

Ecuador—Construction of Clinic — \$8,930

The previous clinic was forced to shut down due to excessive violence in that area, and so the Sisters are planning to open a new location in a safer area. This clinic would be run by volunteer doctors and nurses to provide immediate medical aid to the community, since they cannot afford the state doctors or hospitals.

Ecuador— New Meeting Room — \$3,980

The majority of rooms in Holy Family School were constructed with cane and cement, but the cane has begun to deteriorate. In particular, the meeting room is in quite poor condition. This project funds the purchase of materials and cost of labor to rebuild this section of the school.

Ecuador— New Printer for School — \$2,700

The printer at Holy Family School is over ten years old and has needed constant repairs over the last few years. It can no longer keep up with the needs of the school, and so we are raising money to purchase a new one. This would be a large size printer that could handle the copying and printing of exams, homework, worksheets, etc.

India — Lockers for Students — \$2,380.58

The students at St. Mary's do not have individual lockers, which has led to some concern of disorganization and theft. The students themselves have particularly voiced these concerns, and so we are raising funds to purchase and install lockers in the school.

MAXIMIZE YOUR IMPACT!

There are several ways to give beyond traditional donations. You can double your contribution through 401(k) employer matching programs, include Help the Helpless in your will to leave a lasting legacy, or make a tax-efficient gift through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA. Each of these options helps extend your support to vulnerable children and families in need—now and for generations to come.

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helpthehelpless.org

Help the Helpless



Summer Newsletter

August 2025



A Message from Fr. Rafael Alonso



Dear Friends and Benefactors of Help the Helpless,

I write you this letter of thanksgiving on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. There is no greater love than His love for each one of us. His love is personal; it is eternal. It is stable; it is unique. Let no one doubt that he is loved by this Heart of God and true Man. He knows all our weaknesses, and therefore He knows how to have compassion on us.

Summer has already begun, and those who can afford it take a few days of vacation, traveling to other places to rest with family or friends. That is only fair and necessary. But it is important that an HTH benefactor does not give God a vacation! Summer is a "time to take advantage of time" and not to waste it. Laziness is always a source of evils for the spirit. However, when one is dedicated to doing good to others, one does not have time to criticize or to think about oneself and sink into negative thoughts.

It is necessary to know how to use well the time that God gives us. There are no seasons in which we must stop doing good to others so that we can rest. It is not like that. Take advantage of this summertime that God is giving you! I want to continue thanking you for your generosity, both personal and financial, for your donations for the missionary works that the Home of the Mother has in Ecuador. I will never tire of thanking you because your help is priceless! It is through you that so many souls have not sunk into despair. May the Heart of Jesus, Source of Eternal Life, pour out upon you his inexhaustible abundance of grace.

With my blessing for you and your families,

Fr. Rafael Alonso
President, Home of the Mother

News from **Guayaquil, Ecuador**



The Corpus Christi Procession

Dear Help the Helpless Benefactors,

We hope this letter finds you all in good health of body and soul. We pray that the Lord will bless you abundantly, and that His Sacred Heart, whose feast we are about to celebrate, will grant you all that you need and long for.

As usual, we share with you some of the things that have happened here over the past few months. At the beginning of May, we had the beginning of the new school year at Annunciation School. Thanks be to God, this year we have 7 teachers, 9 volunteers and 50 students. We have lost some students, as the violent situation has forced some families to move away from their homes. In spite of everything, this little school has been able to continue. The soup kitchens of Flor de Bastión, Socio Vivienda and Nueva Prosperina have also been able to re-open this year, with a total of 375 children across the 3 kitchens.

The inauguration of the new San Ignacio Chapel at the Nueva Prosperina soup kitchen took place recently. The faithful of this sector finally have a worthy chapel large enough to celebrate the Eucharist! We also built new houses for five families in this community that were especially struggling. Thanks to your donations, they now have a new and safe place to live.

Another activity we were able to carry out this quarter was a medical brigade for the children of the Montserrat sector, where they were tested for diabetes and anemia. Work is already underway for a medical dispensary which will provide regular medical attention to these people who have been sorely neglected. We are also setting up a more stable collaboration of volunteer doctors to administer to this community.

And finally, we share with you some news of the Corpus Christi celebration. We carried the Blessed Sacrament in procession through very poor and dirty streets, hoping that His blessing will reach these suffering hearts and ease the situation they live in. We never cease to thank the Lord who allows us to continue working for His Glory in these places.

We are very grateful and relieved to have such abundant collaboration on your part. You are in our prayers. May the Blessed Virgin Mary keep you in her maternal Heart.

Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother in Guayaquil, Ecuador

News from **St. Mary's School, India**

Dear Loving Friends and Benefactors,

Warm greetings from St. Mary's. I hope all you are doing well in the name of Jesus Christ. We want to express our profound gratitude for the unwavering love, support, and prayers you have offered to St. Mary's. Your kindness and generosity have made a significant impact, and we feel incredibly fortunate to have you as part of our community.



Morning Mass at the School

With God's grace and the invisible guidance of the late Rev. Fr. Antony Xavier, the children at St. Mary's are truly blossoming, and their radiant smiles are a testament to the love and care that surrounds them. With hearts full of joy and hopeful anticipation, we embraced the start of a new academic year on June 2. Our children embarked on an exciting new chapter of learning and growth, and our St. Mary's family welcomed new students with open arms, helping them feel at home in our nurturing environment. As they settled into their classrooms and began their studies, we could see the sparks of curiosity and enthusiasm in their eyes. The comforting rhythms of Morning Mass and structured schedules provided them with a sense of stability in their daily lives.

On June 26, we gathered to celebrate the birthday of our beloved founder, Fr. Antony Xavier. The special mass was a touching tribute, filled with heartfelt prayers and devotion. We prayed for the repose of the soul of Fr. Antony and for the well-being of the students throughout the year.

This article is continued on page three.

News from St. Mary's School, Continued



Continued from page three: A particularly heart-warming recent event was the distribution of special orthotic supportive devices—like hand splints, customized sandals, and hearing aids—for our Deaf-Mute children. These were purchased with money that you, dear supporters, raised for us. Additionally, we are so grateful for the money you raised to buy us a new mini-van to transport the students to and from school. The students expressed their heartfelt thanks to you, our generous supporters, highlighting how much your kindness has impacted them.

We are eternally grateful for the unwavering support and prayers from our generous benefactors. Your love means the world to us. Once again, we lift up all our benefactors and their loved ones in our prayers.

Thanking you in Jesus,

I. Mariaselvam
Administrator, St. Mary's School

Pictured left: students presented with new hearing aids, purchased with your donations

News from Chone, Ecuador

Dear Friends and Collaborators of Help the Helpless,

With immense joy and gratitude for your great generosity, we have started the children's soup kitchen at the new Sister Clare Crockett Missionary Center in Chone. The mission of this apostolate is not only to provide material nourishment, but also spiritual nourishment. Therefore, with the collaboration of volunteers, we prepared catechism classes, games, and school tutoring for the children. It was so exciting to see the children's faces of joy and surprise as they entered the room where we set up carefully prepared tables in a spacious and clean environment.

We welcomed them into the soup kitchen and gave each child a plate. They were seated at tables according to their age. We blessed the food for them and gave them instructions on how to behave during dinner. They watched us very attentively! After the meal, there was time for games and then catechism classes, which were again divided according to age. We began by talking about the great love God has for each of us. We showed the older children an image of Jesus on the cross and explained that Jesus died for our sins. It made a deep impression on them, and some showed it by kissing the cross. We spoke to the younger children about God's love, but with an image of the baby Jesus instead. Most of them do not have any experience with the teachings of the Faith, and so, during these first encounters, they are all filled with joy and enthusiasm for these new things! It is an immense joy to be able to teach these souls the greatness of God's love for them and to instill in them the desire to be good so they can reach Heaven. We place this mission in the hands of Our Mother and ask for prayers for the growth of spiritual fruits in these souls.

After catechism classes, they go to the classrooms for school tutoring. We find that many children do not have the educational level they should, with some of the older children not even being able to read. Therefore, our work consists of teaching them almost everything from the beginning. We can see so clearly that God is pouring Himself into every soul, not only those of the children, but also those of the volunteers who prepare the classes and give themselves generously for the love of our Lord. We hope this center will quickly become a place where the little ones can find God's love amidst all their suffering and family difficulties.

It is a joy to be able to give everything for the love of the Lord and serve Him through these little souls. May God multiply your generosity, which has made all this possible!

The Servant Sisters from Chone



Children at the Soup Kitchen



News from Playa Prieta, Ecuador

Dear Friends of Help the Helpless,

We thank you again for all the support we have received from you and remind you that we continue to offer the school Mass every Tuesday for you and your families. These past few months have been very busy. At the end of May, we had a lovely festival dedicated to the Virgin Mary. This festival began with a parade of cars decorated with different Marian decorations and a girl from each community who was dressed as a different Marian apparition. At the end of the parade we celebrated Mass in the plaza area outside the church. We think about 1,000 people attended. Afterwards, the festival began. It included juggling, a mariachi band, and raffles that helped us fund some of the event's expenses. We also had a special choir that sang a Marian cantata. Afterwards, a young couple came up to us and told us they decided to get married in the Church because it was such a beautiful event. They will start premarital courses together soon!

We also have the great news that one of the sponsored families, Gabriel and Gabriela, have just gotten married in the Church this past June! This is a great joy for us, since we want the material help that we give to many families to be a stepping stone to their spiritual growth and maturity.

As we are already in the months leading up to First Communions and Confirmations, we were asked by a neighboring parish to help with their annual Communion retreat. The priest usually asks for our help, since he oversees over 60 rural communities, and the pastoral work is impossible to carry out without help. This year, some high school students from our Holy Family School volunteered to help us. There were 250 children preparing to receive sacraments in total, so the volunteers organized the retreat in small groups, providing catechism, preparation for confession, crafts, and games. Through this mission, we were proud to see how our high schoolers stepped up to teach these children how to be good Christians and good people. The joy of Christ shown through them all, and they were excellent examples to these little ones who look up to them so much.

Finally, we must tell you about the Feast of Corpus Christi, where we hosted a special group of 17 lay people from Minnesota! They helped in the classrooms with the youngest children in our school, made Eucharistic crafts, played with them, and prepared their hearts for this holy Feast Day. We decorated the entire school for the occasion. The celebration started with Holy Mass, celebrated by one of the Servant Brothers and Fr. Aaron, who came with the missionary group. Afterward, we had a beautiful procession throughout the whole school. It was touching to see the little three-year-olds blow kisses towards our Lord and cry out, "Jesus, I love you." It was a moment of grace not only for the students, teachers, sisters, but also for the missionary group that was visiting.

We appreciate your help, collaboration, and, above all, your prayers for this community in Ecuador and for all the work that is being carried out here.

Thank you very much for everything. God bless you.
The Servant Sisters from Playa Prieta

A Special Needs Update

Dear Benefactors,

We would like to share with you an exciting update regarding one of our past special needs projects: the construction of a chapel at the St. Henry's Soup Kitchen in Ecuador. The Sisters had requested funds to build a brand new chapel attached to the soup kitchen, since there was nowhere for the local children to practice their faith in that neighborhood. Not only did Help the Helpless raise enough funds to construct the chapel, but there was also money leftover to begin work on a sacristy and a small building to house some sacred art as well as the holy belongings of the first missionary in that area of Ecuador, Fr. Ignacio Maria Moreta. Fr. Ignacio was a member of the Jesuit order, and the Sisters felt it fitting that this new chapel be dedicated to the founder of the Jesuits, St. Ignatius of Loyola.

The Chapel de San Ignacio is now in the early stages of construction, and upon its completion will host Mass, confessions, and adoration for the 60 children that eat at the soup kitchen daily. We cannot thank you enough for your generosity and selflessness in donating to this project.

God bless,
The Board of Help the Helpless



The Façade of the Chapel