



Diocese of Fall River



Parroquia Santa Rosa de Lima



Dominican Sisters of the Presentation

Welcome to our Diocesan Mission in Honduras

Parish of St. Rose of Lima  *Guaimaca, FM, Honduras*

Mission Experience

The Mission is comprised of three basic components:

- ***The Parish*** – St. Rose of Lima Parish, invites you to walk with us and experience a bit of our catholic faith. All are welcome – catholic or not – to our celebrations, Mass, village visits, etc., so that you can understand how much religion is part of the Honduran culture.
- ***The Clinic*** – Sr. Maria & Sr. Gloribel coordinate the work of the clinic as part of the parish outreach to the poor who could not otherwise afford medical care.
- ***The Marie Poussepin Center for girls*** - Sr. Teresa Marie directs the Sisters' formation center for poor young women from the villages so that they can achieve their high school diploma and possibly advance to college.

There will be opportunities for visitors to experience the various parts of the Mission through visits to the villages, work on the farm, visiting the Center and the Clinic, etc. Take advantage of how the Diocese of Fall River and the Dominican Sisters of the Presentation are working together to help the poor.

Here is some helpful information for your visit with us ~

Our "mission" is "Presence"

- Although the work you will do while you're here is very important and will help to make better the lives of the people you serve, your presence among them is far more important. **"How" you do something is more important than "What" you do!** The work has been here before your arrival, and will go on long after your visit. Make the most of your interaction with our brothers and sisters.
- We are equal in the eyes of God, so we treat all with dignity and compassion.

From one culture to another

- Expect a bit of "culture shock" as you see the poverty in which people live and the conditions of life in our community.
- Be generous *...but do not give!* Generosity is a natural response to poverty but please do not give things directly to people. If you have the desire to share with the less fortunate, please speak to one of the Mission Team as to how best it can be done. Do not give special gifts to particular people.
- No adoptions allowed! Please do not "adopt" anyone by offering to sponsor them for school, building a house, etc. Speak to one of the Team if you desire to help someone. Our work here is to help people develop a work ethic rather than being dependent on charity.



"But the sun isn't that strong..."

- While the sun may not *seem* to be that strong, it is. Use sun block if you are working outside during the day. *(At night the chance of sunburn lessens!)*
- Use bug spray if you're going outside at dawn or dusk. Dengue fever and malaria are



carried by mosquitoes. If you are stung or receive a bite that gets inflamed, please tell a Team member to look at it.

For your Safety and Security

Since you're visiting Honduras, you're now subject to the laws of Honduras. Do not assume that the same laws apply as in the US.



- We must abide by the customs and laws of Honduras.
- Passengers in the front seat must wear seat belts. Passengers may not sit on the edge of the truck bed.
- You may not be out on the street after 10:00 PM.
- You should never travel alone – walking, riding, etc. Always move in a group.
- Do not visit a pool hall, bar, or disco.
- Dress appropriately. You should not wear “revealing clothing” or “provocative” clothing.
- If assaulted, freely give over your possessions. Do not scream, etc., and quickly move to the nearest group of people.
- No one, other than group members, is allowed to enter the Salon or Kitchen areas. Please do not invite others inside to visit or “share a meal”.
- Do not leave important or valuable things in the salon, or unattended. We cannot be responsible for items missing or stolen.
- There is a set of keys for each dorm. Please keep the dorms locked when the group leaves. Always lock the door to the Salon.

Community Living

- Since the mornings come early, we recommend that there be quiet in the salon after 11 PM.
- Don't wait to be asked. If you see that something needs to be done, do it.
- Shower – the water is heated as it passes over the heating element. (slower falling water=hotter; faster flowing water=cooler)
- Drink only the purified water. Someone in the group should be responsible to watch the water and let us know when it runs down!
- Food recommendation: “*cook it, peel it, ...or forget it!*” Although the food we serve you is prepared properly, use caution if eating elsewhere....in the villages, restaurants, homes.
- Wash hands, especially before eating.
- In Honduran culture, smoking and drinking are considered vices. Since many young people help manage the group, we ask that the group refrain from drinking while at the Mission.
- Bathrooms: Do not flush anything other than human waste down the toilet. Use the receptacles on the side of the bowl for toilet paper and all other waste.
- Dish washing: Carefully cleaning the dishes, etc., helps to minimize sickness, so: wash dishes/utensils with conventional dish detergent then scald dishes with boiling water and let dry.



Making the Most of Your Visit

- Each group is different and comes to the Mission with different goals. The groups that have benefitted most from their visit are those that have included a “reflection” session during their visit. Consider gathering with the group leader to share your experiences, reflect on the visit, and process this special time of mission.
- While taking pictures is a helpful way to capture a memory, keeping a journal is another form of processing your visit and remembering not only what an experience “looked like” rather how it made you feel.
- If your group would like to celebrate Mass together in English, please talk to the priest accompanying the group or to Fr. Craig.



EMERGENCY INFORMATION

If you purchased Emergency Insurance recommended (Gallagher Charitable International Insurance Services): In the event of an emergency, contact:

Specialty Assist - Call London, England – 24 Hours Service
Tel: +44 (0) 207 902 7149 Fax: +44 (0) 207 928 4748

You should have handy:

- *Enrollment Number*
- *Effective date*
- *SAS Agreement Number*
- *Passport Number*

MISSION PHONE NUMBERS:

Rectory: 2769-4292

Fr. Craig: 3178-9818

Sr. Maria: 9871-2597

Sr. Marta: 9847-2972

Sr. Gloribel: 8938-1145

Sr. Teresa: 95491738