



Mr. and Mrs. Dan Whalen of East Avon (rear) are pictured with Maria and her family of seven at the Mission the Whalens operate in Guadalajara, Mexico. Deserted by the father, the family was fed and clothed by the mission, and the mother was placed under pre-natal care for the successful birth of her eighth child.

Local Couple Helps Mexico Impoverished

An East Avon couple, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Whalen, went to Guadalajara, Mexico, last month for a 10th successive year to assist Indian peasants in that area.

The Whalens have given about six months every year to the operation of the St. Martin de Porres Mission and Clinic they established there a decade ago after viewing the poverty on a visit. It provides food, medical attention and personal assistance to Mexicans who lead deprived lives and many of whom face early death.

Funds for their work have come from two sources — contributions from organizations and friends in the Rochester Diocese, and proceeds from the sale of Mexican articles which the Whalens sell during their time at home.

The Whalens, who have worked for the poor in Rochester's inner city and for migrants in the area, describe the

poverty in their section of Guadalajara as many times worse, mostly because of the peasants' lack of money for medical care and for the relative lack of facilities in their locality. Malnutrition and infant deaths, they say, are common daily statistics.

In a recent appeal to friends in the Rochester Diocese, the couple listed the following 10-month statistics for their mission:

"A total of 2,850 given medical care and costly drugs; 480 families (3,500 souls) received corn, beans, rice, sugar, lentils and soaps; 450 articles of clothing, handmade by patients in our cultural project, dispensed; 31 cared for in our pre-natal clinic; 8 dehydrated babies buried. . . We need money for food, drugs and clinic salaries."

The Whalens, of 1549 Rochester Road, East Avon, may be reached at Guadalajara through a Rochester friend, Miss Wilma Higgs, 26 Portsmouth Ter., Rochester 14607.

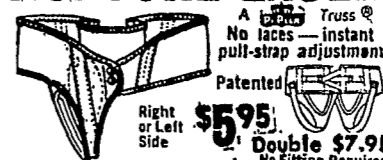
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Dear Friends of the Missions,

Your special Christmas joy is knowing that you, like Mary and Joseph have helped to bring Christ to poor and forgotten people.

With our own personal holiday greetings, we send along the gratitude, love, and prayers of the countless thousands who have been brought to Bethlehem by you during the past years.

May you have the peace and joy that is Christmas!



Bishop Hogan

Father Reinhart, Diocesan Director and Office Associates:

Vera Trabold
Josephine Bartolomeo
Carmel Barone
Mary Mitrano

