



Missionary Fraternity of Mary **Newsletter**

Youth, the life of a Missionary Church



Fr. Elias Chirix with a group of Exodistas in a Parish in Guatemala

Our mission with young men and women continues to bear fruits in the different countries where we serve. We would like to report that, our evangelizing efforts in the world are changing lives. The peripheries of the cities where our parishes are located, the villages in rural areas, have been the fertile grounds for planting the seed of faith in the life of many young people in Africa, Central and South America. In the different environments of our missions we have managed to bring love, understanding, attention, joy, enthusiasm, hope, acceptance, faith and harmony in the present life of youth.

We have over 6,000 youth in our program called Exodos Juveniles (Youth movement) in Guatemala, Venezuela, Ecuador, Panama, Belize, Honduras and Kenya. The goal is to strengthen their Catholic faith so that they can then continue to work in their local parishes spreading the Good news. Some participants in the youth program will discern a vocation to the priesthood and begin their formation at the Fraternity's seminary in Guatemala City.

The call of Jesus comes at any age



The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few (Luke 10, 2)

In the Vicariate of Iquitos in Peru, Fraternity priests help young boys in their discernment to their vocation. Some have become altar servants, others following the priest and deacons in their pastoral work looking for guidance.

Two boys in Intuto, Peru, praying the liturgy of the ours with the Fraternity Priest. They have expressed their intention to become missionary priests.

Guatemala, Belize and Honduras, in Central America, have been the countries where many young men and women have participated in our youth program. With God's grace, the efforts of our benefactors and Missionary Cooperation Plan in the USA and Canada, we have been able to help many young men and women to transform their life and to be a role model for many in their local church. Youth can join the movement by experiencing a three days retreat and to committ themselves helping others for a change of life. Some small boys began loving the movement, since they see the testimony of faith in their older brothers and sisters. We see life and hope for our future generations.

A young boy holding with love and passion the cross which identifies the Exodistas (youth movement) in Guatemala. He desires to become a member of the youth movement.



An experience of Faith

In the Diocese of Garissa, Kenya, East Africa. Fr. Alex Rodriguez, Fraternity priest, who works as the Director of the youth movement in Kenya, has established a very robust team of young people for the promotion of the Catholic faith, especially in Bura Tana Mission where 95% of the population are Muslims. It is a mission with many challenges but there is where the seed of the Catholic faith has been fruitful.



Fr. Alex Rodríguez with new members of the youth movement (Exodistas) in St. Jude Parish, Bura Tana, Kenya.

Following the footsteps of Jesus



Youth leaders at a retreat for young men and women in Ecuador, South America.

It is now five years since the first Exodistas experienced their retreat where they began a journey together having a change of life. For young people in Ecuador, especially in rural areas, people have a simple life, but it doesn't mean that the life of the youth is not at risk of anything that can harm their integrity as people of God. There are many challenges to overcome. With the presence of the priests of the Fraternity, there is always joy and light on the path as we walk together with Jesus.

In the middle of the circumstances, The Missionary Fraternity of Mary continues to strengthen the Catholic faith of youth in Venezuela.

Many young people left the country seeking for a life of dignity in foreign countries, others who faithful to their local commitments, are the testimony of a deep faith in God.

As missionaries we are very much committed to continue giving support to the young. Their passion and love for the kingdom of God gives strength to our missionary work.



New members of the youth movement (Exodistas) sharing with joy after their retreat at the grounds of the National Sanctuary of our Lady of Coromoto in Venezuela.

Dear Friends, thank you for your prayers and all your support for the missions of the Missionary Fraternity of Mary, let's keep praying for one another as we continue serving the Lord in the life of our young people worldwide.

Other News

Guatemala - On August 25th was held the IX National Assembly for Exodistas at Santa María Parish, in La Lagunilla, Guatemala.

- On September 1, Pope Francis designated Rt. Rev. Alvaro Ramazzini a Cardinal

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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