

Update of Our Sister Parish in Venezuela & the Orphanage

As summer begins to wind down and we gear up for school, I hope you have had a wonderful summer, full of joy. I am happy to report that all the rice meals made by my students have arrived. I have attached a couple pictures: a close up so you can see the messages written on the boxes by the students, one with Bishop Jaime, one where they are unloading all the boxes, and one with medical supplies.

Recently, Venezuela decided to increase the taxes on items shipped into the country. This is a BIG tax. Thankfully, I have been informed that more supplies are available in Venezuela now. God is good and He has provided the way to get funds into the sisters on a regular basis. These funds allow the sisters to buy the items they need and support the local economy. We still are shipping medical supplies, because they are not as available. I send medical supplies by air and this did not receive the large tax as shipping by ocean. Most supplies come by ocean and so this is why they chose to increase that tax the most.

The sisters are very busy. They have many things to do and that recently increased as they began to visit a local garbage site. This site has about 150 children living there with no homes and no clothes. There are also some adults living there. On Tuesdays and Fridays, the sisters bring them food. These nine sisters also go out to the streets at night to visit what they call the "street people". The sisters bring bread and water. This activity is on Monday and Wednesday nights.

Although all the children in the home with those who have birth defects are very delicate, 14 are doing well. There are 2 children right now that are with doctors receiving treatments. Thankfully, we are able to provide the medical supplies they need to treat all the children.

The sisters ask for your continued prayerful support, and they continue to pray for you. They are so grateful for all you do to help them and the children of Venezuela. They send all their love with many blessings.

Shelly Sands, Missions International August 2023

Just this week, IC sent a check for \$6,000!!!

