to serve the poor. We especially ask you to continue to pour

out your blessings on Father Giovanni, Father Alvaro, and all the priests, brothers, sisters, missionary families, benefactors, and collaborators so that they may continue with this beautiful work of love. In Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



*Crops at the City of Boys that supplement the nutrition of all the children, employees, and Missionary Servants of the Poor*

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

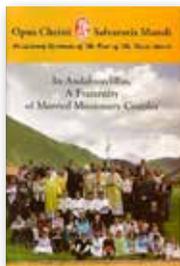
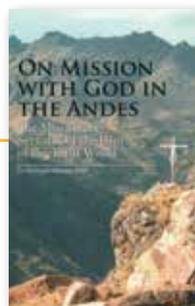


## The Imitation of Christ:

New translation of the spiritual rule of the Missionary Servants of the Poor. (available only in Spanish and Italian)

## On Mission with God in the Andes:

This book presents Father Giovanni Salerno's anecdotes and personal reflections on his missionary experience in the Andes.

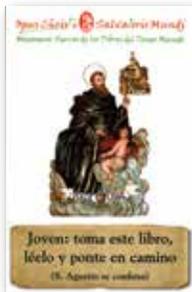
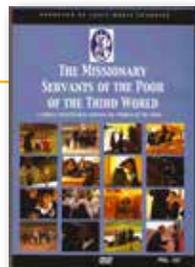


## Missionary Couples:

This booklet tells about the Fraternity of Missionary Couples of our movement, who serve the poor as entire families.

## Missionary Servants of the Poor:

Catholic missionaries serving the poorest of the poor. A 55minute DVD presenting the charisms of the Movement and its different communities.

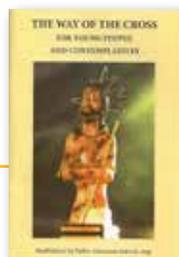


## The Confessions of St. Augustine:

Dear young people, Saint Augustine tells you frankly about his life so that you can discover with him how beautiful the gift of your life is. (available only in Spanish and Italian)

## The Way of the Cross for Young People and Contemplatives:

Fr Giovanni Salerno meditates on the sorrowful Path looking on the Indios for whom he gave-up his life.



If you are interested in receiving a free copy of any of these materials, please mail your requests to:

Missionary Servants of the Poor TW, 1Willow Dene, Pinner HA5 3LT  
(Registered Charity No. 1134707)  
Email: [msptw.uk@gmail.com](mailto:msptw.uk@gmail.com)

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# “Oremus”

## To the Benefactors of the Missionaries

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**Benefactors** of the Missionaries, God loves you!  
Support missionaries in their important mission!

**Benefactors** of the Missionaries, you are also missionaries!  
Your mission is noble!

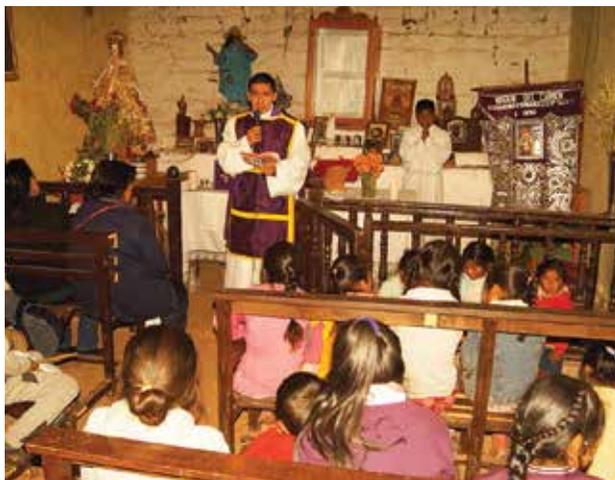
**Benefactors** of the Missionaries, your mission is essential!  
Blessed are you!

**Benefactors** of the Missionaries, your reward will be great in Heaven!  
You are the hand of God!

**Benefactors** of the Missionaries, you are the treasure of the poor!  
You have the Spirit of Christ!

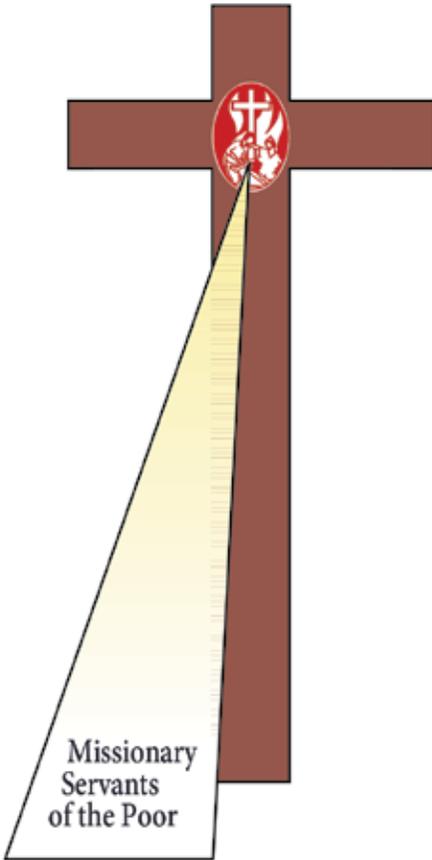
**Benefactors** of the Missionaries, your charity will save you!  
God will be your reward!

(Rosalie Sanon, SAB)



*Crops at the City of  
Boys that supplement  
the nutrition of all the  
children, employees,  
and Missionary  
Servants of the Poor*

# OPUS CHRISTI SALVATORIS MUNDI



## MISSIONARY SERVANTS OF THE POOR

What is meant by this, is different missionary realities (Priests and consecrated brothers, religious (male and female), missionary families, priests and brothers especially dedicated to the life of prayer and contemplation, associates, oblates, collaborators, support groups) who share the same charism and work under the same founder.

## OPUS CHRISTI SALVATORIS MUNDI

Formed by those members of the Missionary Servants of the Poor, who are called to follow a more profound way of consecration, with the characteristics of community life and the profession of the Evangelical Counsels according to their condition. To be canonically recognized as two religious institutes: one for the male branch of the Priests and Brothers, and one for the female branch of the Sisters.

## SUPPORT GROUPS OF THE MOVEMENT

They aim to deepen and spread our charism, working for the conversion of each and every one of our members, through the organisation of periodic gatherings. These members are considered ASSOCIATES.

## OBLATES

The sick, old and imprisoned, who offer their sufferings for the Poor, and for those who have welcomed and endorsed the charism of the Missionary Servants of the Poor, in their lives.

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Friends of the Missionary Servants of the Poor TW  
5800 W. Monastery Rd. Hulbert, OK 74441

*This Newsletter and all the material that we publish are completely free and always available to everyone thanks to the generosity of benefactors who believe in our charism and in this way collaborate in extending the Kingdom of God.*

*For this reason, do not hesitate to ask us to send you our publications so that other people can learn of the charism of the Missionary Servants of the Poor.*