

Westminster Cathedral's Twin Parish

Newsletter August 2007



Registered Charity Number 233699

Why we support the Twin Parish Project

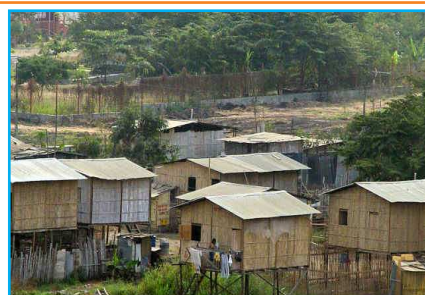
The first thing that drew us to the Twin Parish Project was hearing about the free meal programme. It's a sad fact that even though the world has more than enough food to feed everyone, many people, including children, still go hungry. By meeting this essential need, the Church is reaching out in the same way as our Lord taught us to, and who couldn't be inspired and moved by that?

Another important factor is the way in which the Church reaches out to people in the greatest need and inspires hope. It is also truly inspiring to see the sacrifice and selfless work of Father Tom, who gives so much, also Father Dwayne's enthusiastic support and championing of the cause is totally infectious.

Finally to be part of a Twin Parish event is very rewarding, you get to meet some lovely people and it's a wonderful feeling to be doing some good work while having such a great time! We really look forward to volunteering at another event.

-Steve & Michelle Penny

It's only through God's providence that these people can look forward to living as a community founded on Christian values. At present, the people of Mother Teresa Parish are too poor to build and maintain basic Church facilities. All the construction there is a product of the generosity of people in distant places, who have responded to God's invitation that they should try to make a difference.



The lunchroom is the large, white building. 125 of the neediest children are provided with their daily meal there. Your donations contribute to this part of the project.



The children understand their parish to be an extended family, so their ties with Fr. Tom are natural and warm. The children find it a real treat to take a ride with Fr. Tom in the back of his pickup truck.

From the Community of Westminster....

We've decided to do what we can to help. It all starts with prayer, so please do keep our friends in your prayers. Then from that spiritual foundation, we try to treat them well as a twin would treat his or her twin sibling. They're in need, so we're here to help.

The Archdiocese of Westminster has set up an account for the Cathedral's Twin Parish. We gratefully accept donations on Fr. Tom's behalf of cash and cheques made out to "**WRCDT - Fr. Tom Oates**." Periodically, the Archdiocese transfers the money to Fr. Tom's parish account in Ecuador, with absolutely no administrative overhead.

In addition to the amount of money that you are able to donate, the British government is willing to make a bonus contribution of 28% to this mission! All you need is to be a UK taxpayer and to submit the "Gift Aid" form found on the reverse side of this letter with your donation. You're welcome to use this envelope.

You may...

- * return it with your gift to the information desk
- * drop it in the Sunday collection or the glass collection box in church
- * post it to Clergy House, 42 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QW

Would you like more information on how to become a Twin Parish Volunteer ?

Email: twinparish@hotmail.co.uk or pick up a volunteer pack from Clergy House reception.

People who live in these outer limits of the city have nothing but the Lord and one another. With no frills to distract them, the Gospel shines clear. "They're busy just surviving," Tom would say. One of the tragedies of life in poor places is the prevalence of a mentality that cannot afford to look beyond the present. If such a life may be described as having an up-side, it would be that these are people who are totally dependent upon God. His Word and sacraments aren't taken for granted.

-Fr Dwayne Bednar

Be a part of something really positive. It's a sacrifice worth making, since you'll be making a difference in the lives of some wonderful children, our "twins!"
- Fr. Dwayne Bednar

For more information on this project visit either: www.twinparish.org or www.westminstercathedral.org.uk