

ST. JOSEPH the WORKER PARISH LaPaz, Bolivia

An urgent letter from our Priests:

A friend stopped us to report that Fernando, the doctor from our clinic, and Gladys, our nurse, were right now delivering twins in a house down a side alley.

The house was a single room, dark, cluttered, heavy with the odors and dust that are characteristic of our *barriada*. But brightening the room was a feeling of great joy. Twins had been born, a boy and a girl, and a proud father stood by the doorway to greet us.

Doctor Fernando asked if we would take the babies to the hospital in our jeep since the baby boy needed an incubator.

The nurse stated it was against hospital rules to serve outsiders: only babies born here could use the hospital facilities. We were attracting several more persons distressed at the sight of the moribund infant, two distraught Aymara ladies, and two anxious and angry American priests. But no one had the authority, or charity, to take the babies in.

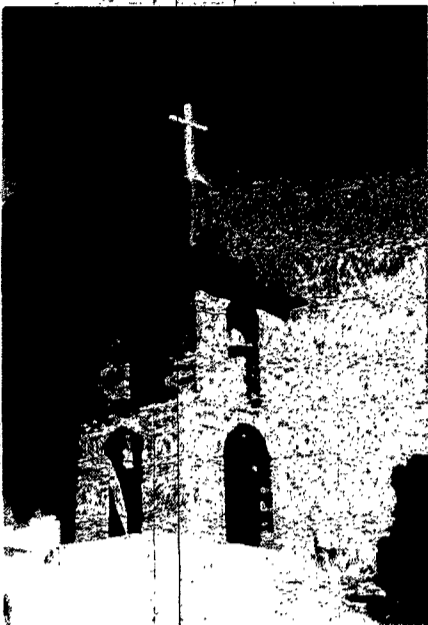
It was distressingly clear that without influence or money, even a little child can die from indifference, incompetence, bureaucracy, or all three.

The newly born infant died while we stood pleading in the lobby of the maternity hospital.

The whole episode of frustration and tragedy took less than an hour but it seemed like days. My tears were meager consolation for the trembling woman who held the dead baby but it did bring us closer together and crossed barriers of culture and language.

When our clinic staff met to discuss this case, it seemed that our only solution was to purchase an incubator to have available here in the neighborhood of the poor, and accessible to all.

We are seeking \$3,000 to cover the cost of the incubator, some other necessary clinic supplies, and the cost of operating the new equipment for one year.



Clinic nurse giving polio vaccine to our people inside the church, assisted by parish members.

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH in Brazil

Mother Agnes Cecilia made public the names of our newest Sisters of St. Joseph who will continue to represent the Community in Brazil:

Sister Laurel Davis, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Davis, Syracuse, New York, presently teaching French at Nazareth Academy, and

Sister Ellen Kuhl, the daughter of Mrs. William Kuhl, Auburn, New York, currently teaching the junior high level at St. Mary's School, Auburn.



Sister Mary Ann Raymond visiting homes in Paranaiguara stops to chat with a "young warrior."



Sister Christine Burgmaier visiting mother of twelve. This is taken in the kitchen — open-air style. One of millions of families not being touched by Brazilian "progress."



Sister Mary Ann Raymond joins a Catechist in teaching the young to express their faith in a sign of the cross.