

Gracias / Thank You from Mexico

WHEN OUR SISTERS IN MEXICO REACHED OUT TO BRING THE DONATIONS THAT many of you offered to the people of Mexico in the aftermath of the recent earthquakes, the people responded with tears in their eyes: “While we have lost so much yet we have been blessed to come to know so many good people with big hearts.”

The Sisters went to the municipality of Jojutla in the Mexican State of Morelos, near Cuernavaca. This town was one of the most devastated areas close to the epicenter of the earthquake. An already very poor people lost the little that they had. Homes and buildings were reduced to rubble and many lives were lost. The Bishop and the Diocese of Cuernavaca had to challenge state government authorities who tried to divert the delivery of church-organized earthquake relief into their own coffers to use for their own political advantage. However the Sisters, through their relations with the local church priest and religious, made direct contact with the people and families of the municipality in most dire need. Volunteers, young and old, came from all over Mexico and from outside the country to help in the relief effort. Whenever these rescuers were able to find a person alive beneath the rubble, the local people would break out into a popular Mexican song: “*Cielito lindo*” – “a lovely little touch of heaven!”



People helping each other, digging out and helping rescue the injured and deceased in Jojutla, Morelos, México.

We join the Sisters to express our gratitude for the spontaneous response and generosity of so many people in this moment of tragic loss.¹ The people genuinely feel that there are sisters and brothers whom they may never know in person but who have enveloped them in an embrace of care and love. They respond: “*Que Dios continúe bendiciéndoles también.*” (May God continue blessing you as well!) ■



Guadalupe statue at Church of Santa María Ahuacatlán, near Cuernavaca, México.

For more information see the Mexican Sisters Christmas Newsletter on our website: http://www.westonpriory.org/mexico/pdf/Sisters_2017_Letter.pdf

¹ The donations came close to six thousand dollars.