



**PLEASE HELP  
SPONSOR A  
CHILD'S  
EDUCATION  
AT OUR SISTER  
PARISH IN EL  
SALVADOR**  
*An Education Means  
Hope for the Future!*



*This is our 15<sup>th</sup> Scholarship  
Drive! Almost \$160,000 has  
been raised for the children  
of St. José Villanueva!*





St. Joseph Church is now sponsoring the next **education drive** for our sister parish, San José Villanueva, in El Salvador. In our last drive, our generous parishioners donated **\$13,027.98**.

This year we will again be working through *Epilogos Charities, Inc.*, allowing us to get our donations to San José Villanueva more quickly and providing us with a solid record of accountability. In normal circumstances, the Salvadoran government has been helping with daily uniforms and shoes, though not always for Parochial schools, and donations are used for uniforms as needed as well as books, learning materials, PE uniforms and shoes, calculators, memory sticks, etc. *Epilogos* retains 15% of donations for administration costs. With the COVID-19 pandemic, donations continue to be used for school materials, but that may also include technology and wifi hot spots for remote learning. Students who do not live in areas where technology can be used will continue to receive paper/pencil materials. Donations may be redirected to a different age level or to other school material needs depending on the needs of the students. All donations are welcomed, no matter the amount. All donations are **TAX DEDUCTIBLE**.

The COVID-19 pandemic has hit hard in areas without the resources for handwashing and personal protective equipment. Fr. Mario, who was pastor of San José Villanueva when we began our sister parish relationship has passed away from the virus. The current pastor, Fr. Marco, has recently recovered from it. Below is a translated message of thanks from the director of the schools we assist, Nuvia Guadalupe Ayala. She was able to visit our parish several years ago with a group of teachers from El Salvador. She and her family are also recovering from the virus.



Sept. 2, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters,

We send you warm greetings, and hope that you are well, and that you are navigating your daily lives as well as possible during this time.

We would like to pass to each of you, in the name of our school, staff, families, and students, a gesture of thanks for the support with which you bless us. At the same time, we'd like to share with you how we have conducted our educational process during this global emergency.

With respect to the teachers, some are making use of their own computer, others have received a borrowed computer from the school, and some are even using their mobile phone. This has presented some difficulties, as these technologies are not always in the best condition, and internet access is not always easy to come by. It has presented us with some additional costs, as this situation has required more from all of us. The teachers prepare and distribute to the students the following: study guides, videos, pictures, voice memos, and make themselves available to explain and answer questions. They make use of WhatsApp, Messenger, Google Classroom, email, and Google Drive.

Parents have been our strongest allies, and even with their own needs and limitations, have been helping to support their children in completing their schoolwork, although some are only able to access the internet once per week, when they will upload completed assignments and download the required materials for upcoming assignments to their mobile phones. They also use that time to submit questions or share important information with teachers. It's taken a huge effort to adapt, but they've been very responsible.

The students, for their part, have maintained their enthusiasm and dedication, despite not being physically present with their teachers, and have been able to motivate themselves and remain upbeat each day. They work hard, act responsibly, show dedication, and take advantage of their time. They're learning a lot, and we're very proud of them.

In general, this has been difficult for all of us, but we've been able to make the most of this time at home, without neglecting education. Some teachers and families have better or worse access to technology and the internet than others, some have more or less time to dedicate to their students. But we've learned a lot, including the challenges of balancing the demands of maintaining the home and family with the demands of education, and how each day to be a bit closer to God. Without a doubt, this has been a new and challenging time, but it's brought with it many good things.

Though we don't know what the coming months may hold, we're sure that we'll continue learning and bettering our educational process. We ask God to permit us to continue counting on your generous and vital support, and we thank you as well for always keeping us in your prayers.

We say goodbye with happiness and gratitude, wishing that San Jose will bless your lives at work, at school, and at home. We thank you and wish you the best, from the sister parochial schools of San Jose and San Juan. Thank you so much for your support.

Nuvia Guadalupe Ayala  
Director

Complete the form below and enclose with your check payable to: **St. Joseph Church** (write in the memo line “**El Salvador Education Partner**”). Return in the offertory basket or to the St. Joseph Church Office no later than **September 30, 2020**. You can also make a one-time donation through **FaithDirect**.

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**San José Villanueva – St. Joseph Education Partners**

**Please print neatly.** Your Name (individual and/or family):

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (help us save postage): \_\_\_\_\_

<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>	<b><u># SPONSORED</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>
1 Child’s 2021 Grade School Education	\$100	_____	\$_____
1 Child’s 2021 Middle School Education	\$150	_____	\$_____
1 Child’s 2021 High School Education	\$200	_____	\$_____
1 Special Needs Child’s 2021 Education	\$200	_____	\$_____
Towards university costs	\$1,000	_____	\$_____
Sponsor a Classroom	\$200	_____	\$_____
Undesignated Education Partner (any amount)			\$_____
		<b>Total enclosed</b>	\$_____

Donations may be redirected to different age levels depending on the needs of the San José Villanueva families. We appreciate your understanding.

***THANK YOU FROM EACH CHILD THAT WILL BE BLESSED WITH THIS GIFT!***