

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS • LATIN AMERICAN REGION

DECEMBER • 2014 EDITION

LATAM

**5 BROTHERS
RENEWED
VOWS**

**ERI
LATIN AMERICA
CHIMBOTE**

OMAS

**30 MISIONERS, 3 SCHOOLS,
3 COUNTRIES AND A TOWN**





LIMA IMMERSION GROUPS - 2015

Feb 11 - 17 Hendricken High School, Rhode Island

Mar 09 - 13 CLT, Rome

Mar 25 - 31 Iona Prep, New Rochelle

Apr 01 - 07 O'Dea High School, Seattle

Apr 18 - 23 Catholic Memorial, Boston

Apr 24 - 02M Cardinal Newman, Buenos Aires - Alumnos

May 08 - 16 Cardinal Newman, Buenos Aires - Alumnos

May 22 - 30 Cardinal Newman, Buenos Aires - Madres

Jun 04 - 10 St. Laurence High School, Chicago

Jun 12 - 17 Brother Rice High School, Michigan

Jun 19 - 26 Palma High School, Salinas

Jun 29 - 08J St. Thomas More Collegiate, Vancouver

Jul 09 - 15 Iona Prep, New Rochelle, Fathers and sons

Jul 20 - 28 Pilgrims in Peru, North America

Aug 07 - 15 Cardinal Newman, Buenos Aires - Ex alumnos

Sep 21 - 29 Stella Maris, Montevideo

Oct 02 - 10 Cardinal Newman, Buenos Aires - Profesores

Nov 06 - 14 Cardinal Newman, Buenos Aires - Padres

Nov 27 - 04D Bergen Catholic High School, New Jersey (To be confirmed)



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END OF TERM

Stella Maris School

**Primary students
performing for Christmas**

The students, along with their teachers in primary, invited their families to celebrate the completion of the courses. Through various activities, the boys and girls were able to show the content of their projects and the skills learned throughout the year. All areas involved in the formation of our children worked jointly transmitting their achievements. We share with you some of these moments.

STAFF MASS. On December 12th all of us who work in the college shared in a Mass to end the year. We celebrated this Eucharist together to thank God for all that we lived and shared in this 2014. As Christians, we reflected that the Lord is our Shepherd and we are always cared for. Goodbye to several colleagues who are retiring, wishing them well at this new

stage in their lives. Then we had dinner.

VISIT OF BR. RENATO. In October we had a visit from Bro. Renato Llerena, coordinator of Edmund Rice International - ERI - in Latin America, to advise and discuss our work here in Montevideo. During his visit we had several meetings with different members of our Network: faculty, staff, social work group, immersion group, etc. In this way, we promote the work of ERI and try to share the initiatives that are already taking place.

We also met with a representative of Franciscans International in Uruguay, who traveled to Geneva to present a report to the Universal Periodic Review - UPR - of the United Nations on human rights in our country, Uruguay, and he had the opportunity to work with Brothers Moy and Brian in our office there. We hope to continue strengthening ties and begin to work



together.

In our school we have many projects related to the values of ERI, as Action, MUN (Model United Nations) meetings, workshops, academic and curricular projects, among others. At this stage we try to integrate the work of ERI in the three areas defined in the 2014 meeting in Cochabamba: Mother Earth, Eco spirituality and Human Rights. *Gonzalo Irigoyen.*

WORKSHOP MEETING WITH STUDENTS OF “NUESTRO CAMINO”

Since early this year the students of 1st and 2nd year secondary here in Stella Maris College accompany the work done by the boys of Our Way, an institution that is dedicated to working with children and youth with disabilities. Throughout the year we were learning and discovering that from the differences we may grow

side by side. We were experimenting and challenging our fears with joy, play and laughter. We encouraged each other to find God in every glance and smile and at the end of this little journey without losing sight of the process, we could conclude that the difference unites us.

We said goodbye to the year with a nice round of games, dances and snacks ... *Sofia Cristina.*



**Celebration of end of the year
with students of Nuestro
Camino.**



IMMERSION GROUP IN COCHABAMBA

Stella Maris School

In September, a group of 10 members of the College community, had the opportunity to “live” the experience of being close to the Brothers and their mission work in Cochabamba, Bolivia, for a week.

There were four brothers: Eduardo, Dermot, Saul and Francisco. The first two Irish-born, the second two, Peruvians, each with their characteristics and particular gifts but certainly, all transmitters of the charism of Edmund Rice. This house was our home during those seven days and we were made feel very much at home. Our Uruguayan bustling and cheerful banter invaded the house which surely must have been amusing to them.

This missionary experience in another country, another reality, a different culture to ours, was certainly very rich and will be forever in our hearts, an experience that included all our senses and moved us into action.

They were seven days where our families were away, but present in each of us; where we felt part of a community with our differences, our

virtues and defects but all trying to give of one’s best.

Seven days of “community living”, sharing every minute, from Morning Prayer, breakfast, the day with the kids, preparing dinner, sharing the night table until prayer and songs before bedtime. They were seven days accompanying the children and adolescents attending Centro Her-

Seven days of “community living”, sharing every minute, from Morning Prayer; breakfast, the day with the kids, preparing dinner, sharing the night table until prayer and songs before bedtime.

mano Manolo, the girls who live in the home of Mary Help of Christians, visiting the homes and families of children living in the hills in the southern part of the city, contact with children, women and men who work in the market, motivated us to give, to want to reach out, to smile, to offer a word. Seven days where the children through their expressions, faces, eyes, hugs, smiles and a few words, expres-

sed appreciation for the mere fact of our approaching them, sharing a game with them, helping with homework, giving them our love ...

They were seven days where the brothers with their gestures and choice of words, prayer and action, showed us how the charism of Edmund Rice lives. They are true instruments of God in the service of others. Their

work is quiet and respectful, conducted with humility and generosity, with determination, commitment and willingness, cheerful, warm and bearers of hope. It is a task that involves every one of them, a constant and tireless effort, following and accompanying children on their way to succeed in life, to defend their right to a better life through study and approaching God.



CHRISTMAS IS SHARING

By Rusbeld Chero

Students of the graduating class of 2014 of Mundo Mejor High School finished their pastoral service in different institutions, having donated their time and service to support children, young people, the elderly, the disabled and families in extreme poverty. Christ was present in many of the faces we served.

It was fun to celebrate Christmas with our new friends, bringing more

than material things to them, sharing the joy of salvation, the value of life and hope for a world better.

“True Christmas is sharing” is our motto and is the meaning of advent and of the Christmas celebrations, helping our brothers live moments of joy. Loneliness does not come from Christ, but disappears with each hand extended and ready to serve, such as we have been taught by Blessed Edmund Rice.

**Loneliness
does not come
from Christ,
but disappears
with each hand
extended and
ready to serve.**





HENDRICKEN HOUSE

By Paul Keohane

Immersion group from
Bergen Catholic

An immersion group from Hendricken High School spent a week with us at the start of December. Ten senior students came accompanied by two brothers, Brian Walsh and Chris Hall. They constructed a pre fabricated house on the hill near Canto Grande and they worked with the women peeling broad beans. They enjoyed their visits to the homes in Vila El Salvador and they worked very well with the children in a nursery. They had an unwelcome experience when their flight out of Lima was cancelled and they had to return to our house at 04:00 am y wait for a flight programmed for the following night.

The associates from Canto Grande made their promises in the Hendricken House on Sunday 7th of December. Brothers Michael and Javier participated with Pablo in the ceremony.

Three past pupils from Newman College and three past pupils from Stella Maris College were invited to participate in the Fe y Alegría mission in Omas, in the mountains near Lima and they spent a few days in our house before and after the mission. They visited families on the hill near our school with Pablo. They worked with the women and in the evenings they

the three Lima communities to dine in a restaurant, a gesture that was appreciated by us all. We wish him a good rest with his brothers in Chile.

The three communities had Christmas supper in our house. We ate a succulent turkey and finished the celebration on our flat roof looking at the fireworks at midnight.

Diego returned from Arequipa

Brother Al Cussen spent a few days with us on his way to Chile. He invited the brothers from the three Lima communities to dine in a restaurant.

carried the heavy bags of beans and loaded them on the truck.

Brother Al Cussen spent a few days with us on his way to Chile to visit his family. He invited the brothers from

having spent two weeks there working on his educational projects.

The students from Bergen wrote their reflections every night and we present here some of their thoughts.

One can leave a very poor neighborhood and in an hour's journey in a bus arrive in a wealthy neighborhood. The poor and the rich live a few miles apart but their living conditions give the impression that they live in different worlds.

When I started peeling broad beans it seemed very easy. Two hours later I had blisters on my thumbs. It upset me to think that a woman who peels beans for ten hours a day only gets \$6. The woman also has to carry 40

kilo bags down to the bean collection point. On leaving I had great respect for a woman who does this every day to buy food for her four children.

This week made a strong impact on my attitudes and conduct. I have learnt to appreciate all that I have and to be less egoistic. The woman peeling the beans made the strongest impact on me. She does so much to get very little and I do very little and I have a lot. She has inspired me to put more effort into everything I do.

It is difficult to express in words what my experience in Peru has been. I came here to get through a week here but I leave a changed person. I will not forget the experience that inspired me to live a better life.

I have spent hours carrying timber panels, building a house, painting a house, peeling beans, dancing with senior citizens and chatting to pupils of Fe y Alegría. I have had pains in my back, in my legs and in my feet. The experience had great value for me and it has not finished. I have a lot to do in my life to close the gap that exists between the poor and us who have everything.



Br. Michael O'Donnell, Br. Al Cussen and Br. Jim Glos.



Br. Paul with Newman's former students



SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN FE Y ALEGRIA

By Jim Glos

Student sketches about being in love

In November and December Karina Andrade and Brother Jim Glos did workshops with the sixth grade primary students and the second grade secondary students in the Fe y Alegría 26 school in Lima. The theme of the workshops with the primary students was the physical and psychological changes experienced at the beginning of adolescence.

To begin the session Karina placed on the front board outlines of male and female adolescent bodies. The students were then asked to paste a small card with a check mark on the areas in which the puberty changes occur (genital area, throat, etc.). As can be imagined there was much movement and laughter among the students as they placed the cards in the respective parts of the figures.

The second part was an interesting and well-done DVD presentation of the physical changes that young adolescents experience as they begin puberty, that had the students enthralled.

In the third and final part of the workshop the students were asked to answer a number of questions about puberty supposedly sent to a radio station by adolescents. The topics of these questions were various: menstruation, masturbation, hygiene, wet dreams, relative size of sexual organs, acne, etc. After hearing the answers of the students, both Karina and

Brother Glos shared their ideas on the respective topics.

Among the suggestions given by the animators, there were three that were most emphasized: masturbation, pornography and falling in love. It is normal for adolescents, both male and female, to masturbate, it is part of learning about their sexuality. However, constant and prolonged masturbation is not a positive manner to live out one's sexuality. Pornography, which is so common in our times, both in magazines, on TV and easily downloaded from Internet, is a very unhealthy way to learn about sexuality and can foment exaggerated masturbation. Finally, young girls need to be very conscious that they will be approached by males older than they in order to begin sentimental relationships. Teenage girls that become pregnant almost always have coital relationships with males much older than they.

It may seem strange that we speak so frankly about certain topics of sexuality with these students that are only 10 or 11 years old. However, we have discovered that even at this age they have been exposed to aspects of sexuality that need to be talked about openly with them to correct false ideas that they may have. Also, they are about to begin falling in love, if they have not already done so, and they need to be forewarned from the beginning that

getting "involved" with older men is a dangerous way to go.

The workshop with the secondary students was on falling in Love. The students, divided into five groups, studied specific variations of the theme. The first case was of a high school girl in love with a 21-year-old male who was constantly asking her to "prove" her love by having intimate sexual relations. The second case was of a young girl in love whose mother forbade her to be with him. The third was about a high school girl in love with a boy who was not in love with her. She felt jealous of him when he was socializing with other girls. The fourth case was of a young male student who as yet did not have a girl friend and felt that something was wrong with him. The final case was that of a male student who felt little or no attraction toward girls and preferred to hang around with a close male friend.

After studying its respective case each group prepared a short sketch with was presented before the entire class. After each sketch the animator used the experience to draw out important lessons about being in love as a teenager.

In the final part of the workshop a DVD presentation called "NO TE ENAMORES DE MÍ" ("DON'T FALL IN LOVE WITH ME") was shown, which served to reinforce the themes previously discussed.



CARDENAL NEWMAN SCHOOL

By Pastoral Team

GRADUATION MASS. The sixth-year students had their traditional graduation mass in which they bade farewell to the years they spent in school, looking ahead to the adventures to be lived in new experiences to which they bring the fruit of what they have learned. The evening graduation ceremony was held in the campus square and was accompanied by fine weather. The mass was celebrated by Jaime Morea, a past-student of the school, who encouraged the graduates to be thankful for their days at Newman. Present at the ceremony were the students' family and faculty members, who heard the words of Alberto Olivero, Marité Martin and Fernando Lasala, all three of which were the school's principals during recent years.

After the ceremonies all present shared a meal in the school Cafeteria to commemorate the last school year of these students. Many of these young men, who will continue to participate

in the school's pastoral activities: works of solidarity, the summer mission and other special events, showed much enthusiasm to begin this new stage in life, remembering with much affection that which they leave behind in this special space which was their second home for many years. *By José Santamarina*

END OF YEAR RETREAT FOR PERSONNEL. On Friday, December 19, about sixty members of the school faculty had a spiritual encounter in the retreat center Monseñor Aguirre to bring to a close the present school year in a special manner.

Inspired by the theme of the Christian Brothers' Congregation Chapter in Nairobi, 2014, "Attracted by mystery, destined for life", the retreat was divided in three parts. In the first moment, using pieces of a puzzle each of which represented the respective retreat participants, we put together the figure of a "burning bush": roots, trunk and branches, an activity which motivated

us to reflect on how all together we form the Newman community.

In the second moment we filled in the leaves of the bush with the respective virtues that each of us bring to our community. Finally, in the third moment, in the context of prayer, we expressed in writing the sentiments we experience of how the practice of our virtues fills our lives with fire and light. The finished product of this retreat was centered around the image of the "burning bush", sketched on the floor of the retreat center and circled by lit candles, in which we gave thanks in community prayer for the gift of our faith. It was a very beautiful way to end the school year. *By Camilo Gay*

WORKSHOP ON S.E.R AND BOARD. On Tuesday, December 16, we had a work session in which the following groups participated: Pastoral Team, members of SER (Solidarity Edmund Rice) and the board members of Colegio Cardenal Newman.

The purpose of this meeting was to plan activities which unite us in the spirit of the Chapter theme: "Attracted by mystery, destined for life.", and thus to coordinate and amplify our intentions to live our lives connected to the spirit of the Congregation.

We shared our personal experiences of the school year discovering how we were connected with the God that attracts us. We finished the morning's reflections representing our shared sentiments in a creelinas which we then incorporated in the Congregation logo.

It was a delightful experience to share with others that with whom I do not have daily contact, but who are also connected to me as part of the school. I felt emotionally involved in this activity in which I readily participated. I find much joy in being part of the Edmund Rice Network. *By Agustín Pereyra Iraola*

END OF YEAR DINNER. After the end-of-year retreat all the Newman personnel celebrated the year's ending with a dinner in the school Cafeteria, during which Alberto spoke words of



Burning bush activity during retreat

gratitude and closure. After the meal there was time for music and dancing.

Present at the celebration were the Primary and Secondary teachers, the administration staff, the non-teaching personnel, the Brothers and the members of the Board. It was a wonderful way to celebrate the education work

of 2014. Also present were husbands and wives of the school personnel, which gave us the opportunity to express our gratitude for their moral support for our work in the school. We look forward to a continued growth in community spirit in the school year 2015. *By José Santamarina*



Retreat of end of the year.



CHIMBOTE COMMUNITY

By Chuck Fitzsimmons

Br. Chuck Fitzsimmons,
Br. Vincent Peragine and
Br. Kevin Bernard

On Saturday, December 13, twelve Associates of Blessed Edmund Rice made their annual retreat in the afternoon at the home of the brothers, and then renewed their promises for a year. Brother Kevin Bernard received their promises, and Brothers Vicente Peragine and Ever Cieza prepared an elegant lasagna dinner. Brother Ever was in the community for two weeks interviewing students and their families for service in the Monsefu Mission in February. Ever was pleased to have invited some fine young men to participate in this annual service in the North.

Brother Hugo Cáceres visited us for a few days, convening the Board of Directors of Mundo Mejor High School and participating in our Christmas tree decorating party. The next day,

December 12, Mr. Anibal Torres said farewell to the community after visiting us for five weeks of observation and participation.

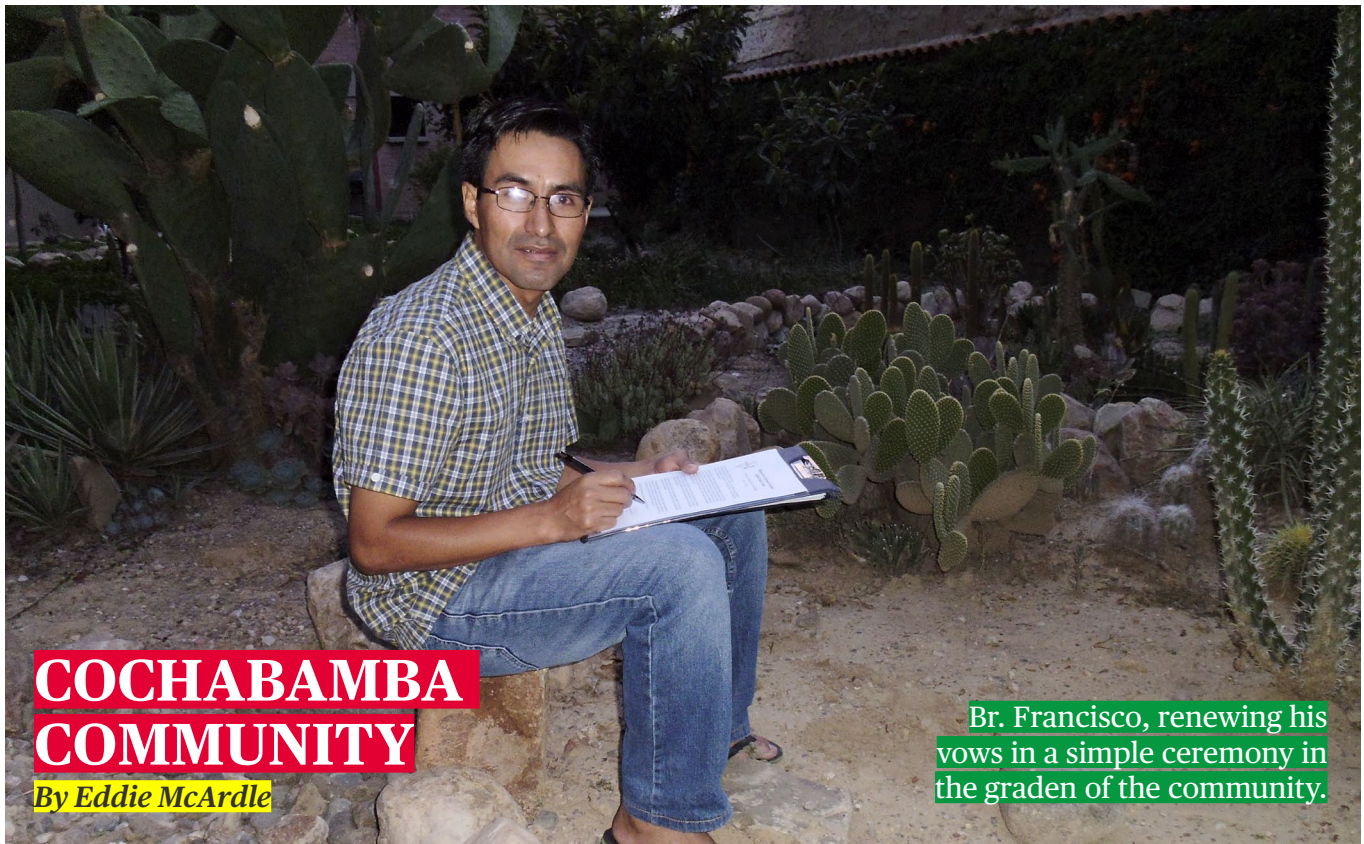
The Brothers were present in the

graduation mass in the Cathedral, the farewell luncheon for the 2014 graduating class, and their big dance two nights later. At the end of the year luncheon with the Faculty and

Br. Chuck has been moved to Santa Elizabeth Community, while new members of the Chimbote Community have already arrived: Br. Ever and Br. Rafael.

various events of the end of the school year. At the dinner given by the parent organizers of the school, the parents thanked Brother Vicente for his strong support in preparing and running the high school Olympics and the Mundo Mejor games. The brothers attended

parent supporters, the brothers celebrated and danced, and Brother Carlos Fitzsimmons had a chance to thank them all for the year of new life he experienced here in Chimbote, before he goes on to Lima next year.



COCHABAMBA COMMUNITY

By Eddie McArdle

Br. Francisco, renewing his vows in a simple ceremony in the garden of the community.

Greetings to you all in these days when we are about to celebrate the Divine Presence among us. It has been a demanding time for everyone in Centro Hermano Manolo, lately. On the 9th - Day of the Child Worker – the educators accompanied the boys and girls to their workplaces to give our newsletter to the vendors on the same site, and thanking them for watching out for the young workers. The bulletin emphasized the responsibilities of both groups with their rights. Then they returned to the office for a delicious snack.

The year came to an end with a visit to the cinema for the smallest workers aged 8 to 12 years, 26 took advantage of the offer. The closure itself consisted of a futsal tournament followed with a Christmas snack and a backpack as a gift for the 44 present with a small Christmas cake, soap, toothpaste, and several surprises inside. As if that was not enough, the team has spent time polishing and painting the office to have everything ready to resume activities in the New Year.

Dermot is currently visiting his family in his beloved Limerick, Ireland.

Francisco, renewed his vows on the 8th in a simple ceremony in the garden and on the 12th was conferred with a Degree in Social Pedagogy got

Francisco renewed his vows on the 8th and on the 12th was conferred with a Degree in Social Pedagogy. His brother Alejandro and his nephew Richard made the long journey from Perú to join Francisco.

which he really deserved. His brother Alejandro and his nephew Richard made the long journey by bus from Apurimac, Cusco, Puno, Desaguadero,

La Paz to Cochabamba to be present at the Academic Ceremony at the Catholic University. They got to know something of the city and witness the

activity in the CEHM - thank you very much for joining us.

A very happy Christmas to one and all.



The new director of CEHM.



HUMAN RIGHTS - ERI LATIN AMERICA

By José Antonio Reyes

Mundo Mejor High School celebrated first Conference for Human Rights with a march for the defense and promotion of human rights.

On December 10, Mundo Mejor High School celebrated our first Conference for Human Rights with a march for the defense and promotion of human rights.

Fifth year students organized the Conference, along with their religious education professor. First, we had a liturgy in the chapel of Our Lady of Good Counsel. Then we carried banners with themes concerning the vulnerability of fundamental rights such as: the disappearance of the 43 students in Iguala, Ayotzinapa, Mexico, in September. We also carried other banners in the case of the peasant Maxima Acuña in Cajamarca, in dispute with a mining company, Yanacocha, over her lands.

Another problem that worries our city and our students is the killings, extortion, organized crime, the corruption of the political class in the Ancash area. Chimbote is considered to be one of the Peruvian cities with highest corruption index.

The students toured all the rooms in the school with their banners raised, and we culminated the Conference with a pronouncement, a

candle-lighting and a prayer to our Mother Mary in front of the statue of the blessed Edmund Rice.



Fifth year students carried banners with themes concerning the vulnerability of fundamental rights.

MISSION IN OMAS

On Sunday, December 14, 31 members of the Edmund Rice Family boarded a bus bound for Omas, a small town in the Andean foothills located about five hours from Lima. This was our annual immersion experience, and it was a concrete example of the efforts which we all have to do in order to strengthen the bonds within the ER Network in Latin America. Knowing we had all been educated in the charism of Edmund Rice facilitated the integration of the group and our immersion trip to Omas.

Following are a few of the moments which we lived and our experience of being the Good News for all with ourselves – prayers, dialogue, and living together. With the children and youth – activities based on the person of Edmund, human rights (life, equal rights, education), sports and games. With families – small groups of our missionaries lived with 10 Omas families for a couple days. With the culture – we presented a Peruvian

folkloric dance, celebrated an ancient Andean ritual of reverencing Mother Earth and we feasted on “pachamanca” (food cooked underground on heated rocks.)

With the community – we spent a day working in the communal fruit tree nursery.

This experience forms part of a process of progressive integration among the members of the ER Network (Peru, Argentina and Uruguay) which we hope will continue to flourish. Three missionaries from Cardenal Newman school (Buenos Aires) and three from Stella Maris (Montevideo) participated in the mission.

Testimonies from our students:

“Living with the families made a strong impression on all of us. This mission was something new in my life. Thank you, fellow missionaries and people of Omas.” Romina Rivera. Fe y Alegría student.

“I went to teach, and I returned with the joy of knowing that there are so many of us in this ER family...I definitely returned having learned a lot.” Cindy Rosales, Fe y Alegría student.

“I liked the prayer services, the work spent at the tree nursery, the ‘pachamanca’, and the activities with the children, I’ll miss them all.” José Córdova, Fe y Alegría student.

The mission for me was a great experience. Everything was new because we had no idea what we were going to find. I met up with a friendly and warm group of missionaries from Fe y Alegría 26 that made me feel right at home. I went to a town of hospitable people that opened to us the doors of their homes and lives. I also felt connected to God in nature, through the animals, the food and certain celebrations that brought me into



contact with an ecological dimension of my spirituality. I am thankful to José Santa Cruz for the organization of the mission and for inviting me to participate in an experience by which I came to know many people that helped me to enjoy myself and to grow as a person.

Felipe Lagos, member of the Newman Pastoral Team.

The mission to Omas was an experience in which I felt part of the Edmund Rice Family. The shared spirit which united us gave me a strong contact with nature and with myself in which I experienced the greatness of God.

Felipe Collazo, Newman past student.

When I was offered this opportunity to mission in Omas, Peru, I had no idea of the experience it was to be. I now know that it was more than just a mission, it was also an intercultural encounter with Peruvian people who received us with open arms and made us feel right at home, sharing with us aspects of their very lives, in which we came to know them as simple, humble

and very special human beings. I wish to make special mention of the children who every day at three P.M. shared with us their happiness and affection which filled our hearts with joy. Now back in Buenos Aires I know that I will never forget what I learned, these simple and affectionate people have shown us by example a way to be in solidarity with our neighbors. I feel much gratitude toward all who, directly or indirectly, have participated in this experience, and I wish to especially thank Brother Pablo for making his home open to me. I am thankful for knowing him and I have great admiration for all that he does.

Ppe Cuvellas, Newman past student.

We thank the exemplary commitment of all the missionaries during the immersion experience.

MISSION COMPLETED!





CANTO GRANDE COMMUNITY

By Hugo Cáceres

SELFIE: Br. Richie Glatz
with students from Fe y
Alegría

The agitated tiem of a community dedicated to the service od a school is accelerated towards the end of the year. Advent and CHristmas are the frantic time od the year, also the beginning of summer. This leads us to appreciate our time os personal and communal prayer in the earliest and cool hours of the day, because we know that from 7.30 to 18.30 many students, teachers and parents will not stop callinf our attention: graduation ceremonies, holiday parties and end of the year meetings to assess progress and achievements. These are December ordinary tasks in Fe y Alegría-Christian Brothers. Yet amid this din, in December 8 Williams Cunyas, Rafael Inga and Elser Llanos (Community of St. Elizabeth) renewed their yearly vows in the presence of the two communities and Brother Paul Keohane on behalf of the RLT. The renovation was followed by a special breakfast.

We missed Rafael Inga who was a week of mission in the mountains of

Lima (Omas) with 30 other students, teachers and members of the Edmund Rice schools. Immediately after difficulties. He finished his job at the school dining room for children (Buen Gusto) who recieving nutritional support by a thorough cleaning done by parents.

Javier Sullivan ended his program that helps children with difficulties in reading and Math; after a year, the boys and girls improved a lot an dminished the number of students who will repeat the grade. Ricardo Glatz is well busy culminating inventories of our big school. His skills of organization and systematization are a great help. Christmas celebrations scheduled by two banks in the school required more of his attention and coordination.

Williams Cunyas has coordinated several Christmas parties for the poor who live in the hills of Canto Grande. With the help pf young catechists and the gifts of his school students, they have brought music, drinking chocola-

te and “panettone” (the Italian Christmas sweet bread) to children and the elderly. For the graduation ceremony of San Pablo’s Prom, Williams prepared a beautiful liturgy with the help os the parish choir and several graduates who are currently catechists.

Huho gave a presentation on The joy in religious life, a theme derived from the teaching of Pope Francis, for the Assembly of Major Superiors. Thanks to Elser Llanos he could achieve more interest in the audience by a presentation made in Prezi.

We attended the graduation of Williams Cunyas who recieved degrees as Religion Teacher (Secondary) and Professor of Primary Education by Marcelino Champagnat University. Both studies (simultaneously!) have been culminated successfully and Williams and his companions had a mass and warm reception.

The last Sunday of Advent, Br. Al Cussen (Iona College) invited to lunch at the three communities of Lima in a local restaurant. It was a real

pre-Christmas party. Thanks, Alberto, for keeping your ties to the Region. He was on his way to visit his relatives in Santiago de Chile.

Because Rafael Inga has been trans-

ferred to the Community of Chimbote, the musicians from the school's band, that Rafa for so many years has directed, offered him a farewell party. Parents, alumni and students who

have been part of the countless presentations of the band acknowledged his help and unconditional support to the mission of the Brothers in Canto Grande.

LIMA



From left to right. Rafael, Alberto, Tony, Miguel, Pablo, Ricardo, Williams, Javier, Jorge, Elser; reunidos en la Comunidad Santa Elizabeth, after renewal of vows of Rafael, Williams and Elser.

BUENOS AIRES



From left to right: Patricio, Tomás, Stan, Renato, Hugo, Eduardo, Jaime, Juancito and Miguel; gathered in Newman Community during renewal of vows of Renato.



Br. Francisco and his brother Alejandro



Members of the community service program of Mundo Mejor



Immersion group from Stella Maris in Cochabamba



Sixth grade students identify physical changes in puberty



Sofia (Stella Maris) in Canto Grande, Peru



Mission in Omas



Br. Rafael with students and members of the Network in Mission Omas



Olivier (member of Pastoral Team, Stella Maris) in Mission Omas

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NEWSLETTER

Latin American Region

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