



St. Elizabeth Mission Society

A Ministry of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, NY

Easter 2015

Franciscan Sisters Bring New Hope to Those Who Are Poor

"In God's great mercy, God has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."
1 Peter 1:3

Happy Easter Friends!

Every day that I come to work for the St. Elizabeth Mission Society, brings new joy and witness of God's love through the work of our Franciscan Sisters of Allegany. I truly enjoy speaking with our Sisters and learning about their varied experiences in different ministries.

While I was contemplating an Easter message, I had a conversation with Sr. Pat Shirley, OSF, who shared a very simple, but inspiring moment with me. During her work at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa, FL, she encountered a mother and her sick child in the hospital's chapel. As she knelt in the back of the chapel and watched this mother praying with her young son before the Blessed Sacrament, she realized that the gift of Sisters' hospital ministry, was not only the healing expertise of the staff and doctors, but also the gift of hope.

The above verse from 1 Peter offers joy and hope in times of trouble, calling us into a *living* hope of eternal life. Not just future hope, but eternal life that begins with believing that our sins were washed away through



Many students at St. Joseph's Teacher's College in Kingston, Jamaica find it difficult to pay tuition and couldn't afford a personal laptop, which the school required. A Mission Society grant helped provide a new computer lab, giving a boost to these students who have the potential to become good teachers. (Principal: Sr. Gwen Melhado)

Jesus' death and resurrection. My conversation with Sr. Pat encouraged me to think about other ministries that engage our Sisters, and I thought about how they bring hope to thousands who are poor, much like Christ's

Persons/Intentions

Please remember the following persons and intentions in the Easter Sunday Mass and all the Masses to be celebrated during the Easter season at the St. Elizabeth Motherhouse Chapel in Allegany, NY.

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resurrection brings us hope for eternal life. Besides the programs highlighted here, a few other examples of the Sisters' ministries, funded in part by the Mission Society, include: serving nourishing meals to homeless women at The Dwelling Place in New York City (Sr. Nancy Chiarello); offering requested Bibles to inmates at South Woods State Prison in New Jersey (Sr. Mary Lou Lafferty); improving access to nutritional food with rolling carts to Daystar Life Center clients in St. Petersburg, FL (Sr. Marita Flynn); serving pregnant mothers with dignity at Santa Casa Hospital in Anapolis, Brazil (Sr. Ana Bernadete Albernaz); and providing food for families in Trench Town, Jamaica (Sr. Grace Yap).

The Mission Society provides over \$150,000 in grant funding and ongoing support to programs where the Franciscan Sisters are actively serving in Jamaica, Brazil, Bolivia and the U.S. Thank you for your generous donations, which help our Sisters bring new hope to many through food, clothing, medicine, education, and most of all, love. Please accept our Easter card as our gift to you by indicating how many you would like in the form below.

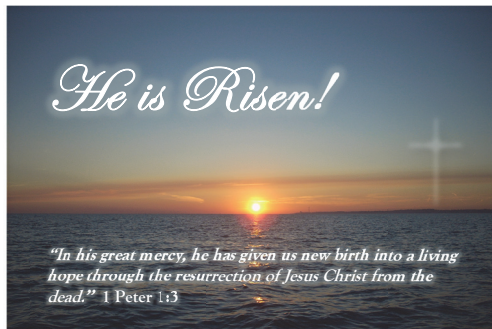
May you find renewed hope this Easter season,

Laura C. Whitford

Laura Whitford
President, St. Elizabeth Mission Society



"Breakfast is Now Being Served" - Chef Alfred is able to serve delicious breakfasts on Saturday mornings to guests at Trinity Café in Tampa, FL through the support of the Mission Society. Sr. Maureen Dorr, OSF, who volunteers four days per week says, "Breakfast is a very special treat and with real coffee, there is no limit to their joy."



Inside message:
"His Resurrection is a gift that lights our way and brings joy and peace to our hearts. May His Love Bless You Always.
Happy Easter!"

2015 Easter Card

Remember your loved ones this Easter by including their intentions in Easter mass at the Motherhouse Chapel.

Yes! I would like to help the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany reach out to those who are poor in Jamaica, Brazil, Bolivia and the U.S. I am enclosing my gift of:

_____ \$200 _____ \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$25 _____ \$10 _____ Other

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Ph _____

*Please send me _____
Easter cards.*

Donations can also be made on our website, www.franciscanhope.org, using PayPal.