

The background of the entire page is a photograph showing the aftermath of an earthquake. In the foreground, there is a large pile of broken concrete and bricks. In the background, a utility pole stands amidst the rubble. The scene is one of significant destruction.

GUATEMALAN MISSION

FUND DRIVE FOR DISASTER RELIEF

We need to help each other during
times of crisis

**CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE SENT
IMMEDIATELY TO DIRECTLY HELP THOSE
IN THE TOWN WHO SUFFERED LOSS**

Santa Maria de Jesus, the town in Guatemala that our parish has been supporting for the past 15 years with clean water and education, has experienced a 5.7 earthquake and hundreds of aftershocks in July. They are in dire need of help. Please consider donating. Thank you.

donate at www.smcr.org/guatemala-1

MAKE A DONATION

EVERY CONTRIBUTION MATTERS

- Santa Maria de Jesus, the town in Guatemala that we have been supporting for the past 15 years with clean water and education, has experienced a 5.7 earthquake and hundreds of aftershocks in July.
- Hundreds of homes were damaged and destroyed, and the water system we helped them build was ruined. Among the families of Colegio Angelitos de Dios, the school we support, 5 families' homes were destroyed and they are homeless, so many are living under a tarp. 40 families have damage and cracks but are still living there because they have nowhere else to go.
- The roads into the town were blocked by landslides, so there have been shortages of food, water, and basic necessities.
- The church, which is so central to their faith and community, was so badly damaged that they cannot hold Masses inside, so they are celebrating Mass in the courtyard. Summer months are their rainy season.
- We are hoping to help them with immediate needs and longer-term needs through a fundraiser, a Guatemalan Fiesta, like we had in the past, on September 27.
- **For right now, we are hoping to provide 25 water filters at \$50 each. We also would like to provide 120 bags of food and provisions for the families of Angelitos de Dios, the school we support, which will cost about \$27 each. Finally, the pastor there has asked for materials to build a temporary roof of galvanized sheet metal to cover the courtyard, so they can be protected from the rain during Mass, which will cost about \$3000.**
- We are also hoping to raise money at the Guatemalan Fiesta to help families rebuild their homes. We are looking to partner with Habitat for Humanity Guatemala to do this. Our team has been in contact with them and they already visited our friends in Guatemala to provide an assessment and see where they can assist. Our team has also arranged for counselors from an NGO called The God's Child Project to visit the school and provide counseling for the children and staff of the school who are traumatized by these events. The God's Child Project will provide water filters to families who lost access to clean water and will build 10 simple one-room homes this year.
- Please see the bulletin insert this weekend and the parish website where you can donate if you would like.

DONATE AT WWW.SMCR.ORG/GUATEMALA-1

GUATEMALAN FIESTA FUNDRAISER ON SEPTEMBER 27