



2023



Dear friends,
How can we not give thanks to God for all the blessings He gave us during 2023?

Through *Bridges* we were able to experience the joy of communion, which brings us to His Heart, inviting us to love, through service, all those whom He has entrusted to us. It was a year in which we were able to clearly understand the tenderness of His love, the generosity of His Providence, and the power of His presence.

The joy on the faces of our neighbors and missionaries reflects the abundant graces we have received, and how only the encounter with Him can give fullness to our lives. The new friendships, the work, the prayer, the dances, laughter and moments that we shared in Pamplona Alta are a treasure that we will always carry in our hearts.

Thank you very much for contributing to this apostolate, with this small piece of Heaven on earth where God makes Himself present through poverty, simplicity, and humility. May the Lord grant us to always be close to His Sacred Heart so that we can lead many more people to Him.

We offer our prayers and efforts for you and your loved ones, and we implore the powerful intercession of our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph over all your intentions.

With affection and gratitude,
alejo.-





MINISTRY

*«Let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works
and give glory to your Father in heaven»*

Mt 5:16





“We love because He first loved us”
1Jn 4:19

Embracing our belovedness, we find the inspiration to share with others how much we are loved.

In our daily encounter with Jesus, we renew our desire to have a heart like His, full of love for the Father, for Mary, our Mother, and for all our brothers and sisters, especially for those who suffer the most.







We have had the blessing of being able to welcome Mary in the neighbor's homes on a weekly basis for more than a year without interruptions. The Rosary is an occasion to let go of everything we are doing to open our hearts and talk to our Mother. Mary has taken us by hand this year, guiding our journey through Christian life.





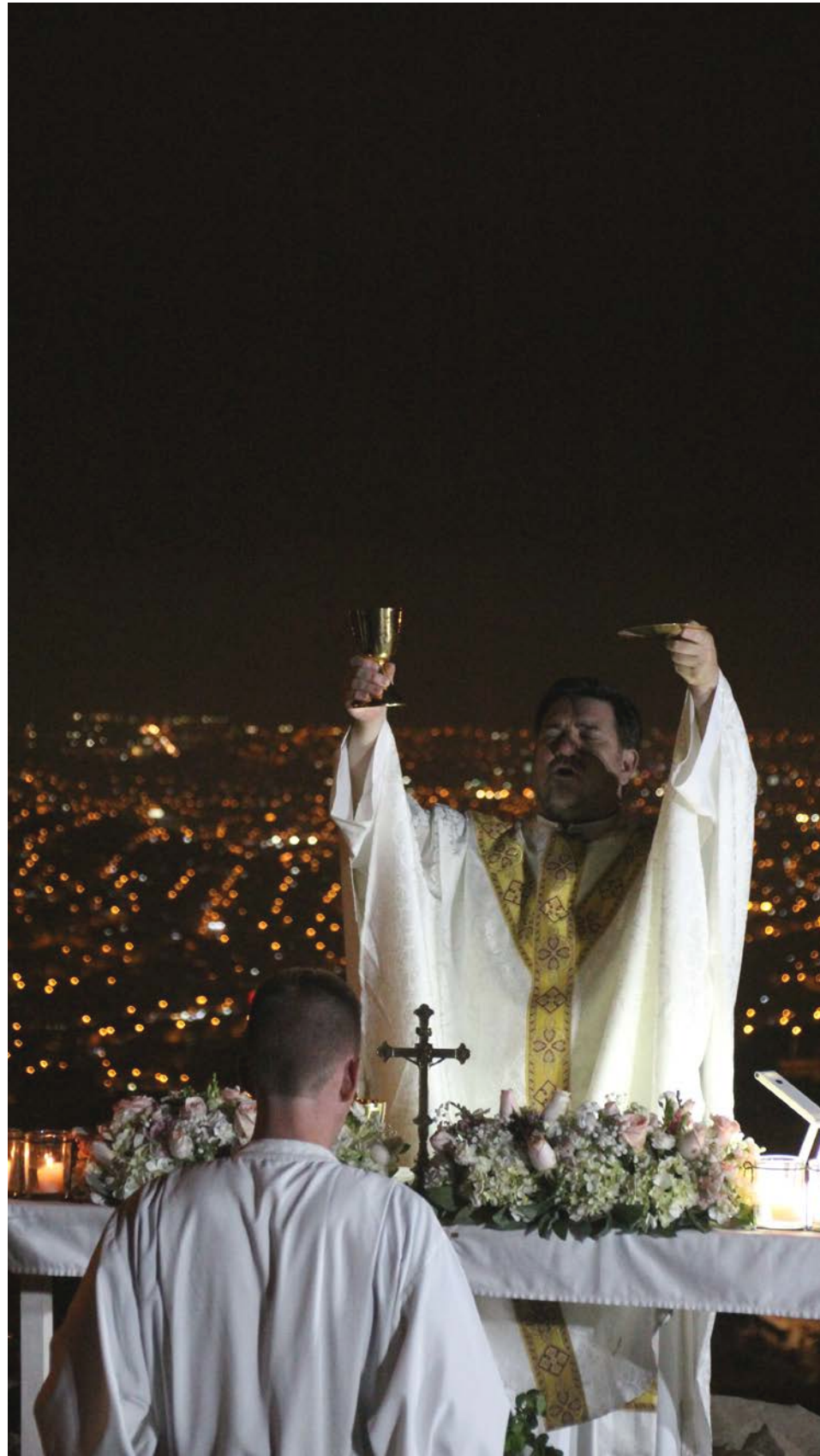
Neighbors, missionaries and volunteers have found in Mary an example of love, humility and dedication to others, values that we seek to imitate. It is beautiful to see how neighbors teach other neighbors who join the Pilgrim Virgin in praying the Rosary.





We had the joyous blessing of sharing the Eucharist with Archbishop Paolo Rocco Gualtieri, Apostolic Nuncio of Peru. During the celebration, His Excellency encouraged us to see Christ in those we serve, and to let Christ love them through us.



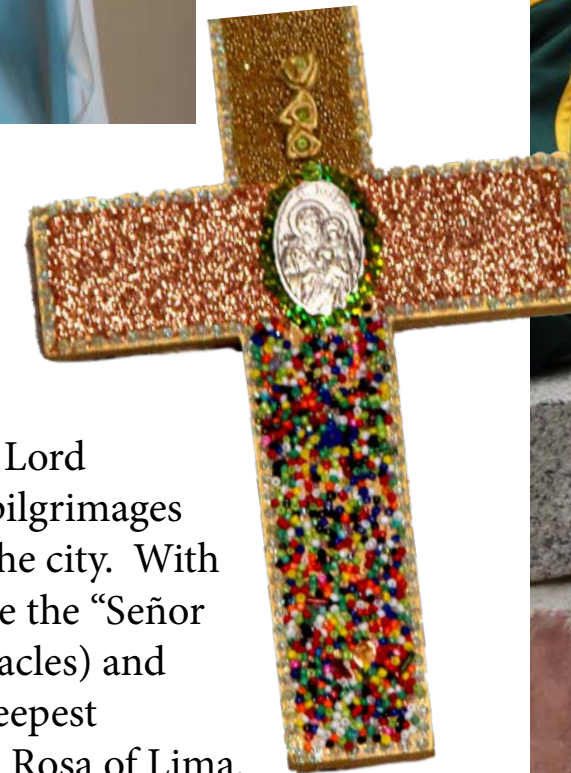


During Holy Week, we had the privilege of celebrating the Easter Triduum with our neighbors from Vista Hermosa and Nuevo Milenio for the first time. Our neighbors do not have a chapel, but they do have great faith, and an ardent desire to encounter the Lord in the sacraments.





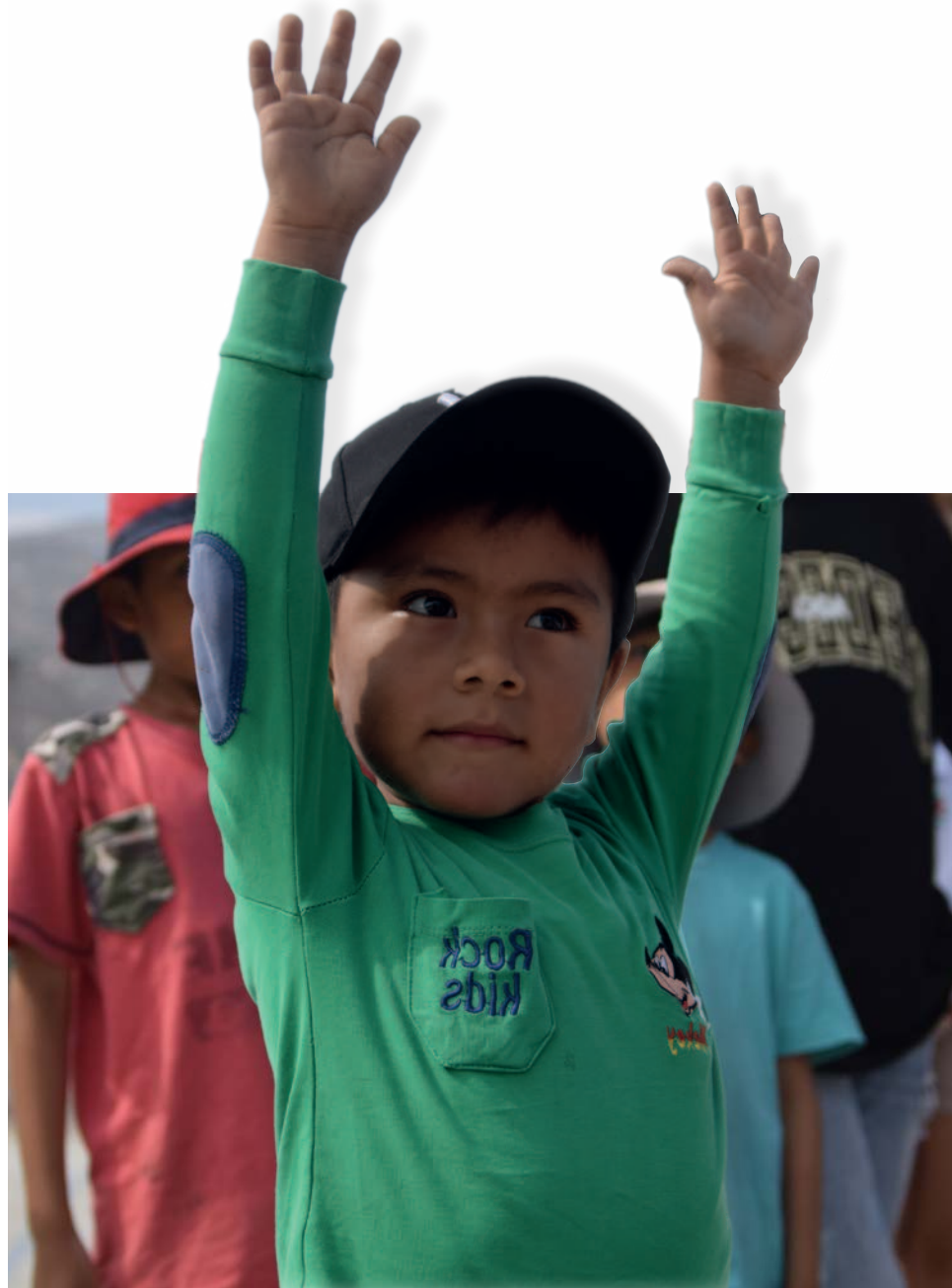
This year we sought to provide our neighbors with more spaces to encounter the Lord through “spiritual days” and pilgrimages to the Saints in the center of the city. With great devotion we kneel before the “Señor de los Milagros” (Lord of Miracles) and deposit our letters with our deepest intentions in the well of Santa Rosa of Lima.





We seek to open the door to Jesus so that He can work in our hearts. Having these apostolic activities as a family allows us to walk together towards our common goal: Holiness.









With great enthusiasm, parents and children, we prepared for Christmas by putting together Advent wreaths and lighting candles for Mary on the eve of her Immaculate Conception. These beautiful gestures inspire us to share as a family, strengthening our devotion and growing together in joy, love and spirituality.







ACTIVITIES



Joy is one of our distinctive features, since there is no greater happiness than friendship and communion. This is why through celebrations, walks and games we seek, with children and adults, to share the joy of those who know they are invited to participate in the Divine Communion of Love.

A dance marathon after building, celebrating our birthdays and important achievements, dressing up as our favorite heroes and princesses, these are some of the creative excuses that allow us to build authentic friendships. Share smiles with our children and give them moments that will always be recorded in their memories.

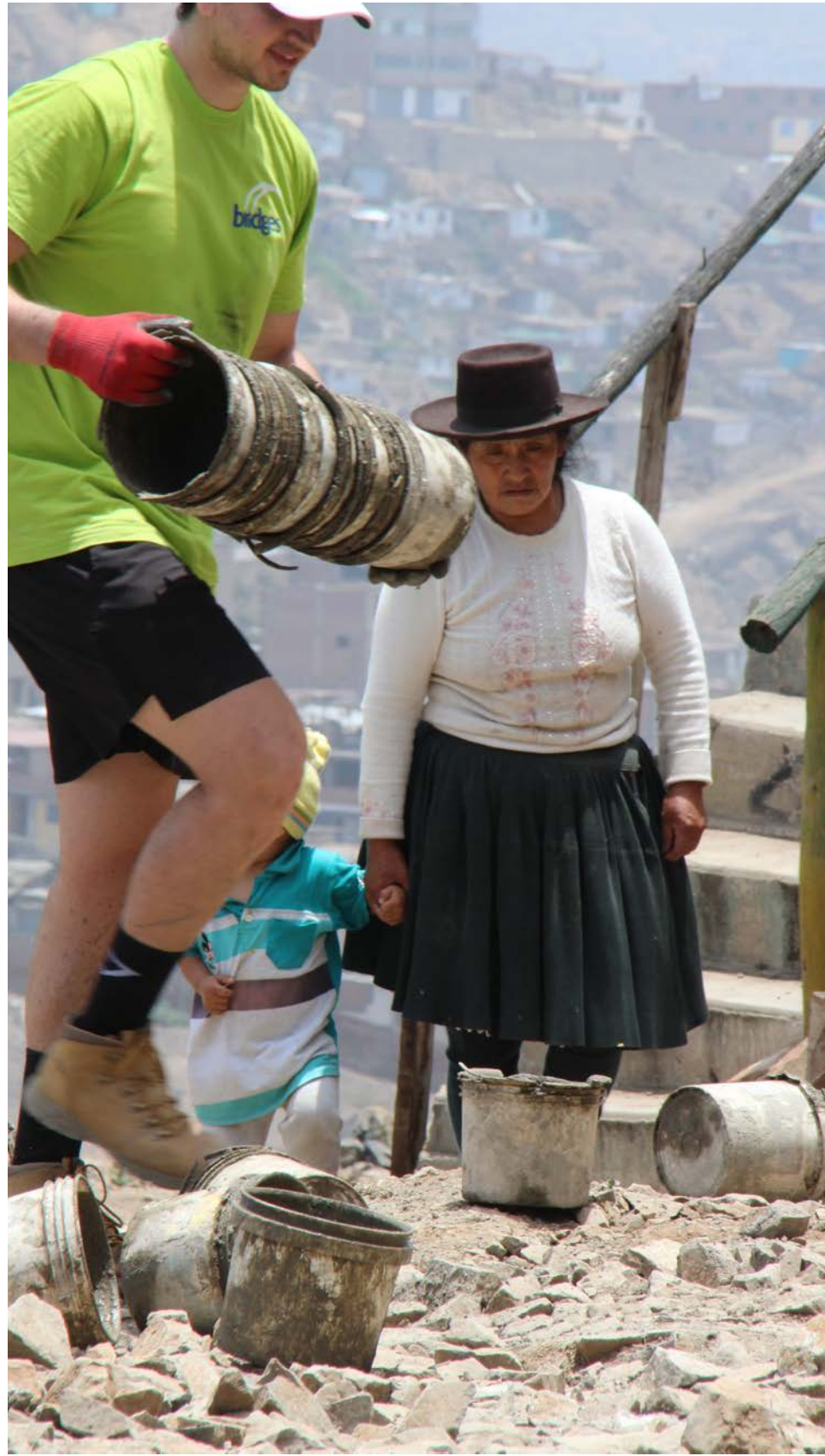




PROJECTS

Accompanied by more than 1,600 volunteers, missionaries and neighbors, we built 8 stairs, 5 retaining walls and 1 park for the Virgin of Guadalupe this year, benefiting more than 2,800 neighbors in Pamplona Alta. Praise God!





RETAINING WALL

The most precious thing about building a retaining wall is not the physical division that it generates, but the social barriers that it breaks through interaction and authentic encounter with others.











STAIRS





The nice thing about being able to build the stairs together with our neighbors is building friendships. Each step helps us grow in service, and through shared efforts we all grow in holiness.





GUADALUPE PARK





“Am I not here, who am your Mother?” the *Virgin of Guadalupe* said to St Juan Diego, and She also says it to us today. This park, the fruit of love and effort, not only provides a place to play, but also leaves the neighbors with an image that reminds them that *Mary* is always with us and listens to us.

We dedicate this project with deep gratitude to our dear friends Maura and Steve, who with their generosity have supported our neighbors immensely. Thank you, Steve and Maura, for being a fundamental part of our mission!









DONATIONS





«Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord,
and He will reward them for what they have done»
Pr 19:17

Throughout the year, thanks to the generosity of
our donors, volunteers and allied organizations, we
have been able to donate 38 tons of food, including
fresh, non-perishable groceries and bread to the soup
kitchens of Pamplona and the neediest families.





The ladies in charge of each soup kitchen are an example of constant effort and talent put at the service of the needs of others. Truly there is more joy in giving than in receiving.



At the beginning of this year we realized the great need of our neighbors before starting the school year: the lack of shoes. Thanks to the help of many institutions and volunteers, 680 pairs of shoes were distributed, making walking on rugged paths a little easier.



This year, before classes began, we were able to give backpacks full of school supplies to 500 children in the area in order to allow them to have the necessary supplies for their educational year. The education of the little ones is our priority, and we work so that they grow in wisdom, knowledge and faith.





“Once in our world, a Stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world” - C.S. Lewis

Every year, Baby Jesus knocks on the door of our hearts so that He can find that humble manger in which to be born. We wanted to share the joy of Christmas with our neighbors, reminding them that the center of it is Jesus, who became a poor Child for love. With that spirit, we delivered “boxes of love” to 550 families and celebrated Christmas with more than 1,600 children.









pictures

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