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BISHOP VISITS MISSIONS

Santiago

BY ANTHONY J. COSTELLO

Santiago, Chile — Any description of the work of the Sisters of Mercy from Rochester at the parish of San Luis de Canchali here would have to boil down to a story of dedicated individuals working for others.

Generally put, the work of the four sisters from our diocese could be categorized under two headings — catechetics and social work. But much more is involved. It is a tale of visits to the sick, elderly and dying; it is soup and solace for children, friendship for families who have lost members, it is helping hands for those aspiring to better lives; it is providing companionship for the fearful.

The sisters and the people they serve typify all the missionaries whom Bishop Joseph L. Hogan wants to reassure by his tour of the missions. At a time when missionaries across the world are facing extremely difficult and increasingly dangerous conditions, the bishop by his personal visitations hopes to show that his diocese stands with the missionaries and their work, in spirit and substance.

Father Joseph Reinhart, diocesan director of the missions, is among the diocesan group on the tour, which ends before the annual Diocesan Missions Sunday, May 15. Others on the trip are Fathers Michael Conboy, Louis Hohman and Edward Golden; and Anthony J. Costello, Courier-Journal general manager.

But the focal point of the visit here are four Sisters of Mercy:

Sister Jane Kenrick of Immaculate Conception parish in Ithaca, the daughter of Kathryn Kenrick and the late James M. Kenrick. She has been working on and off in Chile since 1966, her present tour of duty since 1973. Mainly she performs parish work, coordinating the catechetical program involving 250 families in which 25 catechists teach. She also organizes laity in understanding and preparing meaningful liturgies and paraliturgies, in the absence of a priest for Mass. She also coordinates a laundry cooperative in the parish.

"I came to Chile," she said, "because I always had the desire to be in the missions. I came with the idea of serving but really I am the one who has benefited from these great people."



Photo by Anthony J. Costello

Ester Pacheco and her family live next door to the San Jose Obrero church. Her children, from left, are Rosemary (in hat), Anne, and Feli holding baby brother Richard.



Photo by Anthony J. Costello

Bishop Hogan tries hand at ironing and Father Reinhart enjoys the situation. At right Sister Jane Kenrick, RSM, helps workers.

Sister Janet Caufield of St. Monica's parish in Rochester, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John E. Caufield. She has worked in Chile since 1966. While she handles music at the home San Luis church, her main duties involve work at the parish chapel of the Holy Spirit. She helps in preparation for the sacraments, collaborating with parents and children. She also prepares the Sunday Mass with a committee, takes Communion to the sick and dying, buys medicine for the impoverished and assists in liturgies for the dead.

Sister Janet Korn of Sacred Heart parish in Rochester, the daughter of Jerome and Irma Korn. She has worked at San Luis since 1966. She trains adult catechists, working with about 300 families in the First Communion program. She also directs the Aijuda Fraterna, a group trying to respond to the needs of the times — finding jobs, attending to medical needs, food, clothing for the poor.

She is working on a project in which the Australian Embassy donated money for rabbit cages to be built. Seventy rabbits were raised but then stolen. "Started again," said Sister Janet Korn, and they got sick."

Seven are left but the project perseveres with the aim of supplying meat for the soup kitchens.

The soup kitchens, seven in the parish, try to take

Continued on Page 14

La Paz

Santiago



LaPaz

BY ANTHONY J. COSTELLO

La Paz, Bolivia — Bishop Joseph L. Hogan was given a first-hand report on the work being done by San Jose Obrero parish and said that he is "very pleased with the great progress being made" and that he personally noticed "a great improvement here" since his last visit in 1970.

San Jose Obrero (St. Joseph the Worker) is the parish established in a hilly, impoverished area of LaPaz with the assistance of "Los Padres de Rochester" (priests from Rochester) as well as laymen from this diocese. They began working here in 1966 and in 1974 the parish was turned over to local control. Since then the Rochester diocese has continued to help the new parish.

Bishop Hogan is touring missions staffed by Rochester diocesans in Selma, Ala. and Latin America. He is making the visitations to show diocesan community with, support for and solidarity with our own missionaries directly and with those all over the world indirectly. The time is appropriate, he said, because of the current oppression and physical danger missionaries are contending with across the globe.

His tour coincides with the annual Diocesan Missions Appeal scheduled for Sunday, May 15. Father Joseph Reinhart, diocesan director of the missions, is traveling with the bishop as are Father

Edward Golden, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church and one of the Padres of Rochester who worked here; Father Louis Hohman, pastor of St. Vincent's in Churchville and episcopal adviser to the Courier-Journal; Father Michael Conboy, secretary to the bishop, and Anthony J. Costello, general manager of the Courier-Journal.

They visited Selma and Panama City before arriving here. From LaPaz they will travel to Santiago, Chile, where diocesan Sisters of Mercy work, and then visit diocesan Sisters of St. Joseph in the Brazilian dioceses of Uberlandia and Jatai.

The San Jose Obrero parish is run by a team ministry of eight persons, broken down into three principle commissions — administration, evangelization and social ministry. It receives \$9,000 in annual aid from the Rochester diocese.

After the group toured the huge parish, the bishop was given an oral report from the team ministry in Spanish, translated by Father Golden. It should be noted that parishes in Latin America do not correspond in size to those in the United States. They cover extensive areas; San Jose Obrero serves some 50,000 people. It reaches them through parish mission churches.

The present parish team has been in office since

Continued on Page 18