



ST. ANNE MISSION

Klagetoh, Arizona

C H R I S T M A S 2 0 1 5

Christmas Greetings!

Dear Friends,

During this period between Thanksgiving and Christmas, I am reminded of how blessed we at St. Anne Mission are. Those blessings flow forth from the people of our mission parish as well as from the many volunteers and benefactors who support and share in our vision and work.

In 2015, St. Anne hosted 114 high school students and over 60 adults on mission trips. More than 60 individual donors and over 30 parishes and other organizations have given of their treasure to support us.

To all of you, Sr. Monica, Br. Robert and I offer our sincerest thanks - *Ahéhee'*.

With deepest gratitude,

Bro. Charles Schilling, SC
Administrator

Visitors & Projects

Since August, the Mission has hosted a number of guests and mission groups.

In September, Lester and Linda Crow of the American Indian Benefit Alliance visited with a group of friends and relatives. They also brought a trailer full of second-hand clothing, toiletries, and food baskets for distribution. And a pickup truck full of bikes for the kids. October saw a brief visit by Moon Cordero and a group of students from Don Bosco High School in Bellflower, California.

November's visiting groups included the sophomores from St. Mary's High School in Phoenix. During Thanksgiving week, two groups visited simultaneously: five students and two chaperones from St. Stanislaus College in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi and a group of

adult men - former students of Bro. John Hotstream - who chose to spend their Thanksgiving visiting Klagetoh with Bro. John.

The projects undertaken by these sundry groups included some demolition work (no explosives, but lots of hacking with sledgehammers), corral fence repairs, and firewood delivery to some elderly in the Klagetoh community, and assisting with the framing and finishing of the Mission House's new windows (for more on this, see *Enlightenment* on the other side).

Below, from left: Mrs. Linda Crow distributes bubble gum; St. Mary's students deliver a load of firewood; men from Thibodaux rebuild a corral fence; St. Stanislaus students explore an alcove in Canyon de Chelly; Don Bosco students move a utility pole.



Mission Groups Scheduled

The following groups are scheduled to visit in 2016

Brothers of the Sacred Heart Discernment Group
December 28-January 4

Mt. St. Charles Academy
Woonsocket, RI
February 12-19

Saint Louis University
Saint Louis, MO
March 5-12

St. Stanislaus College
Bay St. Louis, MS
March 26-April 1

Bishop Guertin H S
Nashua, NH
April 23-30

St. Joseph's Academy
Baton Rouge, LA
June 2-9

SJA / CHS
Baton Rouge, LA
Klagetoh Bible School
June 11-18

Canisius High School
Buffalo, NY
June 19-28

Hope for the Children
New York, NY
Ganado Bible School
July 9-16

McQuaid Jesuit H.S.
Buffalo, NY
July 18-27

Saint Mary's H.S.
Phoenix, AZ
November 16-20

St. Stanislaus College
Bay St. Louis, MS
November 20-25

Enlightenment

We're not talking about Eastern spirituality or anything like that. We're talking about the new energy-efficient windows that were installed by Bro. Robert, Alex, and some helpers in the St. Anne Mission House in August. The hardest part of that job was removing the original 1956 aluminum windows, which were quite literally mortared into the brickwork of the house's outer walls. Once that was done, wooden frames had to be built before the replacement windows could be installed. Caulking and sealing followed. The finishing touch was the installation of interior moldings.



The original 1950s era windows didn't want to come out.



Bro. Robert prepares an opening for framing.



The finished product!

A Bit of History

A little over a month ago, while going through some old files, I stumbled across a rather ordinary-looking ledger book. I'd seen the book before, but thinking it was probably filled with columns of numbers - accounts from long ago - had not opened it.

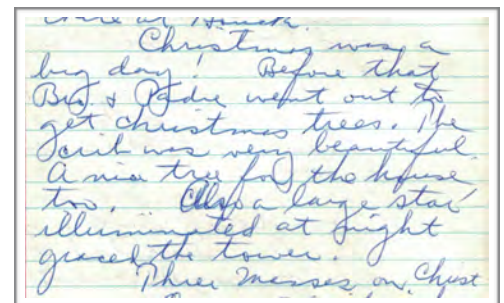
To my surprise and delight, the ledger book was filled not with numbers, but with a handwritten chronicle of the life of St. Anne Mission from January, 1956 through mid-1974. A treasure!

And not just any treasure, but one that began to answer some of the many questions I have had about the life and history of the Church in Klagetoh.

The *House Chronicle* has allowed me to place many of the stories I've been told by local people who grew up in Klagetoh in a greater context.

According to the accounts, the first Catholic missionary activity in Klagetoh

dates back to 1924. As we approach the end of the first century of evangelization in the Klagetoh area, the *House Chronicle* will serve as a foundational document to help us hopefully reconstruct and tell the story of our mission.



Many of the words written years ago by those Franciscan Padres still resonate today. When I read of vehicles mired in mud and needing expensive repairs, I feel a bond that reaches across the decades.

Change is slow on the Navajo Nation.