



Julio, Elena and Felipe (l to r).

## Letter from Felipe & Elena – March 24, 2014

Dear brothers,

Oh how the days, months and years fly by so rapidly. An event that actually occurred a while ago can seem like it just happened yesterday!

Yet we know that unforgettable memories will never be lost. We can never forget the beauty of the glistening snow and the splendor of flowers blooming in springtime; the green mountains that brought refreshment and breath to our lungs; the music resounding from the rivers that enabled us to put our problems aside; and the croaking of the frogs and the songs of the birds that trill and chirp amidst the falling rain. These are some of the lasting memories that we have carried with us from such a beautiful place. As the seasons change each year we find ourselves a bit nostalgic. We would love to return and relive those beautiful days, but we realize that those beautiful moments will have to remain the gift of yesterday.

As we began to write this remembrance we found ourselves crossing the border, a journey of immigration and migration without the necessary documents or the permission of authorities, nor having a paid airline ticket. We set out on this labyrinth in a mysterious dream that invited us to go forward and find ourselves at home at a legendary “Terrible Mountain.”

Our dear brothers, we are infinitely grateful for the profound human gesture in reaching out to us and our children and welcoming us into your home on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 1984. We are grateful that you have given us life and brought well-being back to our spirit. Thank you for sharing your life and your bread with us.

To all our friends who stood in solidarity with us, we want to say “thank you” for bringing us to the stores and supermarkets, to the clinic, to the meetings and to the airports; to the bank, the schools, and also to the celebration of Eucharist at the monastery. To all of you a thousand thanks.

We ask the Creators and the Formers of the Earth and Universe to shower many blessings on each one of you.

Happy Day of St. Oscar Romero, March 24, 2014 ■