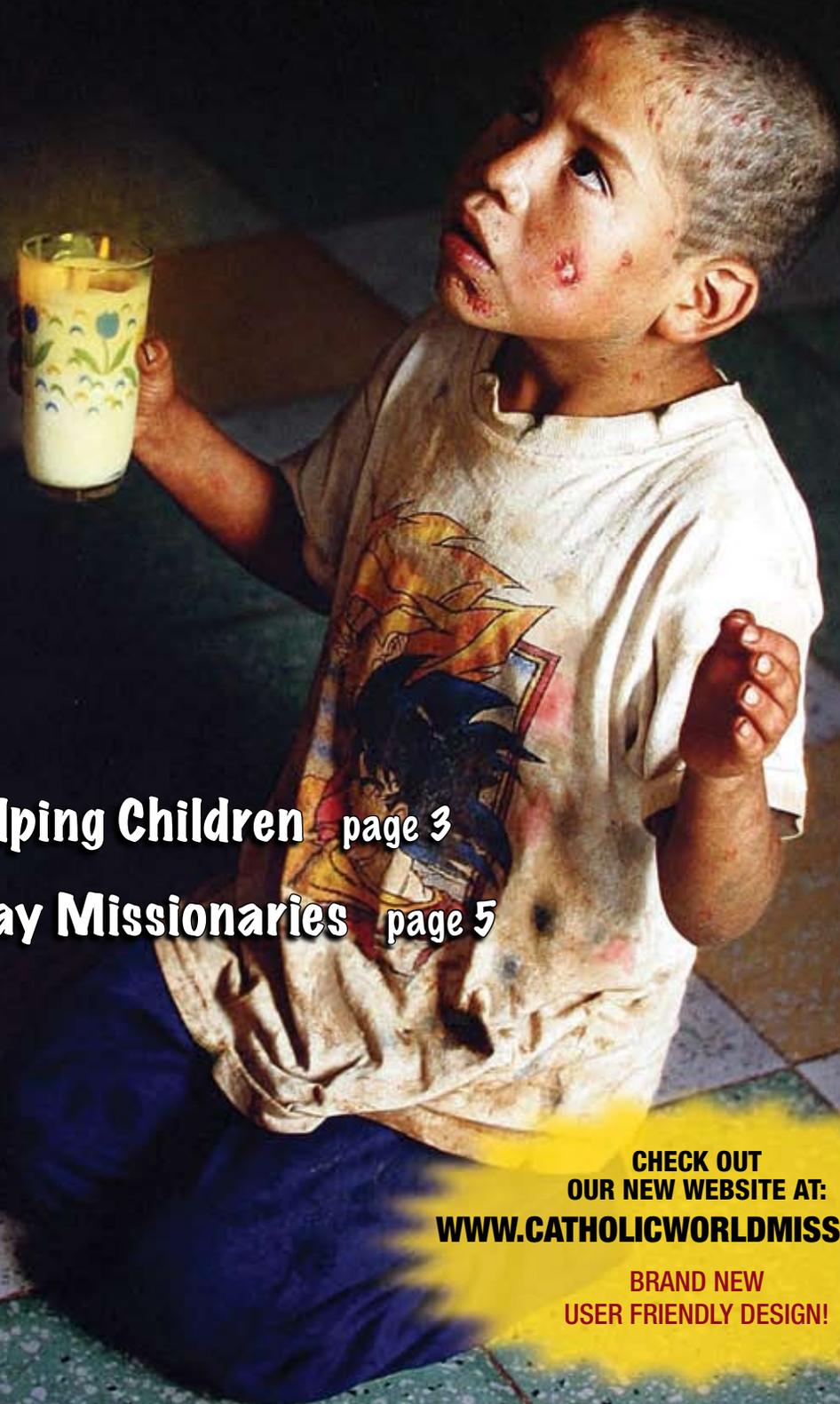




Spring/Summer 2009

# Evangelizer

Conquering Poverty with the Richness of our Catholic Faith



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**CHECK OUT  
OUR NEW WEBSITE AT:**

**WWW.CATHOLICWORLDMISSION.ORG**

**BRAND NEW  
USER FRIENDLY DESIGN!**

Dear Friend | Ryan Flood

**A heroic example of generosity!**

First, let me begin by thanking all of you for your continued generosity during these difficult and uneasy economic times. I have seen, and continue to see, one heroic example after another at Catholic World Mission when it comes to charitable giving. One example of this heroic generosity I am referring to was the outpouring of help to support the latest shipment of food and medicine to the Philippines; this was the most successful campaign at CWM in over two years! Many past as well as present friends of CWM stepped up in a big way and together we were able to raise the \$32,000 needed to make the shipment on time; all in just 3 weeks! The shipment itself will take between 4-6 weeks to arrive in Manila (Philippines) but when it does we will have more detailed information to share – thank you again!



**The Catholic World Mission Difference:**

As I begin my second year as Executive Director, I would like to reflect on our mission to form leaders. An excerpt from Ecclesia in America states, "taking the Gospel as its starting-point, a culture of solidarity needs to be promoted, capable of inspiring timely initiatives in support of the poor and the outcast..." Our timely initiatives in the area of education and evangelization are having a tremendous impact on breaking the cycle of poverty where it is found. We do this effectively by employing the help of local people, people who are native to the area in which they are ministering. Furthermore, having these local connections helps to bridge many of the "gaps" – in language, in culture and in socio-economic status. The educators and missionaries themselves get ongoing education and formation that is second to none, enabling them to be the leaders in their communities and inspire others to do the same. I am very excited to be part of such an organization, one that is on the cutting edge of evangelization to the poor, but at the same time, in step with the teachings of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI.

Economic experts are not sure what the future of our global economic crisis will bring, but we know we have to continue to sacrifice today and tomorrow to lead others to Christ and his Church. Your generosity means more to Christ today than in past times. For many of you, your gift is so much more of a sacrifice now. You are the widow – putting in, not from your surplus, but from your own need. Catholic World Mission will continue to use wisely your gifts and have other opportunities for you to grow in generosity. Finally, I remember a slogan from a sports company some years ago that said, "It takes a little more to be a champion". For Catholics, and all people of good will, it takes a little more to be a saint! Let us continue to take up the challenge each day. Be sure of my prayers and the prayers of the entire CWM community – keep up the good fight!

God bless,

Ryan T. Flood  
Executive Director

## Our Mission

Catholic World Mission exists to bring education and the message of Christ to our neediest neighbors throughout the world. Our projects and ministries aim at transforming the plight of the poor in body, mind, and spirit:

- Alleviating physical poverty through emergency action: disaster relief, medical care, and building infrastructure where there is none.
- Eliminating intellectual poverty by education: building and equipping "Mano Amiga" ("Helping Hand") schools to educate both children and adults.
- Reducing spiritual poverty by evangelization: training and sponsoring native missionaries to bring Catholic teaching to their fellow countrymen.
- Providing opportunities to grow in generosity: supporting HELPING HANDS medical missions and YOUTH MISSIONS to help those to give to those who have not.

In every project we sponsor, we strive for long-term transformation of poverty – we alleviate immediate physical suffering, and help the poor to provide for themselves in this life on earth, to grow in holiness and to one day reap their eternal reward in heaven. For this reason, evangelization and catechesis are fundamental to every work we perform.



Catholic World Mission is the missionary agency sponsored by the Legionaries of Christ.

Visit us on the web at [www.catholicworldmission.org](http://www.catholicworldmission.org)

# CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN

## Royal Palm Academy's Mano Amiga Change for Change Program

Not every child has the opportunity to wake up each day and attend a school that will help them grow into caring, responsible and well-educated adults. In fact, in poor communities around the world, education is a luxury that only the richest can afford. Some students at a school here in the United States however, are doing their part to change that.

Royal Palm Academy, one of a network of schools affiliated with the Legionaries of Christ, is located in sunny Florida and provides an integral Catholic education to children in Pre-K through eighth grade. For two years now, students at Royal Palm have helped to provide scholarships for two students in Latin America to attend a Mano Amiga "Helping Hand" School. The Mano Amiga program is also affiliated with the Legionaries and has been set up to give poor families throughout the world the same opportunity at an integral Catholic education.

Ana Ozores, a Spanish teacher at Royal Palm Academy, is the organizational architect behind the Royal Palm Program which is affectionately called "Mano Amiga Change for Change". Working with eighth grade student leaders, Ozores

helped shape a student-led campaign which encourages children in every grade to donate their loose change by dropping it into the "Change for Change" containers in their classrooms. There is always some healthy classroom competition to see who can contribute the most.



Royal Palm Academy Students stand next to a photograph of Luis, whom they are sponsoring.

There were only two rules: no contribution is too small and every cent had to belong to the students – no parent contributions allowed!

To inspire students to participate, Ozores hung a life-sized photo of Luis and Karla, the Mano Amiga students their contributions would be helping. Tom Huckins, the school's executive

director, observed that this helped build a sense of connection between his students and the children they were helping.

"One of the most impacting elements was the life size photo of the children they were sponsoring. They could practically look them in the eye and see that 'other Christ' that lived a much more difficult life than they do," he said. "It is a great way to build that world community that shows respect and care for all people without prejudice or indifference."

Day after day, the student leaders counted and tracked the money they were collecting on a bulletin board where everyone could watch the progress. Says Ozores, "Our students realized the power of collective effort and understood how such a simple sacrifice could make all the difference in the life of a child just like them."

After supplementing their efforts with a few other fundraising activities, including a Hispanic festival day, Royal Palm Academy raised over \$5,200 for their friends in Latin America. The students of Royal Palm have committed to continuing their campaign and will be sponsoring Luis and Karla until they graduate from High School.

Information for this article has been taken from "The Children's Mite" published August 2008 at [www.regnumchristi.org](http://www.regnumchristi.org)

## Apostles to the Philippines

Your response to our Emergency Food and Medicine Shipments to the Philippines was one of the greatest outpouring of generosity we have seen in the many programs we've supported over the years. Not only did we reach our financial goal; we received gifts from over 1000 benefactors. That is a tremendous number of supporters for one program!

Your generous response is a testament to your belief in our work and we thank you. The next step toward our long-term goal of self-sufficiency for a larger portion of the population in the Philippines is to build and support a new Mano Amiga school. In October 2008, the first two sections of Kindergarten students began meeting in a



John before receiving help and... after your generous support!

rented space near the Habitat for Humanity Housing at the FTI complex. The Mano Amiga School project is being actively supported by the Taguig City government who has provided a 5,000-square meter lot where a permanent campus will soon be built. We will be working toward the goal of continuing our food and medicine shipments, eventually distributing them via our own school. In this way, we will be helping to expand upon the work that the Missionaries of the Poor have been so diligent in providing to the disadvantaged of that area.

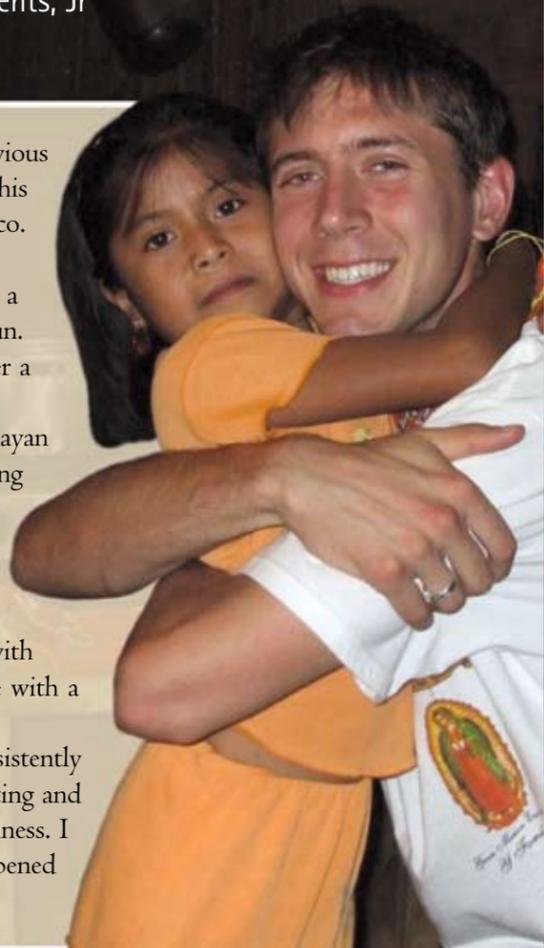
## Missionary Highlight — Thomas Joseph (T.J.) Clements, Jr

T.J. Clements attends Southern Catholic College in Georgia. His previous missionary experiences consisted of working in towns nearby his campus. This summer however, T.J. spent 2 months working along side the poor in Mexico. This is his story.

“I really wanted to do something for the people in Mexico. I met a consecrated man living in Atlanta three weeks before he moved back to Cancun. We stayed in touch; the more we talked, the more excited I became to consider a mission. I recognize now that I was just an instrument in God's plan.

While in Mexico, the biggest mission that we participated in was in the Mayan Zone of Quintana Roo. My friend and I from college, along with another young man from El Salvador, were in charge of setting up the lesson plan for the English classes. We would all sleep in the same pueblo in the Jungle of the Mayan Zone and after breakfast we would drive to Kancazonot. There, we began to assist a group of professional masonry workers in constructing a chapel. We also cleared weeds and rocks, planted gardens, lined the roads with rocks, built a fence, and formed a center meeting area for the town - complete with a soccer field for the kids.

Being a missionary has greatly impacted my life. Throughout, I was consistently able to say yes to God, which helped to bring me closer to Him. Through meeting and being around the people from Mexico, I was better able to form myself in holiness. I was also forced many times to trust in His Will and believe that whatever happened to me, He was in control and everything would be alright.”



## Catholic World Mission

Receives Grant for Full-Time Lay Missionary Program

The Koch Foundation of Gainesville, Florida has recently awarded Catholic World Mission a grant to provide four Full-Time Missionaries to serve the Church in Acapulco, Mexico for one year. In addition to the support we receive from our individual benefactors, Catholic World Mission is pleased to have the support of organizations like the Koch Foundation as we seek to improve the lives of the poor.

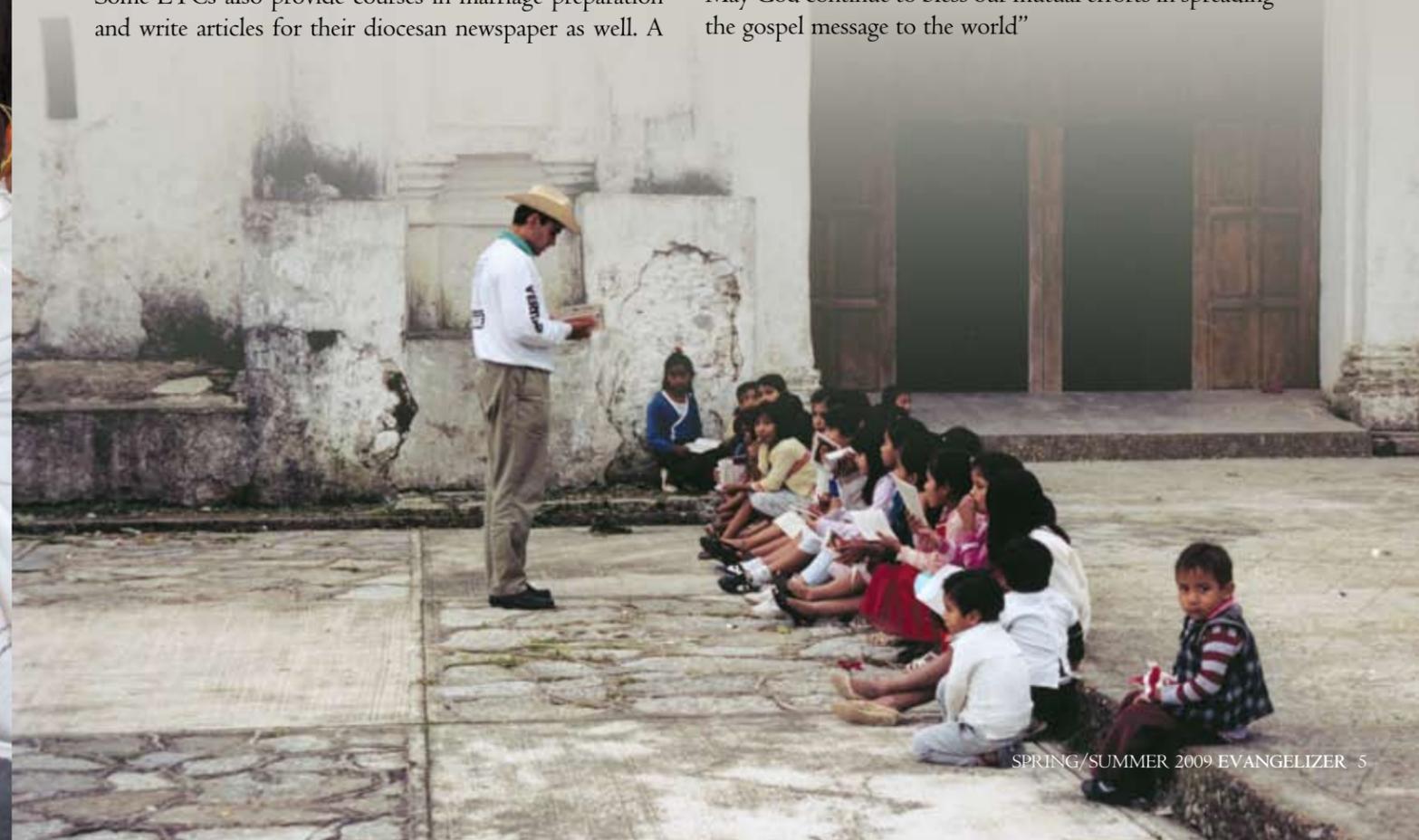
Our Full-Time Missionaries, also called Evangelizadores de Tiempo Completo or ETCs, are volunteers who have given their entire lives in service to the Church. They are most effective evangelizers because they are native to the areas in which they work: they know the customs; speak the language and know the area and its people. The ETCs work under the direction of their parish priest and local bishop.

The work of the ETC is varied - from organizing pilgrimages, to helping provide catechetical instruction. Some ETCs also provide courses in marriage preparation and write articles for their diocesan newspaper as well. A

popular focus of the Lay Missionary program is youth work and the ETCs have had a great impact on expanding the numbers of those discerning a vocation to the religious life in each of the communities where they have served.

Yearly, during Holy Week, the efforts of the ETCs reach their peak with the Mega Missions program. Mega Missions are organized to allow thousands of families and young people the opportunity to work as door-to-door missionaries, inviting others to reconsider their faith during this most holy time of the year. ETCs receive extensive training and ongoing support to be able to organize such events and also to assess the needs of the parish, offering solutions that help the community build a solid foundation in the faith.

Carolyn A. Young, Executive Director of the Koch Foundation, shares her gratitude for the ETC program and the ability of the Koch Foundation to help fund it. “Thank you for the opportunity to share in your ministry. May God continue to bless our mutual efforts in spreading the gospel message to the world”



## Mission Youth *Making a difference in Jonotla*

For the past two summers, Fr. Juan Guerra LC has led groups of adventurous young men on missions to the remote villages surrounding the town of Jonotla, Mexico. The young men were participants in Mission Youth's Extreme Mission program. The program is designed to challenge young people to step outside of their comfort zone and to serve communities that are most in need. Extreme conditions for the missionaries are what gave the Extreme Mission program its name. These conditions include sleeping on dirt floors, eating local foods, and going without showers.



Mission Youth participants get ready for the next phase of construction on a small home.

During the most recent mission, participants worked to build houses and roof existing ones. The young men involved had to carry heavy metal sheets on their backs down a steep canyon in order to reach some homes. In the evenings, missionaries invited people from the villages to join them in Mass, sports, and catechetical talks. The two groups completed 3 houses and over 40 roofing projects over both summers.

The priest in charge of the villages, Fr. Hilberto, spoke about the impact of the American groups: "The missionaries served as a great motivation to the people just by their presence. The people understood that the young men had traveled long distances in order to be with them. The missionaries also helped educate the people on hygiene skills. They taught the people basic things like how to make their beds and the need to separate a kitchen area from a sleeping area and where animals should be kept."

For additional information about future missions please email us at [info@catholicworldmission.org](mailto:info@catholicworldmission.org)

## HELPING HANDS Medical Missions | The Amazon

Each HELPING HANDS Medical Mission is able to bring medical care to more than 1,000 of the neediest patients in the most remote areas of the world. Last year, HHMM led 4 missions, treating more than 5,000 people who would otherwise have no access to medical care.

On one recent mission, 17 missionaries – consisting of trained medical professionals, volunteers and one chaplain - headed into the Amazon jungles of Brazil to treat 1,200 members of the local community. During this trip, lives were saved because of the accurate diagnosis of many common ailments: diabetes, breast tumors, and hyperthyroidism, among others. These cases, commonly treated successfully in many first world countries are still killers in the third world. Medical procedures, routinely performed in hospitals around the world, were able to be performed on patients who had never before seen a doctor.

While the missionaries were in Brazil, they were also able to be part of two very important events in the Prelature. The first was a Mass to enthrone Our Lady of the Rosary and of Peace in Itacoatiara celebrated by Bishop

Carillo Gritti and the second was the ordination of three priests for the Diocese of São Paulo. As seminarians, the priests studied at the Legion of Christ seminary in the Yucatan. The newly ordained priests celebrated their first Masses with the missionary visitors.

Anna Lou Porter, a nursing student from Oklahoma, thinks "I might have contributed somewhat to the well being of the people by helping to take blood pressures and temperatures, though the little I may have given is nothing compared to the nourishment I have received in my soul by being part of this mission." To find out how you can serve the poor on an upcoming mission, please visit our website or email [info@catholicworldmission.org](mailto:info@catholicworldmission.org).



## Education: *Another Success Story in Monterrey*

Catholic World Mission's Mano Amiga "Helping Hands" Student Sponsorship program exists because CWM knows that every child, any where in the world, deserves the opportunity to receive a high-quality Catholic education. With 17,500 students currently enrolled in our Kindergarten through 12th-grade classes, 30 Mano Amiga schools are now running in 8 different countries world-wide.

Over 85% of Mano Amiga graduates continue their education beyond high school. Rocío is one of these success stories. Now a happily married mother of a beautiful child, Rocío had a difficult childhood of her own. Thanks to a Mano Amiga school in Monterrey, Rocío received the elementary and high school education that she needed to transform her life.

After finishing her studies in 1988, Rocío continued her education at the Autónoma de Nuevo León University where she received a bachelor's degree in Orthodontics.

The education that she received at Mano Amiga Monterrey prepared Rocío to move beyond the boundaries of a poor childhood and to succeed not only in college, but in the business world as well. Beginning her own practice in Orthodontics after graduation, she is able to give back to the community that helped her to achieve so much in the Mano Amiga program.

Annabella Chang, from Singapore, talks about how she stumbled across the CWM website and was introduced to the Mano Amiga program.

*I got to know Catholic World Mission from Internet browsing. I find that the Mano Amiga*

*program is truly God's instrument in bringing peace and alleviating suffering. I hope that more sponsors will come forward to support the mission and these children who need it. I thank you, Catholic World Mission, for giving me the chance to contribute to the poor & needy.*

The goal of our Mano Amiga Child Sponsorship program is to serve 50,000 students by the year 2015. Thanks to the generous support of new student sponsors, like Annabella Chang, we move closer to achieving that goal every day.



Rocío, Mano Amiga Monterrey, 1988 Small Business Owner

## Planned Giving: Mano Amiga Endowment Fund

*By 2015 Catholic World Mission's goal is to be serving 50,000 students!*

Many families in Latin America survive on little less than \$300 per month (\$3,500 per year). This amount sustains an average family of five. As a result, children's education suffers due to financial instability. It is not difficult to imagine what a tremendous advantage children have when they receive a solid Catholic education; the help this gives them breaks the vicious cycle of poverty that currently grips almost every facet of their lives. Your gift to the Endowment Fund ensures one, three, five or even more children will always have the opportunity to attend a Mano Amiga school.

Your gift to the Mano Amiga Endowment Fund will help Catholic World Mission:

- Ensure the Child Sponsorship Program continues into the future
- Stabilize the current Child Sponsorship Program
- Offer protection from uncertainties of the economy
- Show commitment to the long-term transformation of poverty in the Third World

**Perpetually Endowed Scholarship** \$13,000

For further information on this or other planned gifts please contact Ryan Flood at 1-800-961-8153.



**"I put Catholic World Mission in my Will. It was my way of making a difference."**

Please contact us at:  
**1-800-961-8153.**  
God bless you.

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## Child Sponsorship Program

In 1970 Pope Paul VI entrusted the Legionaries of Christ with the pastoral care of the newly created missionary territory of Chetumal (Cancún-Chetumal). Since 2004 Bishop Pedro Pablo Elizondo, LC has been the Prelate of Cancún-Chetumal and also the President of Catholic World Mission. Catholic World Mission exists to bring

education and the message of Christ to our poorest brothers and sisters throughout the world. We strive for the long-term transformation of poverty: we alleviate immediate physical suffering and also help the poor to provide for themselves in this life and grow in holiness to reap their eternal reward in heaven!

### The Mano Amiga Impact

- 17,100 Pre-K through 12th grade needy children studying in 30 Mano Amiga schools.
- Through workshops, courses, lectures and technical instruction at each school, we are also changing the lives of over 5,000 poor families.
- Schools in 8 countries (*Mexico, El Salvador, Colombia, Venezuela, Chile, Argentina, Brazil and Guatemala*)

### Benefits to a Poor Child

- Pre-K through High school education, making college studies possible for all students.
- Catholic education and faith activities for the whole family.
- Teach Christian virtues and character development, strengthening family bonds.
- Provide instruction in trades and organizational skills to older students and younger parents.

### SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

<b>Full Year Scholarship</b>	\$650
<b>One Quarter Scholarship</b>	\$195
<b>Monthly Scholarship</b>	\$65

As a sponsor, you will receive an introductory package (*including child's name, birth date, grade and short profile*), a mid-year progress report and a report card in July.

For more information about the Catholic World Mission Child Sponsorship Program, contact us at 1-800-961-8153 or visit us anytime at [www.catholicworldmission.org](http://www.catholicworldmission.org).