

# ST.THERESA PARISH

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 12, 2017



Belize Mission Trip, January 2017



## **2017 Belize Mission Trip**

Our 2017 trip to Belize was again a wonderful and rewarding experience. When we arrive in Belize the tasks at hand always seem a little over-whelming. We ask ourselves “how are we ever going to complete these projects?” This year’s projects were building a fence around the school yard at Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz is the village where we built a kitchen last year, and I’m happy to report it is furnished and being used to make lunches for the children unable to go home for lunch. The second project was to wire, install lights and fans in 4 classrooms at San Antonio. The men were busy with the construction, and the women were busy in the classrooms doing several different craft projects with the children. It’s always fun to be with the children. This year we exchanged pen pal letters with the children of St. Bruno’s school in Dousman. This was enjoyed by the children of both schools, and helped them to see how other children from other countries their age live. In addition to exchanging letters we also exchanged photos of the children and their classrooms.

Over the past years in which I’ve had the opportunity of making this trip, I’ve learned that the true meaning of this mission is not what we can physically do for our friends in Belize, but to grow closer to Jesus with them—a never-ending friendship.

There are challenges with each trip, but with the guidance of the Holy Spirit everything gets accomplished - maybe not as we planned but as God planned. The beauty of going on a mission trip is being able to let go and give to God all the things we want to be in control of. He will provide!! He always does!!

***Linda Klingler***

The 2017 Belize Mission Trip was my first mission and it was truly an amazing journey. The community of Belize was very appreciative of our help and offered great support to finish the planned projects.

The first project was to rewire four classrooms in the village of San Antonio with lights, fans and outlets. This will be the first time that the children will have fans to help cool them during the dry season where temperatures can reach 100 degrees.

The second project was to fence in the school yard of Santa Cruz with 670 feet of fencing in order to prevent the feral pigs from digging up the garden plots. We worked with 17 community members to erect the fence and gate in one day.

The third project was to teach the sixth and seventh grade students of San Antonio how to use bucket planters to grow tomatoes and peppers with 1/3 less of water and soil.

The mission trip was extremely rewarding and I look forward to going again next year! Come join us!

***Steve Scherbarth***