



# *Missionary Fraternity of Mary* **Newsletter**

## *Projects of Infrastructure at the Seminary in Guatemala City*



Photo: Seminary of the Fraternity in Guatemala City

Through the generosity of our benefactors over the past three years we have been able to address many needed infrastructure repairs at our seminary in Guatemala City. Most of our buildings, walkways and utility infrastructure were built in the mid-1980s. Over the past 34 years we have done our best to maintain our facilities while devoting most of our financial resources to the formation of our seminarians and to the operation of our mission parishes. Three years ago it became evident that we could no longer ignore many needed repairs. As a result we prioritized a renovation plan and are happy to report that through the truly generous support of our benefactors we have been able to address the most needed of these repairs.

The Missionary Fraternity of Mary since its founding in Guatemala has always provided formation programs for young people. While our main focus is on formation of young men for ordination to the priesthood, we also provide catechetical training of children in all our mission parishes and to young men and women through our Exodos Juveniles retreat program.

Our seminary grounds in Guatemala City on a 10 acre site given to the Fraternity by the Archdiocese of Guatemala consists of administration buildings, the main chapel, classrooms and dormitories for the seminarians. It is in these dormitories, classrooms, libraries and chapels where the vocation of the Fraternity have been discerned and nurtured resulting in over 200 ordinations to the priesthood.

We are pleased to report on the completion of the following projects at our seminary.

## Reconstruction of the Moat around the Main Chapel

The moat around the main chapel relates to the spirit of Exodus and symbolically when crossing the moat into the chapel, represents passing from the worldly realm into the spiritual realm.



Rebuilding the Moat around the main Chapel

After three months of hard work, the Moat around the Chapel was repaired

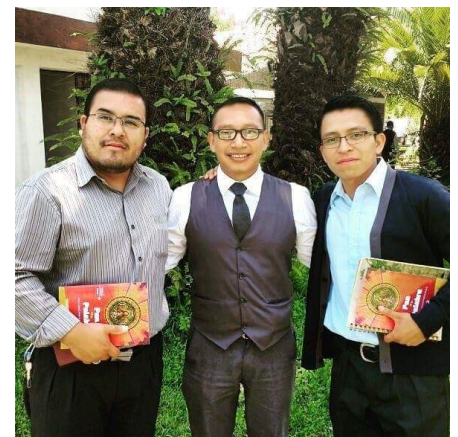


## New Books at the Library for Students of Theology and Philosophy (Major Seminary)



Our library with new books for our seminarians

Students of Theology at the Seminary  
**From left to Right:** Gabriel Felipe,  
Carlos Pérez and Carlos Perechú.



## New roofs for the Administration building, Library and Seminarian Houses

In Winter as much as 10-15" inches of rain can fall in a single day. The rainy season is from May through September. This results in deterioration of common roof materials used in Guatemala.



Administration Building, roof replacement



Working on the new roof for the Library



Seminarians Houses, from the old to the new roofs

## Multimedia Room

Our goal is to provide a high level of education for our students. With the multimedia room our students can have video conferences on line with teachers and students in other countries.



Students at the multimedia room



Teachers meeting

## Renovation of Buildings at our Novitiate in Belize

In our previous newsletter we reported on the experience of Novitiate which our seminarians began in Belize last year. Buildings to accommodate the novitiate were donated but required significant renovation prior to occupancy. We received tremendous support from benefactors in the United States which allowed us to renovate novices' rooms, the dining room, provide new beds and kitchen equipment as well as upgrade the electrical system.



Chapel of the Novitiate in Belize



Rt. Rev. Lawrence Sydney Nicasio (Bishop of Belize) Blessing the Novitiate



Priests of the Fraternity with Novices at the entrance of the Novitiate

## News bricks for pathways between seminarians' houses

The walkways between dormitories have been repaved. The original paver block disintegrated over time due to sun and rain damage as well as roots from nearby trees. We are happy to report that these walkways have all been repaired.



Seminarians house entrance



Walkway at the entrance of the Seminary



Seminarians on the walkway at the Seminary in Guatemala



One of the pathways between the houses

## Green House

Food expenses in the Seminary represent about 18% of our annual budget. With the support of Caritas in Guatemala, we installed two Green houses. Now at the Seminary grounds we are able to produce our own vegetables (tomatoes, onions, lettuce, cucumber, chilli pepper, etc ).



Tecnicos adjusting the entrance



Preparing the soil

### Projects in progress

- \* Reconstruction of main Street at the Seminary in Guatemala City
- \* Support to people affected from the eruption of Volcan de Fuego, Guatemala

### Other projects in the list of our needs

- \* New bricks at the Central Plaza at the Seminary in Guatemala
- \* New bricks for walkways between the administration offices at the Seminary
- \* Interactive projectors for classrooms at the Major Seminary
- \* New water pump for major Seminary
- \* New electric system at Seminarians Houses

### Other news

**Guatemala** - On February 22, 2019 were ordained 5 new priests and 8 new deacons at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Guatemala. The ceremony was presided by Rt. Rev. Raul Antonio Martinez, Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Santiago de Guatemala

All contributions are tax deductible and are used exclusively for the work of the Fraternity in Guatemala and its missions worldwide. For more information or to mail contributions, please send to:

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