

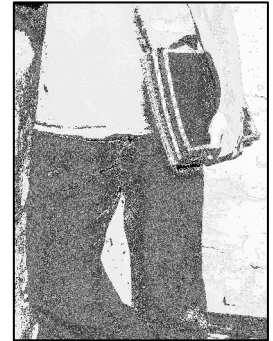
Dear Friends,

November 7, 2008

Thank you for your support of the Los Héroes Scholarship Program during 2008. Thank you for answering Christ's call to share with those in need. Your generosity added to the generosity of others provided 76 children and youth with the special gift of education.

Many of the students have written words of thanks in letters and cards to their sponsors. Many others have shared their words of thanks with members of St. John's who have visited El Salvador or through Pastor Santiago.

*"You are always in my prayers and in those of my family because you form part of my family. I am giving thanks to God for placing people like you in my life and in my journey...thank you for your support, your advice, and the good you have brought to our lives and the people who live in the community."*



Words such as these remind us that the simple gift of a scholarship and a few letters of encouragement are gratefully received and serve as a source of hope for families and our sister church community.

The school year in El Salvador runs from January to November. During this week, students in kindergarten, ninth grade and their final year of high school are celebrating graduations with special ceremonies and fiestas. Your scholarship donation covers 80% of the total cost of a child's expenses for one year, including uniforms, shoes, transportation, supplies and graduation fees. For high school and college students your donation covers 80% of the tuition costs. \$10 of the scholarship amount for each student goes toward administrative costs.

Whether or not you decide to continue partial or full sponsorship of your student, it would be very wonderful for your student to receive an end-of-school-year letter of congratulations on the completion of the year and encouragement for the coming year. Pastor Santiago will be able to carry letters to the students when he returns to El Salvador. Please place letters into the Los Héroes mailbox near the office or into the Drees family mailbox **by November 16<sup>th</sup>** or sooner. Please double-space your letters for ease of translation.

During 2008, each scholarship student received a book from St. John's. Many students expressed thanks for these books in letters that they wrote to their sponsors. Some students have made requests for gifts that extend beyond the small gifts (like small books, pencils, stickers) that are allowed by the program. Students will be receiving a general letter which explains that sponsors are not permitted to give large gifts.

Please take some time to pray for your scholarship recipient and about your commitment to the scholarship program. Our prayer is that you might provide continued support for this ministry and bless a child with another year of education. Please take time to review the commitment form, complete it and return it to the collection box in the narthex. Payments may be made in full and included with your commitment form. Payments made before December 31, 2008 will be recorded on your 2008 donation statement.

Thank you for serving as padrinos de becas (scholarship Godparents),

The Los Héroes Scholarship Program Team at St. John's,  
Pam Brown, Vonda Drees, Mary Beth Gubbins, Carole Lewis, Linda Muth