



FATHER CHUCK'S CHALLENGE
Changing lives one family at a time!

LENT – EASTER 2021

*Father Kennedy's Note
Nicaragua Update
Haiti Update
Ongoing Development
Celebrating 2021*

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**We have no paid staff and are most grateful
to our 100% Volunteer Board and Staff**

**FATHER CHUCK'S CHALLENGE IS A
CHARITABLE NONPROFIT
UNDER IRC SECTION 501(c)(3)
OUR TAX NUMBER IS 27-0165813**

**YOUR DONATION IS FULLY TAX DEDUCTIBLE ACCORDING
TO THE CURRENT TAX LAWS.**

**WHEN A PROJECT IS COMPLETED YOUR DONATION WILL
BE USED FOR THE NEXT GREATEST NEED.**

**"WHATEVER YOU DO FOR THE LEAST OF
MY BROTHERS, YOU DO FOR ME."
Matt 25:40**

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FATHER CHUCK'S CHALLENGE



*Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come
again!*

May the Peace and Love of Christ fill your hearts!

♥ *Father Chuck's Challenge Volunteers* ♥

**"Let us not close our hearts within our
own particular concerns, but let us
open them to all of humanity."** Pope Francis

REFLECTION FROM A VOLUNTEER

*I first became involved in Father Chuck's Challenge at
the invitation of Monsignor Francis X. Schmidt and
Father Charles Kennedy (my brother). My involvement
is stuffing the mailings and distributing materials at the
church doors when making appeals.*

*I have been able to visit both Nicaragua and Haiti on a
mission trip. After viewing the stark poverty of the
people and their overwhelming joy and gratitude for
anything they receive you feel renewed in your
commitment to help in any way you can.*

*I am particularly grateful that Father Chuck's Challenge
has NO paid staff and your donations
go to help these beautiful people.*

May God continue to bless our efforts.

Sr. Lourdes Kennedy, SSJ

FATHER KENNEDY'S NOTE

Lent 2021

Dear friends of Father Chuck,

We have been through a year like no other year in our lives. We were happy to put 2020 behind us. Fortunately as we approach the Lenten Easter season there is reason for hope. Signs of success in dealing with a world-wide pandemic are encouraging.



Many people have dedicated their lives to working for a solution and ministering to the afflicted. Their sacrifice and commitment have brought comfort to many. Consider your own efforts as united with the compassionate outreach and service of these brothers and sisters.

All our thanks go to donors like you who have also been faithful in ministering to the poorest among us. Without your loving participation, the continued efforts to provide homes for the neediest in Haiti and Nicaragua would falter. You have been and are a blessing to those whose daily income might amount to only one or two dollars a day.

Someday we hope to join in the Resurrection together with all who have been beneficiaries of Father Chuck's Challenge. May you be blessed in this Holy season as we pray together for each other and for all the homeless we have helped and are yet to help.

Have a good Lent and Happy Easter

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev Charles J Kennedy".

Father Charles J. Kennedy

Do you have a question about Father Chuck's Challenge or our projects? Ask us at <https://www.fatherchuckschallenge.com>

We are still unable to visit Nicaragua and Haiti because of Covid-19. However, Food for the Poor is working on a virtual trip in each country so we can 'visit' our newest communities. We will stay in touch on this. Please continue to pray for more future trips to Nicaragua and Haiti.

AmazonSmile

is a simple way to support
Father Chuck's
Challenge,
at no cost to you, each
time you shop.

Shop safely from your couch (or your desk while working from home – we won't tell) Just make sure you've designated Father Chuck's Challenge as the beneficiary for your Amazon purchases.

Visit smile.amazon.com, and select
Father Chuck's Challenge –
the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the
purchase price from your eligible purchases.



Scan with your smartphone to easily donate through our website.

NICARAGUA UPDATE

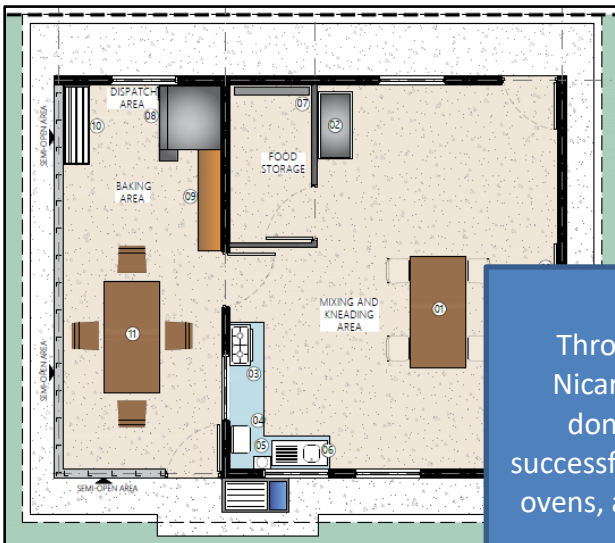
WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED...

As the global pandemic continues to separate us from friends, family, fellow parishioners, and our service sites, we long for ways to connect with one another and our Father Chuck's Challenge families. The Holy Family Nicaragua community in Mozonte, Nueva Segovia, with the participation of beneficiary Nicaraguan families, has offered to host a Mass to allow our communities to come together and celebrate as one.

This Mass will be celebrated in the priest's native Spanish, but the ritual of the Mass being universal, both the readings and the gospel will be provided beforehand so you will be able to easily participate from home.

After the Mass concludes, you will hear a personal story shared from a beneficiary of Father Chuck's Challenge.

Fifty homes for the community of Mozonte were constructed in 2016 with an additional 25 added in 2017. It will be wonderful to see those families again at the Mass that is being planned.



THE 2019-20 NICARAGUA PROJECT Panali and Jicaró

GPS Coordinates are:

Jicaró: 13° 43' 19.7" N, 86° 08' 13.4" W

Panali: 13° 31' 14.6" N, 85° 58' 44.3" W

**The total cost of the project is
\$359,280.48**



**Visit our website for
details about the date
and time of the Mass.
Readings in English
will be posted.**

Something's Cooking

Through the generosity of an individual donor, one community in Nicaragua will benefit from the construction of a bakery. This kind donation includes all material necessary to start and maintain a successful business including several worktables, industrial and artisanal ovens, a mixer, a sink, cookware, shelves and trays. We look forward to reporting on the success of this sustainable initiative!

You continue to make an incredible difference in the lives of the poor!

HAITI UPDATE

2020 PROJECT PHASE I & II SOURCE MATELAS, OUEST, HAITI (PRONOUNCED SOUS MATLAS)

Total Cost \$442,699.84

**GPS Coordinates are:
18° 42' 53.8" N, 72° 21' 59.3" W**



I COULD ONLY DREAM: Malita Jean is a single mother living in the Source Matelas region of Haiti. She is also a proud and grateful new homeowner! She shared her story with our Father Chuck's Challenge family to show what a tangible difference your gifts make.

Until recently, she was living with her family in a home so flimsy she was in constant fear for their safety. Because it was not built properly, when the weather was windy or wet, Malita Jean was afraid her home would be blown or washed away. And even when the weather

improved and the sun came out, the walls and roof made of rusty metal sheets would bake in the sunlight. The inside would become so unbearably hot in the midday sun that her child would cry for lack of air. She would often find some needed comfort under trees where she could calm and feed her child. Fortunately, she and her family were never severely hurt. But she felt powerless because she could not provide a safer environment for her family.

Malita Jean has now moved into her new home that has proper doors for safety and windows to allow for air circulation, an indoor bathroom, and a kitchen for her family. She feels secure. She has hope for a brighter future thanks to donations from Father Chuck's Challenge.

"I could only dream to live in a house like this, having my own room, kitchen and [everything] else," said Malita Jean.

Many thanks to you, our kind-hearted donors for making Malita Jean's dreams come true!

He Who Comes to Me Will Not Hunger

Last summer, we called on you to go above and beyond your normal gifts to Father Chuck's Challenge. The global pandemic added to the daily challenges facing Haitian families, and you, our kind benefactors, stepped in to alleviate some of the hardship in this difficult time. The funds collected through our special appeal provided 345 families in four of the Father Chuck's Challenge villages with two months of supplemental nutritional support.

Herby Dorsainval, a leader in Source Matelas, spoke on behalf of his community: "This food assistance comes as a blessing... because life here is very hard. With the inflation and now this pandemic, the beneficiaries don't have enough resources to eat and take care of their family. This food allows them to breathe a little... Therefore, on behalf of all the beneficiaries of Lakou Chadwon, I thank the donors...with all my heart for thinking about us during this time. May God protect them."



Your financial support is greatly appreciated!

ONGOING DEVELOPMENT

We're Almost There!

Thanks to your contributions and prayers, the project at Source Matelas, Haiti, is 80% complete. The solar light kits, providing electricity to the village, have been installed, providing homeowners the opportunity to charge their phones and keeping thieves at bay. By the time you are reading this, the community center will be finished, and the well will be too, providing a convenient and safe source of water for the village.



Please consider designating your donation for our **Greatest Need** to help us reach 100% completion

From the deplorable
conditions we
witness
on our visits ...



To the difference you make
by your generous
love of the poor.



As you consider your Lenten sacrifice, we ask you to consider our families. What may seem a small absence in your life, could mean a new bed or chicken coop for one family living in poverty!

CELEBRATING 2021

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

OUR HOLY FATHER, POPE FRANCIS, HAS DESIGNATED THIS YEAR AS THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH.

It is well known that if one wants to be successful in selling a home just turn to Saint Joseph in prayer; some even purchase a little statue and bury it on the property.

It makes perfect sense then, to adopt Saint Joseph as one of the Patrons of Father Chuck's Challenge. We of course do not sell homes but rather fund the building of homes for the poorest of the poor in Nicaragua and Haiti. Many of you have indicated that you try to pray an Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be daily for our ministry and all missionaries as recommended by the Propagation of Faith, with petitions to St. Francis Xavier and St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Patrons of Missionaries.

For those who wish to ask Saint Joseph's help and protection for Father Chuck's Challenge, or to increase personal devotion to the Spouse of the Virgin Mary and Foster Father of Jesus, we offer you the MEMORARE TO ST. JOSEPH



Remember, O most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, my great protector, Saint Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to your protection, or implored your aid without obtaining relief. Confiding therefore in your goodness, I come before you. Do not turn down my petitions, foster father of the Redeemer, but graciously receive them. Amen.

You are blessed to be:

- ☛ “sheltering the homeless” permanently
 - Building small, strong homes in **Nicaragua** and **Haiti**
- ☛ “feeding the hungry” permanently
 - Providing farm animals, fruit trees in **Nicaragua**
 - And deep sea fishing equipment in **Haiti**
- ☛ “giving drink to the thirsty” permanently
 - Supplying purified water to each home in **Nicaragua**
 - And new, creatively designed cisterns in each home in **Haiti**

IMMEDIATELY DIRECTLY EASILY DRAMATICALLY
FUNDAMENTALLY ECONOMICALLY PERMANENTLY

**EACH YEAR AS WE CELEBRATE THE
PASSION, DEATH & RESURRECTION OF
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, WE
REMEMBER IN A SPECIAL WAY ALL OUR
VOLUNTEERS, FAITHFUL DONORS AND
ALL YOUR LOVED ONES, WHO HAVE GONE
TO THEIR ETERNAL REST.
MAY THEY BE FILLED WITH THE
JOY OF HEAVEN!**

**AND TO ALL OUR PRAYER PARTNERS AND
WONDERFUL DONORS HERE ON EARTH,
GOD BLESS YOU AND THANK YOU!**

***“There are still many families living in deplorable conditions
who need our help to escape the generational cycle of poverty.
Thank you for your generosity!”***

