



St. Elizabeth Mission Society

A Ministry of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, NY

Christmas 2016

Finding Peace, Giving Peace

“For to us a child is born...and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” – Isaiah 9:6

Dear Friend,

Christmastime brings with it a flurry of events, shopping, donating, cooking, visiting and more, but it also brings a sense of peace when we remember that Christ came for us. Isaiah’s prophecy tells us of a great one coming, a Messiah, who would bring peace.

The Gospel says, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they are the children of God.” St. Bonaventure felt that this type of peace came first from within ourselves. Our faith gives us this peace and happiness, which then flows out of us to others.

As a Mission Society benefactor, you’re helping bring peace and justice to those who are poor. Your gifts make many things possible: food, shelter, education and health care. YOU have brought dignity to a person without a home, to a mother who can’t feed her baby, to an older adult who needs medicine and to a child who lives in poverty.

This year, the St. Elizabeth Mission Society has given grants for:

- Bibles, rosaries and pastoral care for prisoners (Camden, NJ)
- Computers for students becoming teachers (Kingston, Jamaica)
- Craft classes to teach income-earning skills (Anápolis, Brazil)



Carlos at Daystar Life Center in St. Petersburg, FL is grateful to receive a bike lock for his new bicycle after his first one was stolen. He relies on the bike as his main mode of transportation because he is subject to gran mal seizures.

A Mission Society grant purchased 140 bike locks and 90 headlights, providing security and safety to others, therefore reducing barriers to assistance and employment.

Christmas Intentions

Please remember the following persons and intentions in the Christmas Eve Mass at the St. Elizabeth Motherhouse Chapel in Allegany, NY and in all the Masses celebrated during the Christmas Season.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- Transportation to medical appointments, new homes or job interviews for families with very little (Olean, NY)
- Food and heat for the very poor (Lake Providence, LA)
- Exercise equipment for older adults to keep them mentally and physically well (Cortland, NY)
- Rehabilitation equipment for people recovering from illnesses or surgeries who can't afford this type of care (Anápolis, Brazil)
- A new school for elementary children (La Gonave, Haiti)
- Sandwiches and socks for the homeless (Springfield, MA)



On behalf of all the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, we wish to thank you for your generosity. You have provided the means for us to accomplish God's work in serving those who are poor in Jamaica, Brazil, Bolivia and the United States.

I ask you to prayerfully consider a gift that will bring peace to one who is suffering. Please accept our Christmas card as our gift to you by indicating how many you would like in the form below.

May the love and peace of Jesus Christ be with you this Christmas,

Laura C. Whitford

Laura Whitford
President, St. Elizabeth Mission Society

The "Franciscan Art and Life" program at the St. Francis Educational Center in Palmas, Brazil teaches children Franciscan spirituality through music and art. The Mission Society supports this program that brings values as well as fun to 110 needy children.

2016 Christmas Cards

Give the gift of prayer this Christmas by including your loved ones' intentions in Christmas masses at the Motherhouse Chapel.



Inside message:
And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ~ Isaiah 9:6
"May the peace and love of our Lord, Jesus, be with you now and always"



Inside message: May the love that came that holy night light all your days with hope and joy.
"Merry Christmas!"



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 ___Other \$_____

Please make checks payable to: **St. Elizabeth Mission Society**

Please send me ___ Christmas cards.

Peace O Holy Night Mixed

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Donations can also be made on our website, www.FranciscanHope.org, using PayPal or via PayPal Giving Fund at www.paypal.com/fundraiser/hub.