

San Luis de la Paz, Guanajuato, Mexico. February 28, 2022.



May the Peace of God be with You.

First, my family and I want to express our gratitude for thinking of us, to help our ministry in this city. Thank you for your friendship and prayers; we thank God for you.

We share with you a glance of the small town of San Luis de la Paz.

We are in central Mexico, in the northeastern part of the state of Guanajuato, at the entrance of the Sierra Gorda Mountain range. This city, along with the small villages within the county, are farming communities dedicated to agriculture and the raising of sheep, goats, and chickens.

Catholicism and traditions are very strong in this community; just in downtown there are 6 big and antique "catholic churches"!



For the God's glory, the Church of Christ has gained more presence in the surrounding neighborhood, through campaigns to help families in need and vacation Bible school.

These activities have given us the opportunity to talk to the neighbors and invite them to other church activities and Sunday services.



During the month of February, we had the first "Help the Needy" campaign of 2022. Leading up to it, we invited families we believed are in dire need, so they benefit from the activity. We had the event on the 26<sup>th</sup>, for the first time at the now built church building. We regularly have this event in a nearby community, at a home or in a school. We invite families and speak about the Church first, then we begin the handling of cloth items.



As stated before, this time we had the campaign at the church building, so our neighbors could benefit from it, know the location of the building, and lose fear of being seen at the Church of Christ building. We had good response! 17 families attended the event, and thus doors were opened for future activities.

On another note, this month we visited brethren who have been discouraged, have fallen into sin, or due to family conflicts, they stopped attending. We are working with Francisco, a young man we helped get out of the streets and drugs. He turned his life around and helped tremendously in the work of the Church but has fallen into drug addiction again;

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we've taken him twice to a rehabilitation center and constantly have conversations with him. The situation is complicated, but we do not lose hope to bring him back to Christ.



We are also visiting sister Ernestina, a very active member in the Church, whose husband is a violent bad man. He has forbidden Ernestina to attend services; he threatens and beats her. He has come to church on Sundays and other activities before but has not taken anything serious. Now, he does not attend and does not let his wife attend either. We visit Ernestina and maintain communication with her on a regular basis.



Regarding the construction, we are working diligently to finish the building. In previous messages I sent Arturo, I mentioned the contractor being off and on due to his other work assignments, especially during the week, thus slowing down construction with us. Honest contractors in Mexico are hard to find. (Now Art speaking). *Martin goes several times a week to continue the construction by himself or with his wife and kids.*



Dear brethren, once again we thank you for your support and we always include you in our prayers. We pray for prosperity in the Lord, to continue being faithful and constant. We pray that together we continue working for the expansion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, His Son.

In Him,

-Martin Perez Duran