

LOTW Newsletter

November 2002

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Light of the World Charities
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USA

November Team to Honduras

The Light of the World (LOTW) Charities surgical team has left for its fall mission trip. Once again LOTW has returned to the Comayagua, Honduras to provide medical/surgical services for the poor of this area.



Honduran mother with child

The team members for this trip are Dr. Dan Holly, Dr. Andi Kaiser, Dr. Paul Schoppe, Dr. Keith Ingram, Juan Medina, Bill Pyle, Theresa Banks, Claude Gravel, Mary Alice Robertson, Ivette Arbello, Kathleen Ranne, Shannon O'Neal, Denise Minor, Ramonita Martinez, Philip Torina, Ron Ashley, Dick Kelly and Angela Scannapieco. The team will be in Honduras from November 9th through November 17th.

The team will be working again with the "Congregation of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal" (CFR) assigned to the

San Serafin Friary located in Comayagua. Led by Father Harold Brock, the Franciscan Friars have helped local medical personnel identify potential patients for the team to examine who are poor. ♥

Medical Facility Project

LOTW and the Congregation of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal (CFR) are working together on an idea to construct a brand new medical facility in Comayagua Honduras. The new facility would be named after Father Benedict Groeschel, who founded the CFR, which began their work of servicing the poor in the streets of New York City.

Theresa Banks of LOTW, who has seen similar projects in Bolivia change the medical infrastructure of a whole area, approached Father Harold of the Franciscan Friars in Honduras with the idea. The thought was to have the local Honduran doctors who want to be associated with the new facility, agree to service a quota of indigent patients. In return, the doctors would obtain valuable training from the visiting US doctors. The remaining patients (those capable of paying) would provide the financial sustenance for the facility.

Father Harold has since bought a parcel of land in Comayagua (i.e., CFR has some financial capabilities due to their association with the Eternal Word Television Network – EWTN). Father Harold has also sketched out a conceptual design and states that construction costs in Honduras would

be a fraction of what a similar facility would cost in the states. The friars are already involved in building housing.



Honduran housing project

Laurie Schwab (local south Florida architect) has joined LOTW. Laurie has used Father Harold's conceptual ideas and input from the LOTW medical personnel to develop formalized drawings for the new facility. The drawings show a two story facility that includes consult rooms, an emergency room, a pharmacy, 3 operating rooms, separate pre-op & recovery areas, a birthing area, several patient rooms, a chapel and classrooms.

George Mahr, who for years has headed Habitat for Humanity projects in Martin County (and previously was the President of the Hobe Sound Chapter of St. Vincent de Paul), has also joined LOTW. George spent a few days in Honduras during a previous surgical team visit, and toured the area with Father Harold. As a minimum, George could offer consultation/advice for the construction of the new facility.

LOTW will continue to collect/provide medical supplies and equipment for their trips, which can later be retained by the friars to stock the new facility. ♥

Father Harold Visits Florida

Over the past several years, Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Palm City, Florida has allowed 1 weekend a year to be Light of the World Charities' Team Day.

On Team Day, a member from the LOTW organization shares/reports the achievements that were met with the donation given to LOTW from Holy Redeemer's Stewardship fund. This reporting had typically been a 5-minute speech during each mass, followed by a short video in the Parrish hall for those with additional interest.

This coming year, Holy Redeemer Catholic Church (Father Martin Mulqueen – Pastor) has scheduled/allowed LOTW Team Day to be the weekend of masses for Sunday January 11, 2003.



Father Harold – far left

Father Harold Brock is making preliminary plans to visit Florida January 8th through the 12th in order to attend Holy Redeemer's LOTW Team Day, help answer any questions, and extend his thanks to Father Mulqueen & the parishioners. ♥

Current / Upcoming Events

11/9/02 through 11/17/02
Comayagua, Honduras
Fall Surgical Team

An 18-member team will provide medical/surgical services for the poor.

11/17/02
South Florida
Nercy's Campaign

Honduran girl comes to the states to see a pediatric orthopedic surgeon with the hopes of walking.

1/10/03 through 1/11/03
South Florida
Father Harold Brock Visits

Father plans to attend LOTW Team Day at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Palm City.

Early April
Location – To Be Determined
Annual LOTW Charity Dinner

Annual Fund raising dinner with the LOTW Supporters.

3/10/03 through 3/18/03
Comayagua, Honduras
Spring Surgical Team

Tentative dates for next medical/surgical trip.