



# Newsletter

Issue 2 • March 2007

## FATHER FRANK JONES

LATIN AMERICAN MISSION

### 'Hola' from Fr Frank

*Hola de Ecuador, Amigos,*

Thank the Lord - we have now opened both the Maria de Jesus medical dispensary and the nutrition and child care centres, Santa Margarita and San Juan. After the floods and landslide we had to build retaining walls at the back of the two centres. The landslide had damaged the patio between the two buildings. However, we have now cleared that damage and prevented any further possibility with retaining walls. We have also built strong wire fences to provide security for the children (100 enrolled) who now use the centres every day from Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The centres are staffed by volunteers from the community who have been selected by the Aldeas SOS, a foundation here in Ecuador who assist with the nutrition and formation of children and their families.

Maria Tepu is the director of our centre – a wonderful lady trained as a social worker and very experienced with forming the parent committees who volunteer to help run the centre. Aldeas helps me with the centre through formation of the volunteer mothers who work caring for the children. We have two mothers who provide the nutritious meals – three a day from our kitchen. Overall it is a genuine community project that helps to nurture the role of the family. The people's self esteem is raised and it is a joy to see the faces of the children - at long last they too can look at their Pastor well fed and happy!!!

The wet season here brings with it so much sickness – dengue fever, skin eruptions, parasites and all the many infectious diseases associated with the lack of sanitation and clean water. Our young doctor, Wilmer Alban, is doing a great job serving the poor. Even our humble pharmacy is providing a much needed service for the poor. The locals appreciate the presence of the medical dispensary. We charge

The dispensary's first baby!



New child care centres



First Communion



Dr Alban at work



## Registrations

You can register interest in the Mission by completing an enrolment form via the website at [www.frfrankmission.org.au](http://www.frfrankmission.org.au) Enrolling within the Mission will ensure you are kept up-to-date regarding news from Fr Frank, and activities including fundraising to provide support.

## Donations

There have been many requests for information regarding the appropriate process for making donations to the Mission. Funds may be direct debited or deposited into the following Commonwealth Bank account:

**Manual Deposit:**  
Account No. 2902 0090 3419  
Agent No. 13274

**Electronic Transfer:**  
Account No. 22524  
BSB: 062-786

**WEB ADDRESS: [WWW.FRFRANKMISSION.ORG.AU](http://WWW.FRFRANKMISSION.ORG.AU)  
EMAIL ADDRESS: [PANCHOJONES@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:PANCHOJONES@HOTMAIL.COM)**



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only \$1 a visit to help us pay our doctor. There is of course no charge for the many that cannot pay that amount. So we rely upon providence to see us through.

I appreciate the support from our mission group. I couldn't do anything without you. Thank you for making these centres of service to the poor a reality. Within one year we have made a great difference to the lives of the poor. This Lent, we can be grateful to our Lord for enabling us here in San Francisco to follow his example of washing the feet of his disciples amongst his poor. All your hard work and especially your prayers are coming to fruition. Never underestimate the power of your prayer. The sacrifice involved provides a means of transmitting grace and love to the poor.

Carmen and Felix are an elderly couple who have raised 11 children in their day. Their children help providing food for their parents when they can but Carmen and Felix have a tough battle every day. Their home is deep poverty. Carmen is quite ill and suffers chronic pain. Our doctor Wilmer is a great help but we need funds to improve her lot. I want to build a better house for them both. Please pray we can make that a reality.

Victor and Gladys have a beautiful family - thank God I have been able to build them a more decent home. Victor is incapacitated and that makes life very difficult. Thank God the beautiful kids are enrolled at Santa Margarita and San Juan.

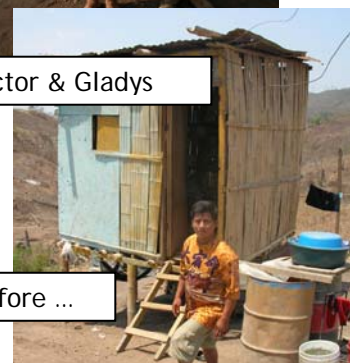
Antonio is a typical young fellow here and I want to provide him and others of our newly formed youth group the opportunity to study a trade. The Salesian fathers offer me a good program for blokes like Antonio. He has had a very sad upbringing filled with painful memories. This is the opportunity for him to make a new start and get ahead in life. Antonio will end up becoming a trained metal worker.

Madre Reina and Sisters Lucas and Maria are Oblate sisters of the Sacred Heart who have signed an agreement with me to begin our primary school and eventually our secondary college within San Francisco. They are Ecuadorian sisters who excel in education. God is good to provide me with these wonderful religious who are prepared to work for the education of our poor children. The plan is to build them a convent and at the same time begin the construction of the first classrooms later this year - if we can manage the funding. You have to trust providence and dream for the best for our children. What the good Lord has begun through us he will see come to fulfilment.

Love and prayers, united in mission,  
Fr Frank *Gracias y Bendiciones*



Carmen & Felix



Victor & Gladys

Before ...



and after



The Three Sisters



Antonio

**Father Frank Jones, Latin American Mission – Committee:** Ted Anderson (Secretary), Bec Bromhead (Promotions), Stephen Cusack (Finances), Brendan Mulhall (Chair), Michael Ryan (Volunteers), Pamela Slocum (Fundraising), Ashley Watson (Publications)