



Winter 2019

Good Stewards

United in faith, we bring the Reign of the Sacred Heart to the world

Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Thanks to YOU | 1 |
| Fr. Dominic's Message..... | 2 |
| Building One Home at a Time..... | 2-3 |
| Fr. Paul Kelly, SCJ..... | 3 |
| A Giving Heart | 4 |



Vi says, "Thank you!"
You are helping children like Vi receive the education they deserve

Huynh Thi Thao Vi (Vi) is a beautiful 10 year old second grader with an impish grin. And thanks to your generous gifts, she and over 300 other children can attend the Huong Tam School in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam operated by the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

for Vi because of the cost of tuition, books, school uniforms and backpack. Thankfully, because of you, she can attend the Huong Tam School where there is no charge for these items.

Your gift to the Priests of the Sacred Heart makes an education possible for children like Vi.

THANK YOU!

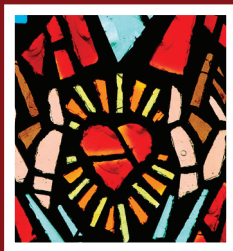


“ Because of friends like you, Vi and the children will receive an education to help them succeed. ”

Vi's parents have both passed away and she now lives with her uncle and grandmother. Her grandmother, the sole supporter, works in a local charcoal factory.

Life is not easy for Vi. She walks two miles to and from school each day, returns home to help clean the house and wash dishes.

Going to a public school was not an option



Extend your generosity beyond your lifetime.

When naming charitable beneficiaries in your financial plans, make certain your attorney uses the correct legal name of the intended recipients in order to avoid confusion and unnecessary delays.

**Our legal name is:
Priests of the Sacred Heart
Sacred Heart Monastery
PO Box 367
Hales Corners, WI 53130**

Tax ID: 39-0836352



The Light of Christ

I know it’s still winter – but believe it or not, even though it might not be that noticeable, there’s more light now than there was just a few weeks ago.

The same can be said about our spiritual growth. Surely, we know that our knowledge of God right now is much stronger than it was when we were children. But can we fathom how much we’ve grown since Christmas? How much more spiritual light do we have?

During these weeks of grace, let the Light of Christ fill you with a light that shines outwardly for all the world to see.

Fr. Dominick DeJ

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Building One Home at a Time

Ecuador is a special country to the Dehonians as it was the site of our first foreign mission (established in 1887) and the first country to be consecrated to the Sacred Heart. Today we operate two parishes, sixteen chapels and a school for disabled children.

For many years, the city of Bahía de Caráquez Ecuador was a tranquil spot to live. That all changed on April 26, 2016 when a massive earthquake devastated the area. Measuring 7.8 on the Richter Scale, it was rated a “major” earthquake in an area where no earthquake activity had occurred in two decades. Unfortunately, this was the first earthquake of many to follow.

Sagrado Corazón Church, a SCJ parish, sustained cracked walls making it unsafe for Mass, but it became a staging and storage area for relief supplies including bottled water, blankets, cooking oil, diapers, mattresses and bags of cement. The plaza in front of another church, Our Lady of Merced, became a tent city.

Even though our buildings were damaged they were still standing and our priests and brothers immediately sprang into action. Fr. Bruno Roque dos Santos, SCJ is the superior of the religious community and pastor. He loaded up a truck of supplies and personally delivered them to people who were unable to come to the church. Although the first earthquake struck over two years ago, an additional truck to deliver supplies and transport disabled parishioners is needed at an estimated cost of \$10,000.

Because of the generosity of our supporters, we are helping rebuild the city, one home at a time. The new homes are earthquake resistant and have withstood



A tent is going up on the plaza of Our Lady of Merced.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

subsequent earthquakes. The cost for constructing a new home is around \$3,000.

The city will never be the same. It is estimated that over a thousand people lost their lives in Manabí province, but the exact number will never be known. But, the spirit and the faith of the people of Bahía de Caráquez remains strong. It will take many years for the area to fully recover, but with the help of our donors, they are starting to thrive again.

Visit our website to view a video of the work that has begun. Or contact Pam at 1-866-268-0157 or by email at pmilczarski@poshusa.org for details on how you can help.



“ Because of the generosity of our supporters, we are helping rebuild the city, one home at a time. ”

Long-time Spiritual Director, Fr. Paul Kelly, dies



After a lengthy illness, Fr. Paul Kelly, SCJ, died October 26, surrounded by members of his community at Sacred Heart at Monastery Lake in Franklin, WI. He was 68.

Originally from Carbondale, PA, Fr. Paul was 18 when he became a candidate with the community. He professed first vows in 1970 and was ordained in 1977.

Fr. Paul served in parish ministry at St. Matthew's in Houston and Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (now St. Martin of Tours) in Franklin, WI, as well as on the Cheyenne River Pastoral Team in South Dakota. He was also spiritual director of the Province Development Office, the public face of the Priests of the Sacred Heart for many people in the United States for over 10 years.

One of the last written pieces that Fr. Paul did was for the Province Vocation Office's

2017 Advent reflection booklet on hope.

“Hope is so necessary for living life more fully,” he began. “It seems to me that these times of ours test our hope in so many significant ways. Natural disasters seem to be so frequent. Tensions between nations seem to be escalating. Climate change and diseases appear to be adding to the picture. How do we continue to hope?”

“Hope may not change disastrous realities around us, but it does change us. People with hope bring light into the darkness. Small thoughtfulness and kindness should not be dismissed. It has been my experience that the living Lord and my hope in Him continually renews my strength!”

We hope you will remember fondly Fr. Paul and all the good work he did as spiritual director for the Priests of the Sacred Heart. If you would like to honor his memory, the enclosed brochure can offer suggestions on how to do so, or you may call Pam at 1-866-268-0157 to discuss other options.

A Giving Heart

by Pam Milczarski

The first time Fr. Dominic and I met Margaret, we didn't have her phone number and had to rely on the receptionist at her apartment complex to ask if Margaret would be up for a visit. Fortunately, she said, "Yes, send them up."

We were humbled by her joy when Margaret came running out of her apartment to greet us on our way down the hallway. As Margaret shared her story, we learned the source of her joy ...

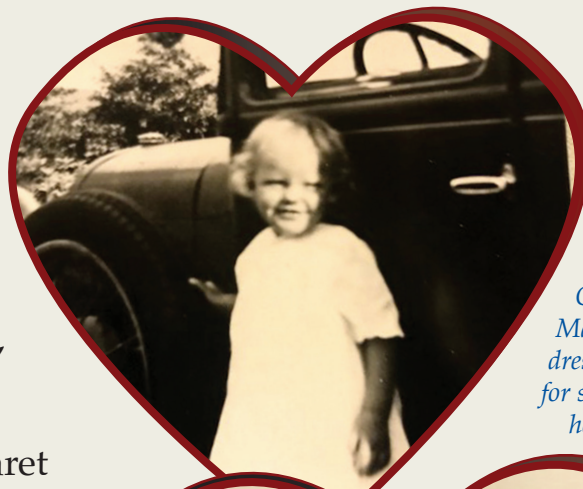
Margaret's father left the family when she was only six months old. Although her family struggled to make ends meet, Margaret never realized they were poor. "My mother, bless her heart, never made us 'feel' poor. She worked fulltime but managed to make dinner for us every night – we never wanted for more," Margaret remembered.

While Margaret had been baptized, her family didn't actively follow the Catholic faith. On Sundays Margaret would see other families pass by their house, dressed up heading to Sunday church services. One Sunday Margaret decided she, too, would like to attend church. She got dressed and waited on a nearby corner for someone to stop and take her with them.

It worked – families took turns taking her to Mass – and Margaret's love of attending Mass, her love of Jesus and the generosity of her neighbors stayed with Margaret throughout her life. So much so, that as an adult, she began taking others to Mass who weren't able to attend on their own.

The Priests of the Sacred Heart has been blessed to receive monthly gifts from Margaret through the *Heart to Heart Society*. She is a modest woman who worked as a secretary her entire career. Because of Margaret's giving heart, and others like her, we have peace of mind knowing a certain amount of support will be available each month to help fund our mission to educate children, provide clean water, prepare men for the priesthood and more.

To learn more about the convenience of giving monthly through the *Heart to Heart Society*, call 1-866-268-0157 or visit poshusa.org/how-you-can-help/heart-to-heart-society.



On Sundays Margaret would dress up and wait for someone to take her to church.



Margaret and Fr. Dominic visiting about her life journey.