

## BLESSINGS FROM THE POPE

World Youth Day 2019, an international Catholic event focused on religious faith and youth, was celebrated in Panama on January 22-27, 2019. WYD is a part of a tradition initiated by the late Pope John Paul II (now St John Paul II) for the Church to be with the youth, for the youth. Pope John Paul II described World Youth Day's objective as: "...to make the person of Jesus the center of the faith and life of every young person so that He may be their constant point of reference and also the inspiration of every initiative and commitment for the education of the new generations."

This year three of our teenage children were able to accompany students from St. Augustine High School, (San Diego) and Villanova Prep (Ojai) to attend this life-changing event. Our eldest children are leaders in the Casa Hogar and as they become adults they can continue to lead in their communities. We hope their experiences will guide their hearts and actions as they become adults.

It was a remarkable amount of work to enable the children's' journey. First, we had to have permission from DIF (Mexi-



can Social Services) to allow them to leave the orphanage on this pilgrimage. After careful pleading by our director and plenty of paperwork finally permission was granted. Secondly, our youngsters needed to obtain Mexican passports. The changes in the Mexican government administration in December made the usually simple ministerial process very time consuming. Many phone calls and appointment were necessary, and passports were secured just days before the trip began. Lastly, partial funding for their trips and some spending money was secured through donations from friends of Casa Hogar La Gloria. Donations to help defray the costs of air fare and lodging are still needed and can be made online at [www.hogar-infantil.org](http://www.hogar-infantil.org).



## CHALLENGE!!

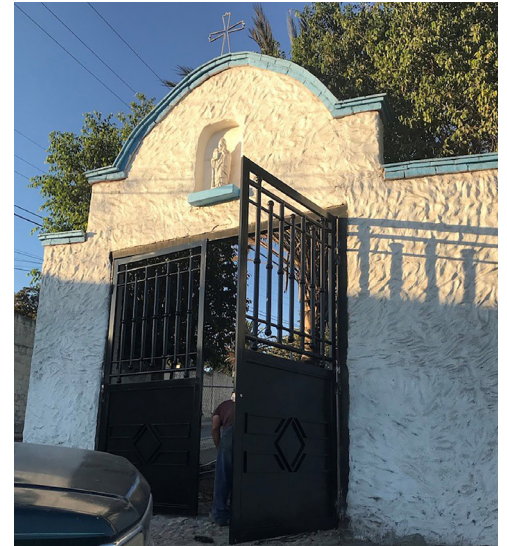
Have a fundraiser at your church or social group for the benefit of Casa Hogar La Gloria!

*'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'* - Matthew 25:40



## SAFETY AND SECURITY

The welfare of our children is our primary concern and the old security gates at the property were becoming dangerous as they had outlived their usefulness. New gates were ordered and installed this fall. The new gates give the caregivers peace of mind as they know when the gates are closed no car or person can wander onto the property without authorization. Trespassers are kept at a safe distance and the children are unable to wander from the property.



## FILM DEBUT!

This year's celebration of the Virgen de Guadalupe also served as the premiere of the film created to describe the life and history of our Casa Hogar La Gloria. Over two hundred hours of video were shot in order to make this 7-minute gem. Caregivers, founders and alumnae of the Casa Hogar share their stories about how the mission of caring for the children is the center of everyday life in our little corner of Tijuana. Brother Dominic Smith, OSA and his classmates from John Paul the Great University have done an amazing job capturing the spirit of our labor of love.

The film can be viewed at [www.hogar-infantil.org](http://www.hogar-infantil.org). Spread the word about our children, share the link with your friends and family.

## MISSION

Our Mission is to give each child in our care a secure home and loving family in which to develop and grow. Hogar Infantil, Inc. is committed to providing for children in need and does so by providing support to the children's home, Hogar Infantil La Gloria.

Contact us at [hogar.infantil.lg@gmail.com](mailto:hogar.infantil.lg@gmail.com), (619) 618-0348, or visit us online at [www.hogar-infantil.org](http://www.hogar-infantil.org)

*Hogar Infantil Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization incorporated in California and recognized by the United States of America. Donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.*



## WISH LIST

Cash Donations welcome to defray cost of Utilities, Medical Expenses, Tuition, Clothing, Diapers, Formula etc.

Special Project donations for : New Van and World Youth Day costs.

Recurring cash/credit donations can be set up at our website, [www.hogar-infantil.org](http://www.hogar-infantil.org). These ongoing donations help us better budget and provide for all of the children's needs.

Like us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/hogarinfantil> and follow us on Twitter, @HogarInfantilLG.



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## IN MEMORY

Last year, Hogar Infantil, Inc received a generous bequest from the Estate of Victor Mason. Mr. Mason had been a resident of Australia. To honor his life, we installed a plaque on the grounds of the Casa Hogar in November. The story of how Mr. Mason came to know about the Casa Hogar is unknown to us right now but somehow his heart was touched by the children of Tijuana. We were contacted by his attorneys and they were kind enough to share with us a bit of his life story.

Mr. Mason's start was not unlike that of some of our children. Mr. Mason's parents died when he was young, and he and a sis-

ter spent time living in an orphanage. Mr. Mason told stories to his loved ones about how lucky he had been to have three meals a day in a time while others were starving. His life as an explorer began during World War Two as a Royal Air Force pilot. After the war, he traveled to Mexico, Cuba, Costa Rica, Canada, Solomon Islands, Portugal, Hong Kong, China, Tahiti, Jamaica, the United States, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, Papua New Guinea and India, doing whatever work he could find but particularly crop dusting and logging in Canada and Papua New Guinea. He settled down eventually in New South Wales and spent years trying to give back to the planet by preserving the rainforest.

The children of Casa Hogar remember

Mr. Mason and all of our benefactors in their prayers every day. Please join us in a prayer of thanksgiving for all those who help and support the orphaned, abandoned and neglected children of Tijuana.

