

Friends of San Lucas Mission

WWW.SANLUCASMISSION.ORG

In 1963, Fr. Greg Shaffer from the diocese of New Ulm, MN went to San Lucas, Tolimán, Guatemala, and began to work as a parish priest. Responding to the needs of the community, he soon started programs in education, healthcare, construction, coffee, as well as a program inviting groups from the United States to walk alongside the people and culture of San Lucas.

Fr. Greg died in 2012, and the Friends of San Lucas was created to carry on his legacy. Efforts at the San Lucas Mission respond to the needs of the people, working to build infrastructure so that the people might grow out of the process of poverty. Programming at the mission is based in Christian Social Doctrine and is designed to develop five basic human rights: food, security, shelter, healthcare, education, and work.

San Lucas, Tolimán, Guatemala:

San Lucas is located in south central Guatemala, about 2.5 hours west of the capital, Guatemala City. San Lucas is one of the poorest areas in the region and the town consists of 20,000 people. An additional 20,000 live in the surrounding areas. 85%-90% of the people are native Maya. San Lucas sits on the edge of Lake Atitlán, one of the largest lakes in Central America. San Lucas is almost a mile above sea level making for cool evenings during our mission trip.

What will we do?

We will serve the local community through various projects supported by the Friends of San Lucas Mission. Projects include things such as: building fuel-efficient stoves, wood/charity homes, and cinder block homes, general construction, painting, hauling rocks or sand, and more. While immersed, we will also learn more about the Mayan culture, experience the effects of oppression and poverty, and get to know the people of San Lucas. As a mission crew we will learn more about our Catholic faith through daily prayer, Mass, scripture, and working alongside each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Serve the local community,
learn about Mayan culture, and
our beautiful Catholic faith**



Chaperones Needed! (esp male)

Age 21 +

Chaperone Cost: \$750

Contact youth@sjn.org

Fundraising opportunities available!



YOUTH MISSION TRIP

San Lucas, Tolimán, Guatemala

July 12 - 20, 2022



Engaging and challenging youth to friendship with Jesus and to become courageous followers of Jesus and His Church

4030 Pilot Knob Road, Eagan, MN 55122
651-454-2079
www.SJN.org

COST: \$1750

- Includes: Airfare, Baggage Fees, Meals, Housing, and T-Shirt.
(Not Included: meals on travel days; snacks; souvenir/fun money.)
- Mission Crew works together on lowering the final cost through fundraisers

WHO? ALL High School Youth Currently in Grades 9-12

**APPLICATION & \$300 DEPOSIT DUE DATE:
Monday, January 31, 2022**

YOUTH APPLICANTS NOTIFIED: February 4, 2022

*See application for process

FUNDRAISING: YES!

- Fundraising opportunities (e.g., "stock" and coffee sales, pancake breakfast, etc.) help reduce the \$1750 cost.

COMMITMENT: Monthly (REQUIRED) Pre-trip gatherings

- foster teambuilding among the mission crew.
- learn about the Guatemalan culture.
- discover what to expect.

Purpose:

We will step out of our own comfort and understand the life, situation, and culture of the people of San Lucas by living, working, serving, eating, and socializing directly with them.

This is how we play our part in the mission's response to the broader process of poverty.

While in San Lucas, we grow in understanding through the eyes of our faith—and deepen our own faith as we share, pray, and attend mass (both in Spanish & English). We will continue to develop the strong relationships between the people of San Lucas and St. John Neumann; relationships that have been started by groups in the past.

Activities:

Work: Construction (rebar/cement), Building Stoves, Building Wood Houses, Hauling Dirt/Rocks, Making Gravel, Cleaning, Painting, Gardening, Sorting Coffee Beans (seasonal), etc.

Market Visits: San Lucas and surrounding villages such as Santiago, Panajachel, etc.

Other: Boat trip on the lake, Hiking, Tours of the Community, Talks from Mission Staff, Mass, Free Time to Explore San Lucas

Cost:

\$1,750 (Includes Airfare, Ground Transportation, Hotel, Food, T-Shirt)
(Not Included: Travel day meals at the airport, snacks, souvenirs, etc.)

Plus:

Youth donation of \$25 – Donation is for a Service Project Activity in Guatemala

And: Recommend \$100-\$200 for spending money (souvenirs, snacks, etc.)

Exchange money into Quetzal before the trip & ask for smallest denominations

Keep some American \$\$ for airport meals

Payments:

Trip payment due in full by last meeting
(approximately three weeks before the trip)

- Recommended: regular incremental payments
- Account balances will be available at each meeting, especially after fundraisers
- Checks payable to "St. John Neumann" with *Youth Mission Trip* in the memo line
- Credit/Debit are accepted at kiosk in Gathering Space and at www.sjn.org

*In comment line:

"Trip Payment for: __<youth name>__"

*Please notify Pat Howard when making credit payment to watch for it online

Fundraisers:

Fish Fry: **DATE TBA**

(Partner w/ Knights of Columbus; all hands on deck)

Pancake Breakfast: **DATE TBA**

(Partner w/ Knights of Columbus; all hands on deck)

Stock & Coffee Sales: **DATES TBA**

*(assists needed after ALL Masses
(Partner w/ Friends of San Lucas; need 2-3 per Mass)*

Thank You Dessert: Tuesday, August 4, 2022

(7:00 pm-8:00 pm, **plus** set-up/clean-up time)

Passport Required: If your passport expires within 6 months of our trip, you must renew.
(Passports will be secured in the Mission safe while in San Lucas.)

Photo ID We require each person to carry a photo ID.
(separate from passport at all times while in Guatemala.
Driver's license or school ID is acceptable.)

Housing The mission will arrange our housing.
We will not know the exact hotel we will stay at until we arrive in San Lucas.
It will be safe and clean, with electricity and water.

Food The mission provides and cooks all of our food.
It is safe, healthy and plentiful.
You may bring snacks, but they must fit in your own suitcase.

Medical There is a clinic in San Lucas. It is run by the mission, and has a full time doctor.

Vaccinations:

- COVID Vaccine Required
- Routine Childhood - (Hepatitis A/B; Tetanus)
- Ask your family physician for other suggestions
- You can also go to www.cdc.gov – Search Guatemala for more information (we will be in the "central highlands" of the country, not the coastland)

Typical Daily 7:00 Wake Up/ Morning Prayer (Daily Mass if Available)

Schedule 8:00 Breakfast @ Mission
9:00 Morning Work
12:30 Lunch @ Mission
2:00 Afternoon Work/Activity
6:00 Dinner @ Mission
7:00 Free Time
9:00 In Hotel for Night/
Evening Prayer

Communication While in Guatemala, if you need to reach your participant for an emergency back home, you can contact Pat Howard via his office phone (651-209-8587). He will keep watch constantly during the trip.

When we arrive at the Mission in San Lucas Tolimán, a text & email notification will be sent out to parents/guardians to indicate we've arrived safe and sound.

Beyond that, no news is good news! ☺
Contact Daniel.Paulus@sjn.org or 651-209-8585

Questions?