

Working Families Gazette

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From the desk of Padre Juan....

Dear Folks,

Knowing and feeling your enjoyment of Easter's promise of eternal happiness intensifies my own Easter happiness into a boundless confidence that we live In Jesus our savior. He went so far, while He was living as a man among us, to reveal His mystical body including all of us into His infinite loving which conquers all evil.

Let's share one small example of that truth. Maggie Felker and husband Mike Byrd are a couple who gave years of service in WBC back when we were in business in that way. In addition to that very valuable service, on the side and on their own they started and developed DAVID'S EDUCATIONAL FUND as an apostolate in honor of their son David who had disappeared and presumably died while seeking his way to serve while in Ecuador. That FUND has financed hundreds of economically poor young women and men through college. Miracle on top of miracle, every one of those young folks is involved some way in serving other needy persons. David is not officially canonized as a saint; but he is patron and powerful supporter of DAVID'S EDUCATIONAL FUND which will probably go on for decades. At our new WORKING FAMILIES FOUNDATION, we have four of those young college graduates helping in the education of the kids.

We have a long history of such similar initiatives behind us and continuing along with us; and I'm sure God wants us to share them in our Gazette letters as a cheering squad for all the team mates who support us. Our Creator shows us that truth and love are one light that keeps shining against all the darkness. We have to look, see and overcome any fear. That means we have to know that truth and love lights our hearts as well as our minds. Of course, the Devil keeps enlisting any "crazies" he can to cause hell on earth. But with Jesus, we are still in charge of the way to go. Happy Easter!

God bless. **JOHN HALLIGAN, S.J.**



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From the desk of Madre Miguel.... HERE CAME PETER COTTONTAIL...

There is a tradition among us who are creating the new Working Families Foundation. We wait every year for the Easter Bunny (EB) to show up with baskets for the kids to reward their Lenten sacrifices.

This year he showed up unexpectedly so the kids got to interview him. Since he is a well-known celebrity, they sat down with him for a little conversation.

Of course, they asked him how the virus had affected the rabbits in the land of eternal springtime, where the Easter Bunny lives. He was quick to explain to them that, since the rabbits don't have a lot of the bad habits that humans do, there wasn't even a single case of contamination there.

He said that the Land of Eternal Springtime is 100% environmentally friendly. It is filled with flowers, fruits, trees, grasses, animals and big white clouds of hope. It rains sometimes, but it is a friendly and necessary rain, making things healthy and happy. All the rabbits there get on with one another and live in peace. Of course, the kids asked if they might go there with him since things are not so good here right now. But EB explained to them that every place can be a land of springtime and happiness. Such things depend on everyone making an effort to get along with everyone else. Although a few eyes rolled at that suggestion, the general consensus was that it was a good idea.

After the interview, just in case the carrot crop in the land of Eternal Springtime hadn't been as good as usual, the kids gave EB carrots he could carry home to his buddies. Baby Santiago David was generous enough to offer the rabbit what was left of the carrot he had been chewing on during the program. (miguelcbvm@gmail.com)



Dear Friends, Ecuador is the land of eternal Spring! Here, Spring is in the air. New Hope, new beginnings, new feelings of gratitude to all of you who keep our work surviving through thick and thin. Poverty and crime in Ecuador have increased as people were not able to work. Jobs are still not plentiful. Many struggle to even survive. Our mission is so important to give these families a chance to become the agents of change for others. Your help makes this all happen. You should feel that Spring in your step as you realize how much your help is appreciated. Happy Spring! Madre Cindy