



# Missionary Fraternity of Mary Newsletter

## Letter From Our Moderator

Dear Friends of the Missionary Fraternity of Mary,

It is with deep gratitude and sincere joy, that I extend this greeting to you on behalf of the Missionary Fraternity of Mary.

Your generosity, freely offered, touches the very heart of our mission. As the Lord reminds us, “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last” (John 15:16). Through your support, you are invited not only to assist our mission, but truly to be a missionary with our missionaries, sharing in a fruitfulness that endures.

Your generosity sustains our seminarians at our Mother House in Guatemala, where they are prepared for faithful and generous service to the Church, as well as our missionaries as they do God’s work within vulnerable communities.

Please know that you are remembered with gratitude in the prayer of our fraternity. With heartfelt appreciation and my blessing,

Fr. Luis Carlos De León, FMM



A seminarian offering a Communion Service to an underserved village at one of our parishes in northern Guatemala.

## News From Our Seminary

### Priesthood Ordinations



The Fraternity joyfully announces the ordination of two new priests in Guatemala, a fruit of the prayers and generosity of many people of goodwill.

On September 27, 2025, in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Guatemala, our brothers Eddy Leopoldo Miguel Ixmatá Saloj and Lester Filiberto Peralta Reyes were ordained by Archbishop Gonzalo de Villa.

Fr. Eddy has been assigned to the mission in Kenya, Africa, and Fr. Lester has been assigned as director of the Minor Seminary in Guatemala. We pray for the vocation and mission of our missionaries.



Fr. Eddy: "I thank God for the gift He has given me through His infinite mercy, the ministry of the priesthood, and I entrust myself to your prayers for my first mission in Kenya, Africa."



Fr. Lester: "I thank God for the gift of the priestly vocation, the Fraternity for forming me, and the benefactors for their generosity and prayers."

### Project Update

We have completed the work on the kitchen, chapel and multimedia room for the San Lucas Formation House. Work is underway for the repair of the Fraternity dining room. Many thanks to all who contributed to these projects. We will have more updates in future Newsletters.

## News From Our Lay Groups

We give thanks to the Lord for our many lay brothers and sisters who have joyfully embraced the Charism and Spirituality of the Missionary Fraternity of Mary.

The Fraternity has had several lay groups in Guatemala, Venezuela, Canada, and the United States known as “*Fraternidades de Apoyo*” (Fraternity Aid Groups) to pray for missionary vocations and assist the Fraternity in any way they can.



In August 2025, the Rite of Association was celebrated for a group of parishioners from Lumen Christi Parish, Mequon, Wisconsin, USA.

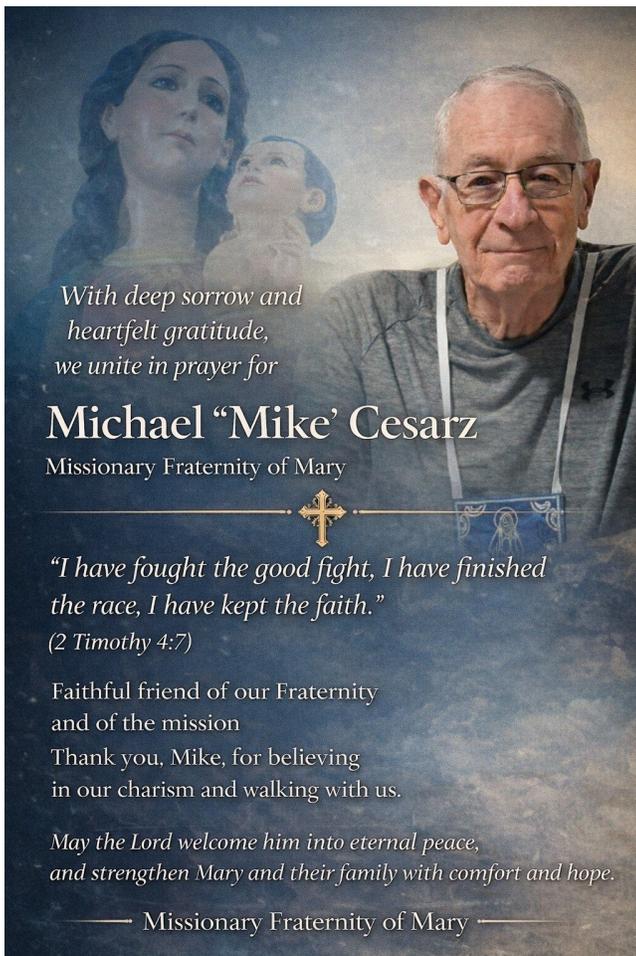


On February 10th of this year, the Rite of Association was also celebrated for our brothers and sisters in Venezuela.

## In Memory of Mike Cesarz (1944 — 2026)

Michael Cesarz was a parishioner at Lumen Christi, formerly St. James and St. Cecilia Church. In the summer of 1985, St. James, as part of the Mission Cooperation Plan (a program that offered opportunities to share mission experiences outside the United States), hosted Father Eduardo Aguirre, who was in the process of founding the Missionary Fraternity of Mary. When Mike and his wife, Mary, heard Fr. Eduardo's Mission Appeal and about the beginning of the MFM, it touched their hearts. That was the first time they learned about the MFM.

From then on, they became interested in learning more about the mission and visited Guatemala multiple times to understand the origins of our Fraternity. They organized a group of parishioners at St. James (Lumen Christi) to support the MFM.



This effort led to a close relationship between MFM and St. James, resulting in the establishment of a twinning relationship in 1991, which continues today.

Additionally, recognizing the needs of the Fraternity, Mike and Mary founded a non-profit corporation in Wisconsin called "Missionary Fraternity of Mary, LTD". This non-profit was responsible for fundraising for the MFM, including supporting the construction of our seminary, training future missionaries, assisting missions in need, and creating a fund to secure the Fraternity's future.

Mike managed the affairs of the corporation in his free time while working full time as an engineer. He dedicated long hours calling and contacting various diocesan mission offices across the United States to request participation in their missionary cooperation programs.

Dear Mike, the entire Missionary Fraternity of Mary deeply thanks you for the love and dedication you tirelessly showed to this project of God. Thank you for believing in us.

Rest in peace, Mike.

**For more information about the Fraternity and for donations, please visit our website at <https://missionaryfraternityofmary.org/> or by using the QR code.**

**Donations can also be made by mail at:**

**Missionary Fraternity of Mary, Ltd.**

**124 E. Freistadt Road**

**P.O. Box 94**

**Thiensville, WI, WI 53092**

**All contributions are tax deductible and are used exclusively for the work of the Fraternity in Guatemala and its missions worldwide.**

