



## FATHER CHUCK'S CHALLENGE

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Lent - Easter, 2017

Dear Friends in Christ,

The arrival of Lent and Easter reminds us of how many people in the world are living Lent every day. A family may have to live on what we would spend for a cup of coffee.

Yet the people we meet on our pilgrimages are warm, hospitable, welcoming and smiling. They are filled with joy when greeting us and we represent you, the donors who have made immensely positive changes in their lives. Like passing from the drudgery of Lent to the rejoicing of Easter, we see new life has sprung up thanks to the seeds you have planted.

As visitors, we also get new life from the blessed reception we receive in all the communities we visit. We are reminded yet again that no one is so poor that they have nothing to give. On your behalf we receive the goodwill and love of grateful communities.

April 2017 marks the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of Father Chuck's Challenge in memory of Father Charles "Chuck" Pfeffer. Rejoice with us as we continue to shelter the poorest of the poor in Haiti and Nicaragua!

It is remarkable that while Fr. Pfeffer never actually set foot in Haiti or Nicaragua, thousands of people have received housing and much more in his name. He did have a dedication and service to the poor of this country outside of his assigned duties. Similarly, Monsignor Schmidt spent years of service to the Archdiocese, yet never set foot into our mission outreaches until after he was retired.

We see God's hands at work in all of this, and **you** have played a key role in the most charitable act of housing the homeless. Please accept our heartfelt thanks to you for that! If you could think of a Lenten offering this season to further the cause, it will be put to good use. If you are fortunate enough to get a tax return, consider tithing that for this ongoing outreach.

None of our volunteers receive compensation. There is no paid staff. We want and ensure that every penny is directed to the needy.

May you have a fruitful Lent and a Blessed Easter!

Gratefully in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Charles J. Kennedy