

**COMPANION DIOCESES COMMITTEE
REPORT OF THE 223ND DIOCESAN CONVENTION 2007**

For the past seven years, our Diocese has maintained a strong partnership with the Diocese of El Salvador. When we first began our relationship with their Diocese, our only goal was to help El Salvador develop their theological education. Since then, our missionary spirits have expanded to include the construction of new homes, churches and schools for those in need. Along with helping them with various construction projects, we also provide them with computers and school supplies, among many other things. Throughout all of this, we never forgot our initial mission, continuously conducting seminars to enhance their theological education for the next generation of clerics. We have an important commitment to help the development and growth of the Diocese of El Salvador and we firmly believe that this can be accomplished by providing them with basic resources that can be handed down to future generations.

An example of how future generations are already making great use of these resources are Juan Pablo and Jose Roberto, two Salvadorian students who have successfully completed their first year in the Dominican Republic's Episcopal Seminary. After a long year of rigorous studies, their intellectual as well as theological advancements were put to great use during their two months of vacation back in their homeland by using their newly acquired knowledge to faithfully practice theological doctrine in various churches throughout the country.

Of course, these wonderful accomplishments would not have been possible if it were not for the generous donations and contributions provided by the various churches and committees within the Diocese of New Jersey. Without your much appreciated support, accomplishing the dreams of dedicated students like Juan Pablo and Jose Roberto would be quite challenging. With the generous help of our churches in New Jersey, we funded their theological education at the cost of \$18,000/year. Your contributions have helped improve and will continue to improve their education within the Seminary of Dominican Republic. Such a wonderful example gives us the confidence to say this relationship with our companion Diocese has truly been nurtured with love and immeasurable support.

That being said, we would like to thank all of our brothers and sisters in this Diocese along with our Bishop Council for the immense support and guidance throughout this companionship. We would also like to thank the Companion Dioceses Committee who dedicate their time, love and support to this ministry of compassion. The committee has granted the wonderful opportunity to a variety of groups, from students to adults, to travel and witness firsthand, the amazing work the Salvadorian Diocese carries out each and every day. Our commitment extends to just four more years; in the meantime, all we need are your prayers and, if possible, your generous donations.

In the love of our Lord Jesus Christ,

The Rev. Canon Servio R. Moscoso, M.Div.
Chair