

Human Family in Christ

St. Joseph's Church
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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT APRIL 2018

In opening my annual report for 2018, I extend to you greetings and the blessings of Almighty God for you and your loved ones. I also offer praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for the many blessings that He has bestowed upon us and the Human Family in Christ. I am sure that Father Andrew Cuschieri, continues to watch over us and the work of the Human Family in Christ. As you may have noticed, we have eliminated “the Society” from our title to shorten it but also to comply with the name by which the Canada Revenue Agency knows us.

The 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at St. Joseph's R.C. Church in Mississauga on May 27, 2017. Unfortunately, there were very few members in attendance. 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 Director of 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 the executive members for their “yes” and multiple contributions of time and dedication to the work of the Society. Their help and commitment are precious to the Society and its mission for God's poor in Bolivia! ***Muchas gracias!***

Bolivia Hospital Andrés Cuschieri

According to all indications, Hospital Andrés Cuschieri is in full operation as well as its satellite location and is continuing to serve the people of the area in an exemplary way, just as Father Cuschieri desired. 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 and continue to benefit from these schools including the Mayor of Colcapirhua, Ing. Mario Severich, who is a graduate of San Lorenzo. He remembers Father Cuschieri well. **Thank you sincerely for your past contribution to the education of young Bolivians!**

Child Sponsorship Program

Marie Morrison, Director of the Child Sponsorship Program of the Human Family in Christ, continues to work diligently with her colleagues to promote the Society's sponsorship program for needy children in the Colcapirhua area. Marie has informed me that during 2017 we had 189 sponsors and 325 sponsorships of which 22 were new. Thus far in 2018, we have 77 sponsors and 127 sponsorships of which 12 are new.

At the executive meeting of April 7, 2018, the executive discussed the shortfall in funding for this program indicated to us by Sister Cecilia in Bolivia who runs this program for the Society with the Hermanas Maestras de Santa Dorotea. The problem that exists is that though there were in 2017 325 sponsored children by our generous donors, Sister Cecilia also helps 225 additional children associated with the families for whom donors sponsor individual or multiple children. This is a needed requirement, but unfortunately not specifically funded when additional children of a needy family are included. Thus, the shortfall in funding. If you can assist further in your donations to the Child Sponsorship Program, this will be greatly appreciated and an income tax receipt with gratitude will be issued to you.

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In addition, the Hermanas Maestras de Santa Dorotea have fully funded a new addition to their convent to accommodate the Child Sponsorship Program. It has been well completed. The cost to furnish the new facility has been paid for by the Human Family in Christ. At the present time, we are funding security bars at the request of Sister Cecilia. The remainder of the Human Family in Christ's donation of \$41,000 USD will be allocated for other furnishings and the continuing support of the Child Sponsorship Program.

A sincere Thank You to you, Marie, and to your helpers and sponsors. Also, to Sister Cecilia, Directress of the Program, to Sister Anna Maria Di Placido, the new Superior of the Latin American Delegation of the Hermanas Maestras de Santa Dorotea and to the Sisters who assist Sister Cecilia, I extend a very **heartfelt thank you.**
Muchas gracias!

We also extend a big **Muchas gracias** to **Sister Loredana Celebrin** who left Cochabamba for a posting in Brazil after serving the Delegation of the Hermanas de Santa Dorotea for nearly 40 years as Superior. In the 1980's Sister Loredana encouraged and participated with Father Cuschieri to build the 2 schools and the hospital!

Young Women's Education Program

In total there are 30 young women enrolled in the secondary education program and 63 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.

Through generous donors, the Society has funded 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 water tower is in place and we are now waiting for what the IER wants in terms of plantation that will affect the irrigation project for which we have a generous donor. In addition, the design and budget for the renovations of the dormitory and a new classroom building at the Young Women's Program have been finalized. However, we did not succeed in a funding application made to the Japanese Embassy in La Paz. The Society will also try to seek other funding support from other organizations, but we may have to turn to you, generous donors, to succeed in this project. It is my understanding that the cost of the dormitory's renovations is \$50,000 USD, and the new classroom building to accommodate additional students is \$160,000 USD. 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 11th, 2017 and April 7th, 2018 to consider and make decisions in regard to the work of the Human Family in Christ. 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!**

Conclusion

In conclusion, I have attempted in an economy of words to summarize the events of the Society during 2017 and into 2018. 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. Please remember in your prayers two generous supporters, Marysia Zaleski and Eva De Coste who passed away in 2017 as well as Magda Deck who is now experiencing some health issues. Please remember also in your prayers all others who may need our prayers and thoughts.

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, June 9, 2018, commencing at 10:00 a.m.**

With blessings and gratitude In Christ,

Father Andrew P. Mayer, i.v. Dei

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