



# Around Our Diocese

Issue #117

The Diocese of Northern Indiana

July 2010

*A Passion for the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
A Willingness to do Whatever it Takes*

*A Heart for the Lost  
A Commitment to One Another*

## A Letter from the Bishop

Dear brothers and sisters,

I will be in the Holy Land until June 30, traveling with a group of bishops and clergy and lay leaders under the auspices of a ministry called Christians for a Fair Witness on the Middle East. This trip is partly pilgrimage and partly fact-finding, as we seek a deeper understanding of the tragic and decades-long conflict that has engulfed the region. Please keep us in your prayers. The biblical plea—"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem" (Ps. 122:6)—is the yearning of the Christian heart, and it's a great privilege to be a part of this journey.

Over the course of the trip, I hope—technology willing—to send some pictures back. They'll be posted on our diocesan website. With all blessings -

Yours in Christ,

**+Ed**

## Honduras Mission Trip 2010

The focus of our mission trip was to nurture our relationships with the villagers of Delicias del Norte - a small village in the mountains near San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

David Silva recalls, "Last year, I had a special opportunity to travel to a small, poverty stricken village in Honduras. I had no idea what I would encounter. I, along with others, met warm and friendly people that were happy to welcome us to their village ... this year, my wife and I had the opportunity to travel to the same small village. Arriving at the village, we were greeted like returning relatives. We may not make a big impact on their daily lives but every little act of kindness that we are able to provide is much appreciated." In addition, we worked along side the villagers building stoves, pillas (above ground cisterns with a scrub board and faucet) and latrines. We also planted gardens. "It was hard backbreaking work to those of us unaccustomed to manual work, especially in 90 degree plus weather. We've been reminded how fortunate we Americans are and how much we have in material things. We've also learned that the villagers in Honduras

share the same faith we have and that gives us a common bond that we hope we can continue to build on together."



David's wife Stella adds, "I had heard the stories of the Honduras mission from my husband and his fellow travelers. My experience in Honduras, especially with the children, has enriched my life. If it were possible, I would have brought numerous of the children back to the U.S. to provide them the lifestyle and educational opportunities that we Americans enjoy. I hope that in the near future that we'll have the opportunity to have our grandkids travel to Honduras on a mission trip; I know they'll quickly learn that by giving of our time and resources we receive so much in return."



To prepare for this mission, we collaborated with two missionaries from Virginia and raised over \$20,000 to purchase an urgently needed water treatment plant. The plant is capable of producing safe water for up to 4,000 people per day. The dedication ceremony for the water treatment plant was well attended by villagers, the local

politicians, and national police and included coverage by a national television station. The safe water has already reduced the frequent instances of water borne diseases in the area.

The Companeros en Cristo Committee is assisting the women of San Lucas in the development of their sewing cooperative. The women are gaining a sense of self worth and accomplishment. One of the women – Gloria - has increased her income from \$25 per month to over \$100 – a meager amount by U.S. standards, but life changing in this small Honduran village. The money helped her to receive much needed medical care.

The women are learning how to sew school uniforms from a volunteer sent by the technical school. The sale of school uniforms will allow the cooperative to expand. The group has already grown from two women to fifteen in the last two years - greatly impacting the village. The women also produce patchwork handbags, which we are helping to sell. Money earned allows the women to provide food, medicine and clothing for their children. Please contact Tim Skimina to schedule a parish visit about our mission work and the sewing cooperative.

The purpose of mission is to come alongside other people and to share in their lives. Relationship is at the core of our Christian experience, as it is with the Holy Trinity. I invite anyone with a heart for mission to join us on the Companeros en Cristo (Companion Diocese) committee. We meet about three times a year to discuss ways to help the Diocese of Honduras and plan mission trips. Please contact me if you are interested or have any questions about our work.

In Christ,  
Tim Skimina

(248) 459-9776  
[t-skimina@northwestern.edu](mailto:t-skimina@northwestern.edu)

### Companeros en Cristo Meeting

The Companeros en Cristo Committee will meet next on Saturday, July 31, 2010 at 11:00 at St. Thomas, Plymouth. Following the meeting, those who wish to get together will have lunch.

### St. John of the Cross, Bristol Assists in Flood Relief

Volunteers from St. John of the Cross, Bristol renewed their American Red Cross Disaster Relief Training in May. One of the volunteers, Beverly Johnson, was recently sent to Tennessee for three weeks to assist with the problems from the flooding on May 4 in that area. Beverly was very excited about not only the training, but being able to use that training to help the people in the flood area.

### Ministry Updates

Congratulations to the Rev. Deacon Thomas Haynes, who was ordained on June 15<sup>th</sup> at St. Thomas, Plymouth. He has been serving St. Elizabeth's, Culver at a Lay Pastoral Leader and will continue serving that parish in an ordained capacity.

The Rev. Deacon Clark Miller will be ordained to the priesthood on Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. Beginning on August 1<sup>st</sup>, he will serve as Priest-in-Charge at Trinity, Logansport. The Rev. Ted Neidlinger will serve the congregation through the end of July. Thank you, Fr. Ted for your years of faithful service at Trinity!!!

### Bishop & Diocesan Calendar for July 2010

#### July 4-10, 2010

Diocesan High School Camp: Good Samaritan

#### July 5, 2010

Office closed

#### July 7, 2010

12:05 PM (EDT) Holy Eucharist at the Cathedral

#### July 9, 2010

6:00 PM (EDT) Ordination of the Rev. Deacon Clark Miller to the Priesthood at Trinity, Logansport

#### July 10, 2010

12:00 PM (EDT) Ice Cream Social with barbershop quartet at St. John of the Cross, Bristol

#### July 10, 2010

1:00 PM (EDT) Cursillo Secretariat at St. Anne's, Warsaw

#### July 11, 2010

Visitation to St. Elizabeth's, Culver

#### July 11-17, 2010

Camp New Happenings

#### July 13, 2010

12:00 PM (EDT) Property & Loan Committee

#### July 16, 2010

12:05 PM (EDT) Holy Eucharist at the Cathedral

#### July 17, 2010

10:00 AM (EDT) Commission on Ministry

#### July 27, 2010

12:00 PM (EDT) Standing Committee

#### July 31, 2010

11:00 AM (EDT) Companeros en Cristo Committee at St. Thomas, Plymouth

*Coming in August: South Bend Area Vacation Bible School. Contact local parishes for details.*

*Around Our Diocese is published monthly. Please send stories, articles, and images by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month to:*

*Jon Adamson – [info@ednin.org](mailto:info@ednin.org)  
117 N. Lafayette Blvd., South Bend, IN 46601*

*The editor reserves the right to edit all articles. Please visit [www.ednin.org](http://www.ednin.org) for regular updates and more news from around our diocese.*