



*Klagetoh, Arizona*

# SAINT ANNE MISSION

M A Y 2 0 2 4

## All Saints Mission – Ganado, Arizona

Dear Friends,

On Holy Saturday, Brother Paul O'Brien OFM informed me that he had been directed to retire immediately due to ill health. The following Monday he moved to the Franciscans' retirement home near the Rio Grande River in Albuquerque.

Brother Paul had served as the administrator of All Saints Mission in Ganado - 14 miles north of Klagetoh - for over 10 years. All Saints was founded in 1968 by

Franciscan friars from St. Anne in Klagetoh.

Today, Ganado is a significantly more economically prosperous Reservation community than Klagetoh. The local economy is anchored by the Ganado Unified School District, which serves students from a wide area that includes Klagetoh, as well as Sage Memorial Hospital and Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site. Other state and county facilities, two gas stations, and a small shopping center provide for greater employment opportunities than are available in Klagetoh.

Brother Paul's sudden retirement naturally raised questions regarding the future administration of All Saints Mission. For several years, All Saints and St. Anne, as well as a number of other Catholic missions in the area, have been the canonical responsibility of Father P.J. Pabatao, OFM, the resident pastor of Our Lady of Fatima in Chinle, Arizona.

In late April, Father P.J. asked the resident religious staff at St. Anne to consider taking on oversight for the operation of All Saints. After consulting with the lay leadership

already in place in Ganado, we agreed.

The changes have no immediate impact on the availability of Sunday Mass at both mission churches.

During the month of June, several of the Mission's visiting student groups devoted a portion of their time working to clean and repair some of the structures at All Saints. The church building was constructed over 50 years ago as a "temporary" church and is in need of some work.



*Student volunteers from Baton Rouge's Catholic High School and St. Joseph's Academy prepare the back of All Saints Mission church for a new coat of paint.*



*Above: St. Joseph's Academy students paint a wooden storage shed at All Saints Mission in Ganado.*

*In the Masthead: All Saints Mission.*

## Brother Ronelle



*Brother Ronelle at Grand Canyon National Park*

Brother Ronelle Rubio, a Filipino novice Brother of the Sacred Heart, spent two weeks with us in June. He occupied most of his days working with our visiting student groups. Brother Ronelle returns to the Philippines in August to continue with the second year of his novitiate formation.

## Brother David

Brother David Landry, who has been stationed at Saint Anne Mission since the Summer of 2022, has been reassigned to ministry at Mount St. Charles Academy, a school operated by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart in Rhode Island. He will be moving in mid-September.

During his time at the Mission, Brother David has contributed greatly by being a listening ear to people in need and by expanding the Mission's food assistance outreach program, both through the Emergency Food Pantry and the ongoing partnership with St. Mary's Food Bank. We are all very grateful for his work here.



*It can't be all work and no play. A St. Joseph's High School student cools off from the 100° desert heat at Winslow's McHood Park.*

## Volunteers

During the months of May and June the Mission was blessed with groups of student volunteers from St. Joseph Academy, Catholic High School, both located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and from St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen, New Jersey.

Our student groups usually visit for about a week and their activities are organized around the themes of spirituality, community service, and recreation. All of this is done

in the context of exposing them to the cultural traditions and attitudes of the indigenous tribes of the Southwestern U.S.

In addition to the work done at All Saints (see other side), the groups that visited in June also worked on projects such as fence mending, working with sheep, and some general cleaning. They attended the Nightly Indian Dances in Gallup, NM and were invited to participate in a sweat lodge ceremony led by one of church members. Each group also embarked on recreational outings to some of our regions natural wonders.

Two more high school groups are scheduled for July. A group from Northern Virginia's St. John Paul the Great High School will help conduct our combined Vacation Bible School at All Saints in Ganado. At the end of the month, students from Rochester, New York's McQuaid Jesuit High School will visit for an immersion experience



*St. Joseph Academy campus minister Miss Jade Spears smiles after being given the opportunity to feed the baby lambs.*

## My Roman (not quite) Holiday

During the month of May, I was away from the Mission, attending the 37th General Chapter of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart in Rome. It was an exhilarating experience to be among Brothers representing countries from all across the world. It also involved a great deal of mental work - the kind I'm really not that used to anymore! Presentations, discussions and reports were done in three languages with simultaneous translation. We did have weekends mostly free to

wander about Rome. It was the longest time I've spent away from my Mission home since I got here, and longer than I ever hope to be away again.

