

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

Discover ways to serve St. B's, the community, and the world

MISSIONARIES IN ECUADOR

Friends and Helpers of Madre Berenice

Every year parishioners from St. B's travel to the Guayaquil area of Ecuador to share the Good News "to the ends of the earth." It started when Betty Matteson and Katie Brown went on a mission trip in 2003. According to Katie, "We were so touched that we knew we had to return. The people had so little, yet they had far more love and joy than we see with those who have everything, including ourselves. We had to go back." And so they did—every year. In 2006, they established

Friends and Helpers of Madre Berenice (FHMB). Several others have accompanied them over the years and have said the missionary trip was transformative.



SAVE THE DATE
FHMB
PASTA FUNDRAISER
MONDAY, MARCH 2
4–8 PM

Through the generous hearts of Saint Brigid Parishioners and friends, FHMB has raised a record \$100,000 so far this year! The primary fundraiser is an annual pasta dinner that will take place on Monday, March 2 in the Parish Hall. Two ministries they support are Damien House, an assisted-care to full-care nursing home for people living with Hansen's Disease (Leprosy), and a school. This summer, the missionaries each traveled with 2 large suitcases loaded to the weight limit with supplies, including clothing, shoes, medical and wound care supplies, school supplies, prayer cards, and rosaries. They were able to provide funds to replace the termite-ridden roof, food, and medical supplies at Damien House, and they provided \$20,000 in scholarships for students at the school.

The suitcases did not return empty! They were filled with **handmade items from the Mercado—tablecloths and runners, purses, ponchos, and craft items—which are on sale this Sunday morning in front of the church.** All proceeds will be sent to Damien House in time for Christmas. Come say hello to the missionaries, and consider supporting them. Who knows, maybe God will be calling you to join them in Ecuador next summer! [Learn more at friendsofhmb.org](http://friendsofhmb.org).