



Saint Theresa Parish

Relieving Hunger and Restoring Hope

— Dominican Republic —



Prepared for
St. Theresa Parish
August 2022

Then the king will say to those at his right hand,
"Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom
prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry
and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me
clothing, I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me."

MATTHEW 25:34-36



Thank You for Feeding Hungry Families!

We are grateful for the generosity your parish has shown in packing meals for rural communities in the Dominican Republic. Despite the country experiencing fast growth in its economy, the benefits of industries like tourism, construction and international trade don't trickle down to these rural communities that have been hard-hit by poverty and malnutrition.

You can see signs of this poverty in communities like El Lechal, El Palero and Los Auqueyes. While families in those three communities have undoubtedly endured incredible hardships, their challenges have not gone unnoticed by the Church. It is aware that poor parents are raising their children in makeshift housing and that all three communities lack basic infrastructure. There are no paved roads, safe water sources or modern sewage systems. And because illiteracy rates are high and educational opportunities are rare, most of these families see little hope of obtaining anything but low-paying jobs — usually as a day laborer or farmworker.

That's why the food packing event hosted at St. Theresa Parish was so important. It enabled volunteers to pack 121,284 meals for these families in need!

The specific meals St. Theresa Parish packed will benefit approximately 380 children and their families in rural Dominican Republic. To help boost the local economy, the meals sent will be distributed with the help of local participants who will be paid a typical day's wage to compensate for losing a full day of their regular work.

We are so grateful for the Vitafood meals packed and funded by Cross Catholic Outreach supporters like your parish. These meal shipments provide the nutritional lifeline these families desperately need.

The food your community packed will be distributed to families in need to prepare at home. We pray the following pages recall fond memories of the event and that your parish experiences an outpouring of grace for the generosity you have shown.



The meals you packed will be part of an upcoming FUNDASEP distribution.

If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

ISAIAH 58:10



Special Thank You!

Cross Catholic Outreach Gratefully Acknowledges

St. Theresa Parish

for generously volunteering to feed

Poor Children and Families

— DOMINICAN REPUBLIC —





Your Food Packing Event

We are grateful to the volunteers who gathered on April 2, 2022 and packed 121,284 meals for poor children and families in poverty-stricken rural Dominican Republic. It was a day that brought together many parish families in a unified mission: to give food to the hungry. We are so grateful for your partnership in this work of mercy and know that your generosity will bless many families as they receive the meals you packed.



Father Barnes and Father Hutchens offer prayers and encouragement for the volunteers who gathered to serve.



The order of assembling a Vitafood meal is important — starting with soy, then beans, vegetables and lastly rice. Your attentiveness and care for each meal packed is allowing families to receive meals that will nourish them. Thank you!





More Memories Your Parish Shared



Each box contains 216 meals, all on their way to the Dominican Republic to be distributed to families.

Thank you for being part of this multigenerational event that will serve the poor both physically and spiritually.



Cross Catholic OUTREACH

Delivering Food, Shelter and Hope to the Poorest of the Poor

Our Mission

We mobilize the global Catholic Church to transform the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

How We Serve

Rather than create new institutions to distribute aid, we support existing ministries and churches already serving the poor. In addition to being the most cost-effective way of helping the poor, empowering these ministries allows us to support the Church's spiritual mission and its important position of leadership in poor communities.

Good Stewardship

We consider every gift we receive as a precious resource from God. We direct every donation to its intended project, provide honest and accurate reports to our donors, and keep overhead costs to an industry low. We handle funds with utmost integrity and hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards by asking them to document costs and the impact of their outreach.



C i V
Caritas In Veritate



The Chronicle of Philanthropy
The nonprofit world's No. 1 news source

Tessie O'Dea, Relationship Development Manager

800-914-2420 ext. 158 • todea@crosscatholic.org

2700 N. Military Trail • Suite 300 • PO Box 273908 • Boca Raton, Florida 33427-3908

CrossCatholic.org

@CrossCatholic @CrossCatholic @CrossCatholic /CrossCatholic
 /Company/CrossCatholicOutreach CrossCatholic.org/blogs



God Bless You!

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church we read, “The Lord asks us to love as he does ... to make ourselves the neighbor of those farthest away, and to love children and the poor as Christ himself” (CCC 1825). It is a joy to partner with friends like you who respect this important teaching and are so willing to share the love of Christ with the poor and marginalized.

St. Theresa Parish, we also encourage you to celebrate the spiritual blessings your generous sacrifice produced. When your parish community came together and packed 121,284 meals for the poor, you nurtured both the bodies and souls of these precious families. Through your compassion, they were surrounded by the light of the Gospel and saw the power of Christ’s love firsthand. This is a blessing and source of hope many will remember for years to come!

May God bless you for putting food on the tables of hungry families. What you have done can protect many at-risk children and vulnerable families from the threat of malnutrition. Through your support, stomachs have been filled, hearts have been healed, and the bounty of Christ has been set before those who needed help most!

Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.

PROVERBS 22:9