

The Society of the Human Family in Christ

St. Joseph's Church

5440 Durie Road • Mississauga, Ontario • Canada, L5M 2J5

www.shfic.ca

THE SOCIETY OF THE HUMAN FAMILY IN CHRIST THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT APRIL 2017

In opening my annual report for 2017, I offer praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for His bountiful providence and generous love. I also send greetings and sincerest gratitude to all of the members, friends and donors of the Society. I am sure that Father Andrew Cuschieri, continues to watch over us and the work of the Society.

The 2016 Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at St. Joseph's R.C. Church in Mississauga on May 28, 2016. At this meeting, I was acclaimed as President as well as Willem Langelaan as Vice-President, Teresa Pimentel as Treasurer, Ana Hutten- Czapski Perez as Secretary and Marie Morrison as the Chairperson for the Child Sponsorship Program. Dr. Robert Boyko continues in his capacity as Medical Director for the Society. Also, Father John Henry, Co-Founder of the Society, remains as Founding Spiritual Director with Father Marc-Andre Campbell as *in loco* Spiritual Director and Father Mounir El-Rassi as an Assistant Spiritual Director. Tal Akermanis continues to assist with the Public Relations Committee and Willem and myself continue to update the members', donors' and friends' list of the Society. Willem also continues to keep the Society's wonderful web site updated and running. A sincere thank you is extended to all of you for your "yes" and multiple contributions of time and dedication to the work of the Society. Your help and commitment are precious to the Society and its mission for God's poor in Bolivia!
Muchas gracias!

Bolivia **Hospital Andres Cuschieri**

As you are aware, from my letter of December 2015, Hospital Andres Cuschieri was expropriated by the municipality of Colcapirhua on October 21, 2015. According to Willem Langelaan, Vice-President of the Society, who visited Bolivia November 5, 2016 – March 3, 2017, the hospital is functioning very well and improvements in the facility are ongoing. Walls have been painted, storage areas cleaned up and the property cleared of junk. A new surgery table has been installed and the new digital x-ray machine donated by the Society is in good use. The second floor is in full use and the waiting room is overflowing. The poor are paying less than before for medical treatment. The municipality has also built a new satellite hospital. It is associated with Hospital Cuschieri. It is very large with 6 dialysis stations. This is the first outside of Cochabamba. It is also named Andres Cuschieri.

All of us should be delighted with how well the hospital is running and continuing to serve the people of the area. It was always Father Andrew Cuschieri's wish that the hospital be under the control of the local people and that they take responsibility for it. Let us hope and pray that the hospital continues to serve the vision and mission of Father Andrew. So far, according to Willem, that is the case.

The hospital is now well funded by the Municipal and National government and no longer requires our financial or management support.

At this time, I extend a very sincere thank you to all of the members, donors and friends of the Society for making Hospital Andres Cuschieri possible. ***Muchas gracias!***

Schools

Though, over the past number of years, both of the schools built and equipped by the Society, San Lorenzo and La Sagrada Familia, have not received funding from the Society, they are operating at peak capacity. The government funds the teachers and the schools. These are first class schools that have been built and equipped by the Society. They continue to serve, each one, about 1200 students daily. Thousands of students have benefitted over the years

The Society of the Human Family in Christ

and continue to benefit from these schools. And of special note, the present Mayor of Colcapirhua attended San Lorenzo and has fond memories of Father Andrew. **Thank you sincerely for your contribution to the education of young Bolivians!**

Child Sponsorship Program

Marie Morrison, Director of the Child Sponsorship Program of the Society, has worked tirelessly over the years to promote the Society's sponsorship program for needy children in the Colcapirhua area of Hospital Cuschieri. Marie has informed me that during 2016 we had sponsors and sponsorships of which were new. Thus far in 2017, we have sponsors and sponsorships of which are new.

At the executive meeting of March 11, 2017, the executive passed a motion increasing the sponsorship donation from \$180 to \$200. There has been no increase since 1998 when the program commenced. As you can well understand given inflation and the present exchange rate for USD there was a need to increase the donation.

In addition, the Child Sponsorship Program is now well established at the residence of the Sisters de Santa Dorotea in Colcapirhua. The Sisters will be funding the necessary construction to accommodate adequately this program that is under the leadership of Sister Cecilia a member of this religious congregation. The Society thanks the Sisters immensely for their great generosity and participation in this much-needed program. To assist with this project, the Society has requested the Archdiocese of Cochabamba to submit to the Sisters \$41,000 USD from the \$60,000 USD promised from the funds received by the Archdiocese at the expropriation of Hospital Cuschieri. This has already occurred.

Thank you sincerely to you, Marie, and to your helpers and sponsors. Also, to Sister Cecilia, Directress of the Program and to Sister Loredana Celebrin, Superior of the Congregación Hermanas Maestras de Santa Dorotea in Cochabamba, who is a major supporter of the program and the Sisters de Santa Dorotea who assist Sister Cecilia, I extend a very **heartfelt thank you. Muchas gracias!**

Young Women's Education Program

In total there are 30 young women enrolled in the secondary education program and 60 in the college level nurses education program at the Instituto de Educación Rural, IER, in Quillacollo. All graduates find a job, often in their own communities. No more poverty for the alumnae! The diplomas are issued by the government that also pays the teachers' salaries. The school is excellently managed by the Canadian Directora, Sister Murielle Dubé mic, and her sisters of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, Laval, Quebec.

The Society is funding the construction of a water tower for the irrigation of a future orchard that will assist the agriculture education program and may provide additional revenue for the IER. The funding is in place and there is a green light for the project to proceed. In addition, the design and budget for the renovations of the dormitory building at the Young Women's Program have been finalized and an application for funding made to the Japanese Embassy in La Paz. The Society will also try to fund as best it can this project. I send a special thank you to Willem, Vice-President, for his dedicated work in assisting the Young Women's Program. **Muchas gracias!**

Executive Meetings

The Executive members of the Society met on March 11, 2017 to consider and make decisions in regard to the work of the Society. Much other work occurred through e-mails, telephone conversations and written correspondence (tax receipts, thank you letters etc.). I extend a sincere thank you to all of the members of the executive for their dedicated and generous work on behalf of the mission of the Society. **Thank you sincerely!**

The Society of the Human Family in Christ

Conclusion

In conclusion, I have attempted in an economy of words to summarize the events of the Society during 2016 and into 2017. To all of the generous people who have contributed and donated to the Society over the past year, ***I say thank you!*** May God bless you now and always! You are precious collaborators in God's work for the poorest of the poor. God will always remember your generosity of heart. Be assured of our daily prayers for you and your loved ones.

Hope to see many of you at the Annual General Meeting to be held at St. Joseph's Church, 5440 Durie Road, Mississauga, Ontario, on Saturday, May 27, 2017, commencing at 1:00 p.m.

With blessings and gratitude In Christ,

Father Andrew P. Mayer, i.v. Dei

Father Andrew Mayer, I.V. Dei,
President of the Society of the Human Family in Christ