NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 4 - NRO. 2 ENGLISH EDITION OCTOBER, 2026

THE SEMINARIANS' GATHERING IN PORTO SAN GIORGIO HAS COME TO AN END!



Photo: Venue of the seminarians' gathering in Porto San Giorgio, Italy.

PAGE 2

ACOLYTE INSTITUTION OF JUAN ANDRÉS ROA BARRAGÁN
Juan Andrés Roa Barragán was instituted as an acolyte by Bishop Antonio Crameri.

PAGE 4

MASS IN HONOR OF SAINT JOSEPH BENEDICT COTTOLENGO
We celebrated the Eucharist in honor of Saint Joseph Benedict Cottolengo, the patron saint of our community.

PAGES 6-7

GALA DINNER 2026
We visited several cities, sharing the joy and fellowship of the 2026 Gala Dinner.

PAGE 11

SEMINARIANS' GATHERING
The Merkabah was experienced in the Tent of Meeting during the gathering in Porto San Giorgio.

JUAN ANDRÉS ROA BARRAGÁN INSTALLED AS ACOLYTE





On April 17th, we joyfully celebrated the Eucharist during which our brother Juan Andrés Roa Barragán (Guayaquil) received the ministry of Acolyte. The Eucharist was presided over by Most Rev. Antonio Crameri, Bishop of the Apostolic Vicariate of Esmeraldas, who in his homily exhorted the candidate to live this ministry with love and fidelity, so as to conform himself more closely to the mystery of Christ, servant of the altar. We ask for everyone's prayers for Juan Andrés, that the Lord may sustain him in his vocation and make him a faithful witness to the Gospel.



Photo: Bishop Antonio Crameri instituted Juan Andrés Roa Barragán as an acolyte, marking a new step in his vocation of service to the Church.

VISIT OF THE ROSARY GROUP (CUENCA)

On April 18th, we joyfully welcomed the group of young people from Cuenca whose mission is to pray the Rosary daily for our seminary. Upon their arrival, we shared a meal and then joined together in prayer, praying the Holy Rosary. Afterward, the pilgrims were given a tour of our formation house, accompanied by seminarians who explained the new aesthetic and the significance of each space. The visit concluded with a Eucharistic celebration presided over by our Vice-Rector, Fr. Jorge Alberto Padilla Rodríguez. Let us pray for these young people from Cuenca, asking the Lord to sustain and guide them with His Spirit, illuminating their vocations and entrusting them to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother.



Photo: Fr. Marco Pacciana receives a gift from the group from Cuenca during their visit to our seminary.



Photo: Young people from Cuenca take part in the agape meal during their visit to the seminary.

MASS OF SAINT JOSEPH BENEDICT COTTOLENGO

On April 30th, we celebrated the feast of Saint Joseph Benedict Cottolengo, patron saint of our seminary. Saint Joseph Benedict Cottolengo, through his example, inspires us each day to trust and hope in Divine Providence, with the certainty that the Lord acts as our guarantor. The Eucharistic celebration was presided over by Most Rev. Angel Maximiliano Ordóñez Sigcho, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Quito, and concelebrated by our formators and some invited ministers.



Photo: Bishop Maximiliano Ordóñez during the celebration of the Eucharist in honor of Saint Joseph Benedict Cottolengo.

In his homily, Bishop Ordóñez Sigcho emphasized the unity that must exist in the Church and the integration of the poor and marginalized, reminding us that Christ came not for the righteous but for sinners, and exhorting us to live out service with love for our neighbor so that tomorrow, guided by the grace of the Lord, we may be, as Pope Francis said, "shepherds with the smell of sheep." Thanks be to the Lord for allowing us to share this celebration with those who collaborate in our seminary: benefactors, volunteers, and sisters on mission. We ask all our brothers and sisters to pray for us, so that, guided by the Holy Spirit, we may live trusting in Divine Providence and following the example of Saint Joseph Benedict Cottolengo.

VISIT OF THE ROSARY GROUP OF LOJA

On May 9th, we had the joy of welcoming a group of young men from Loja. We shared a very meaningful day with them, motivated by their beautiful mission of praying the Holy Rosary daily for the intentions and vocations of our house of formation. Upon arrival, they enjoyed a welcome reception, and afterwards, we all joined together to pray the Rosary. Afterward, the seminarians guided the young people on a tour of the facilities, explaining the spiritual significance and the aesthetic of each space. The visit concluded with the celebration of the Eucharist, presided over by our rector, Fr. Marco Pacciana. We ask the Lord to sustain and guide these young men from Loja with His Spirit, under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



Photo: Group from Loja with the seminarians.

VISIT OF THE ROSARY GROUP OF QUITO

On May 16th, we welcomed a group of young people who visited us from various parts of Quito. It was a day of profound communion, fostered by their valuable work of praying the Holy Rosary daily for our house of formation. After welcoming them with a fraternal meal, we joined together in prayer, reciting the Rosary. Afterward, we toured the facilities with them, explaining the spiritual significance and the aesthetic in each area. The day culminated with a Eucharistic celebration presided over by our rector, Fr. Marco Pacciana. We pray that the Lord will shower these young people with blessings and that the Blessed Virgin Mary will always protect them.



Photo: Young people from Quito alongside the members of the seminary after participating in the Eucharistic celebration.

GALA DINNER 2026: QUITO, CUENCA, GUAYAQUIL

Throughout the months of May, June and July we held three memorable gala dinners in different cities across the country.



Photo: Fr. Pablo Arias, Fr. Marco Pacciana, and Fr. Jorge Padilla present a plaque and a gift to Bishop David de la Torre, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Quito.

On May 21st, we held our gala dinner in Quito at the Hacienda Villavieja, an elegant and warm setting perfectly suited to honor His Excellency David Israel De la Torre Altamirano, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Quito, as well as Mr. Vicente Vivanco Benavides and Mrs. Fanny Celi de Vivanco. The event unfolded in an atmosphere filled with gratitude, where faith and a vocation for service came together in sincere recognition of the honorees' constant collaboration and support for the educational and evangelizing work of our institution.



Photo: Fr. Marco Pacciana presents a plaque and a gift to Mrs. Fanny Celi de Vivanco.

On June 12, we held our gala dinner in Cuenca, at the distinguished Quinta Lucrecia. In an evening characterized by fraternity and affection, we honored the life and work of Mons. Francisco de Jesús Calle Calle. The atmosphere was filled with deep emotion and grateful remembrance as we recalled his generous ministry and invaluable dedication to the Church, whose fruits endure and inspire our community.



Photo: From left to right, Archbishop Marcos Aurelio Pérez of the Archdiocese of Cuenca; Msgr. Francisco Calle Calle; and Fr. Marco Pacciana.



Photo: Fr. Marco Pacciana presents a plaque and a gift to Msgr. Francisco de Jesús Calle Calle.

Finally, on July 12, the gala dinner took place in Guayaquil. On this occasion, the tribute was dedicated to His Excellency Gerardo Miguel Nieves Loja, Auxiliary Bishop of Guayaquil, for his closeness to the people of God and his unwavering witness of faith.



Photo: Formators of the Redemptoris Mater "San Pedro Claver" Seminary alongside Bishop Gerardo Miguel Nieves Loja, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Guayaquil.

The Diocesan Missionary Seminary Redemptoris Mater "St. Pedro Claver" extends its deepest gratitude to all those who made these events possible. The funds raised will be used to promote the new evangelization and the initiatives of our house. We pray for all our benefactors and collaborators, asking the Lord to abundantly reward their dedication and generosity.

END-OF-YEAR PILGRIMAGE TO NOBOL

On July 11th, we marked the end of our academic year with a pilgrimage to Nobol, the town of Saint Narcisa de Jesús. After visiting the hacienda where the saint spent her childhood, we made a pilgrimage to the sanctuary where her body rests, singing the Holy Rosary.



Photo: Procession held by the Redemptoris Mater "San Pedro Claver" Seminary during its end-of-academic-year pilgrimage.

Upon arriving at the sanctuary, we joined in prayer to ask for the indulgence, placing our personal intentions in the hands of the Saint. We concluded the pilgrimage with the Eucharistic celebration at the same hacienda, thanking God for the end of our academic year.

VISIT FROM THE BRETHREN FROM MACAS AND THE ROSARY GROUP OF GUAYAQUIL

On July 18th, we had the joy of receiving two groups of brothers and sisters on the same day of grace.



Photo: Brothers venerating the relic of the Holy Cross during their visit to the seminary.

In the morning, we were joined by a group from Macas, who stopped at our house as part of their pilgrimage to Quito for the Jubilee of Saint Francis. We shared moments of fellowship and prayer with them, celebrating this jubilee year together. Later that afternoon, we received a visit from a group of youth from Guayaquil, who have the beautiful mission of praying the Holy Rosary daily for vocations and the intentions of our seminary. It was a day filled with communion and gratitude, where we witnessed the affection and support of the brothers and sisters from different parts of the country.

START OF ACADEMIC YEAR PILGRIMAGE TO SAN FRANCISCO

On August 23rd, we began our new academic year with a pilgrimage to the Church of San Francisco. During the walk, we sang the Holy Rosary, sharing time of walking, prayer, and fellowship to prepare our hearts for the demands of this new period. Upon arriving at the Church of San Francisco, we celebrated the Eucharist and entrusted our work and intentions to the intercession of the Saint of Assisi, asking for the grace to live this new academic year with humility, dedication, and a spirit of service.

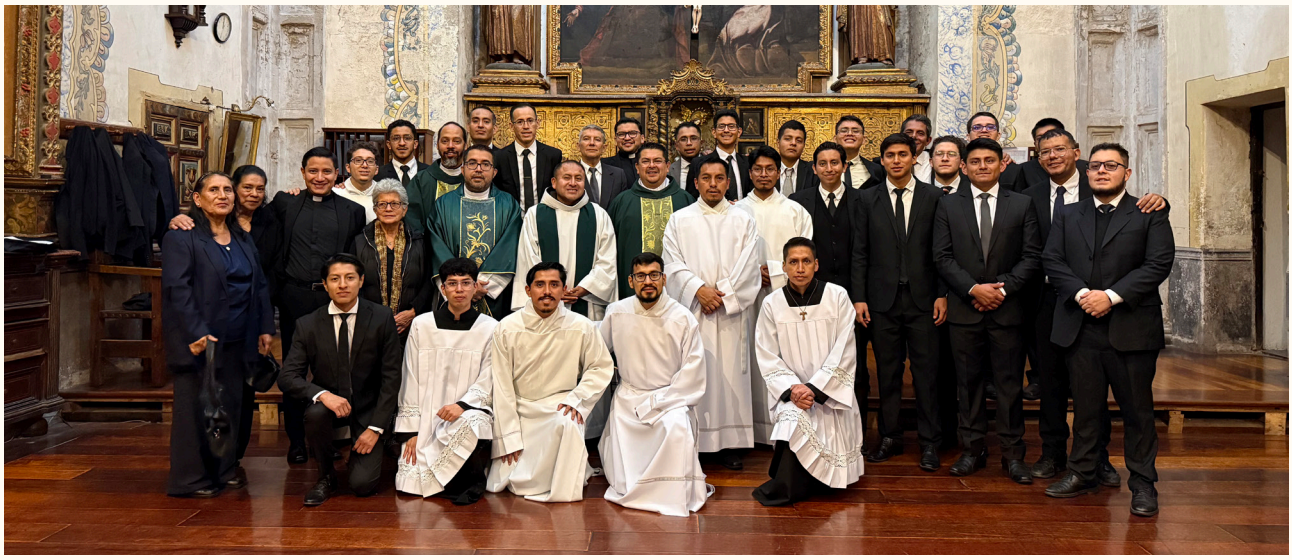


Photo: Seminarians and formators at the end of the Eucharistic celebration at St. Francis Church, during their pilgrimage marking the beginning of the academic year.

VISIT OF THE ROSARY GROUP OF AMBATO

On September 5th, we had the joy of receiving a group of brothers and sisters from Ambato at our seminary, who faithfully accompany us by praying the Holy Rosary daily for our house of formation.





Photo: Young people from the Rosary group of Ambato during their visit to the Redemptoris Mater "San Pedro Claver" Seminary.

Upon their arrival, we welcomed them with songs of welcome and moments of fraternal fellowship. Afterwards, we accompanied them on a tour of the seminary's various facilities, instructing them about our daily life and the spaces where we prepare for the priesthood. We concluded the visit by celebrating the Eucharist, presided by our spiritual director, Fr. Pablo Danilo Arias López.

21st ANNIVERSARY OF SRM SAN PEDRO CLAVER



Photo: Eucharistic celebration presided over by Fr. Jorge Padilla, Vice-Rector of the Seminary, on the occasion of the Seminary's 21st anniversary.

Last September 9th we celebrated the 21st anniversary of the founding of our seminary, within the framework of the liturgical memorial of Saint Peter Claver, patron saint of our house. We celebrated the Eucharist presided by Fr. Jorge Alberto Padilla Rodríguez, our vice-rector. And we concluded with a fraternal lunch among formators, seminarians, and close friends of the house.

VISIT OF THE ROSARY GROUP OF SANTO DOMINGO

On September 12th, we had the pleasure of welcoming a group of brothers and sisters from Santo Domingo de los Tsáchilas. We were very happy for their visit, because they are a community that accompanies us by praying the Holy Rosary for the seminary and vocations.



Photo: Group of young people from Santo Domingo upon their arrival at our seminary.

We welcomed them with songs and shared a moment of conversation to get to know each other better. Then, we showed them around the facilities, highlighting the different areas of the house and sharing a bit about our daily life and formation. To conclude the visit, we gathered in the chapel to celebrate the Eucharist together, presided by Father Luis Valeriano, a priest ordained at our seminary, giving thanks to God for their presence and invaluable spiritual support.

NEW SEMINARIANS ARRIVE

In September, during the seminarians' gathering in Porto San Giorgio, the Lord blessed our seminary with a new brother, Andrés Guillermo Arévalo Quinchanegua, from Bogotá (Colombia), who was assigned to our seminary by drawing lots and is already among us, beginning his formation. Likewise, Justino Ariel Moposita Manzaba, from Ambato, joined us after participating in the national gathering for young men, and has begun his journey of formation in our seminary.



ANDRÉS GUILLERMO ARÉVALO QUINCHANEGUA



JUSTINO ARIEL MOPOSITA MANZABA

Also, at this convivence the following brothers were sent to other seminaries: Ángel Ernesto Guachisaca Masa (Loja) to the Redemptoris Mater Seminary of Managua (Nicaragua); Ángel Alejandro Sánchez Tubay (Guayaquil) to the Redemptoris Mater Seminary of Burgos (Spain); Julián Emmanuel Sánchez Nájera (Guaranda) and Leonardo Camilo Cárdenas Delgado (Durán) to the Redemptoris Mater Seminary of Granada (Spain); and Carlos Mathías Narváez Vaca (Puyo) to the Redemptoris Mater Seminary of Arequipa (Peru), Jaime Antonio Cobacango Murillo to the Redemptoris Mater Seminary of Beirut (Lebanon) and Juan Andrés Guanín Medina to the Redemptoris Mater Seminary of Brasilia (Brazil).



LEONARDO CAMILO CÁRDENAS DELGADO



CARLOS MATHÍAS NARVÁEZ VACA



JULIÁN EMMANUEL SÁNCHEZ NÁJERA



ÁNGEL ALEJANDRO SÁNCHEZ TUBAY

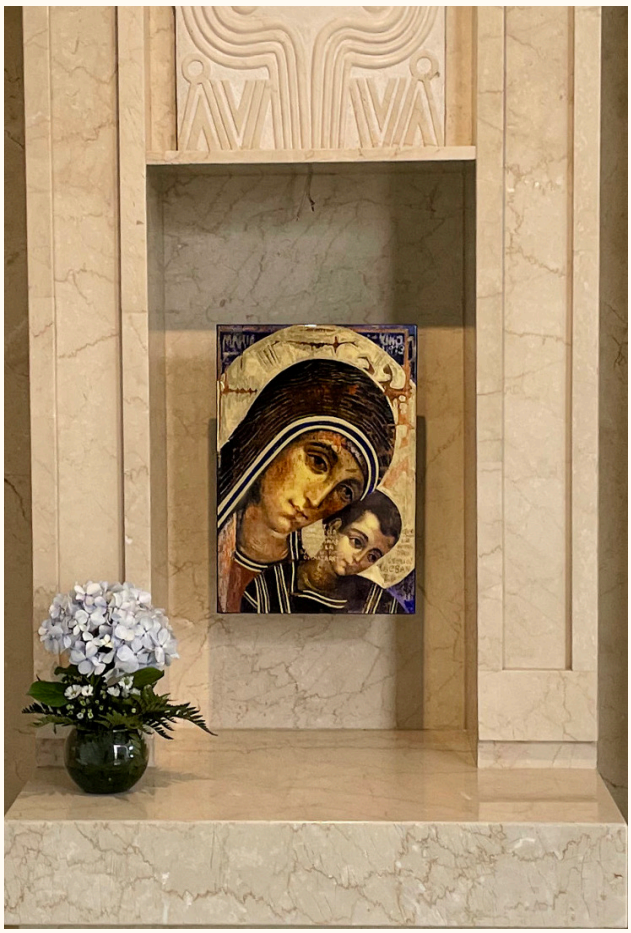


ÁNGEL ERNESTO GUACHISACA MASA

We give thanks to God, who in His infinite mercy continues to raise up vocations for our Church. We entrust these brothers to your prayers, that the Lord may bring to completion the work he has begun in each of them.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

INSTALLATION OF THE FRAME ON OUR ALTAR TO THE VIRGIN MARY:



BEFORE



NOW

With the desire to foster an ever-deeper devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, we have completed the preparation of the space intended to display her image and to honor her with hymns after the prayers of the Liturgy of the Hours. As part of this project, the area was beautified by installing a suitable frame for the image of the Virgin Mary, with the aim of presenting her image with greater dignity and highlighting her presence within the sanctuary. Previously, the image was displayed in a simple manner. However, with the completion of this project, it has been given a more solemn and harmonious presentation, befitting the spiritual significance of the space. The new ornamental frame enhances the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary while also contributing to the beauty of the setting dedicated to prayer and hymns in her honor. In this way, the project has not only improved the aesthetic appearance of the area but has also created a more dignified, welcoming, and suitable space for prayer, contemplation, and veneration of the Mother of God, thereby strengthening Marian devotion within our community.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

VARNISHING OF THE SEMINARY HALLWAY AND ROOMS







During the months of June and July, maintenance work and the complete varnishing of the wooden floors in the Seminary's rooms and hallways were carried out. This project, aimed at preserving and protecting the facilities we use daily, was made possible thanks to the collaboration and contributions of our benefactors. The completion of this project will help ensure greater durability of the flooring, improve insulation, and maintain the areas used as the seminarians' living quarters in optimal condition. We remember all our benefactors in our prayers, asking God to bless them, their families, and their intentions.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

REPAINTING OF THE SEMINARY ROOMS



Throughout the months of June and July, painting work was also carried out in the Seminary's bedrooms, completing an important stage in the upkeep of our house. This work has helped repair the walls, refresh the appearance of the rooms, and provide cleaner and brighter spaces for the seminarians to rest and study. The painting was carried out alongside the floor refinishing, allowing the entire dormitory area to be renewed. All of this has been made possible thanks to the support and generosity of our benefactors, whom we remember in our prayers, asking God to bless them and their intentions in return for their kindness.

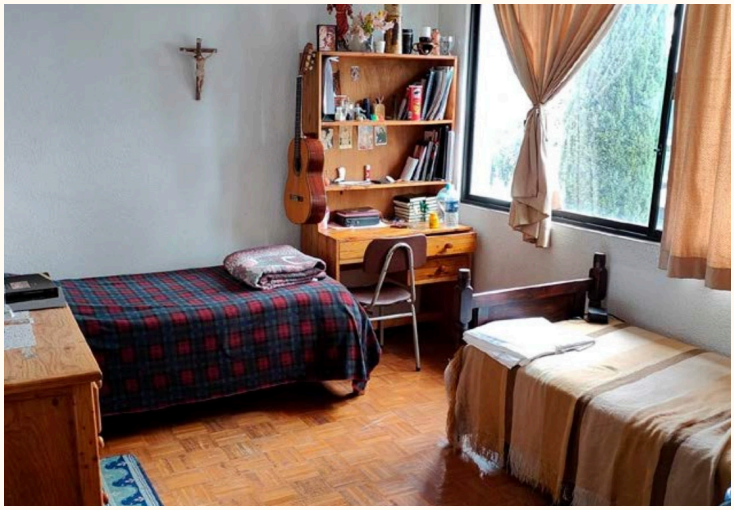
PENDING PROJECTS

PURCHASE OF VEHICLES TO TRANSPORT SEMINARIANS TO THEIR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES:



At present, we have only one five-passenger pick-up truck and one eight-passenger van. The Seminary currently has a total of 25 people, and we expect more candidates to join in the future. We are therefore seeking to acquire two 15-passenger minibuses and two cars to facilitate transportation for the formators.

NEW FURNITURE FOR THE SEMINARIANS' BEDROOMS



The Seminary's 12 bedrooms require new furniture, including beds, wardrobes, desks, and bookshelves, in order to provide the seminarians with more dignified living conditions, in keeping with the purpose of the new aesthetic: to show these young men the paternal love of God. We want each seminarian, as he inhabits these renewed spaces, to feel valued and cared for by his Church, fostering within him a spirit of gratitude that will be expressed through generous self-giving in service to those most in need.

PENDING PROJECTS

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THE ACQUISITION OF LAND TO EXPAND THE SEMINARY:



We have continued our novena to Saint Joseph, trusting that, through his powerful intercession, the Lord will grant us the land we need to expand our Seminary. For this reason, we encourage all our brothers to join us in prayer, asking the Lord, through the intercession of Saint Joseph, to provide us with this much-needed land so that we may continue to welcome and form those whom He calls to His service.

30-DAY PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH
Very powerful to get graces

Prayer to be recited for thirty days in a row in honor of the thirty years that, according to a pious tradition, the Patriarch St. Joseph lived with Jesus and Mary.

Be always blessed, O glorious patriarch St. Joseph of the Mountain, indulgent and loving father, compassionate friend of all those who suffer! For that sad pain with which your heart was pierced when you considered the sufferings of the Infant Savior, and in prophetic vision you contemplated His most ignominious Passion and death, I beg you, have pity of my poverty and my need; counsel me in my doubts and console me in all my anxieties. You are the Good Father and the Protector of orphans, the advocate of the helpless and the patron of those who are in need and in discomfort. Do not neglect, please, the supplication of your devotee: my sins have attracted the just indignation of God and, therefore, I am surrounded by afflictions.

To you, loving protector of the poor and humble family of Nazareth, to you I make my appeal, asking for help and protection. Pay heed to me, then, and welcome with a father's solicitude the ardent supplication of a son and obtain for me the object of my desire.

I beg you,
-By the infinite mercy of the eternal Son of God, which prompted Him to take our nature and to be born in this valley of tears.
-For that pain and that affliction that flooded your heart when, ignoring the mystery operated in your immaculate bride, you resolved to separate from her.
-For that tiredness, solicitude and pain that you suffered when in vain you searched for a place in Bethlehem where the Blessed Virgin might give birth and, not finding it, you had to look for a stable for the Redeemer of the world to be born.
-For the pain you suffered while witnessing the painful shedding of the precious blood at the circumcision.
-For the sweetness and power of the Sacred Name of Jesus, which you imposed to the adored infant.
-For that deadly anguish you experienced hearing the prophecy of holy Simeon in which he announced that the Child Jesus and His Holy Mother would be the future victims of His most great love for us sinners.
-For the pain and the affliction that flooded your soul, when the angel manifested to you that His enemies seized the Child Jesus to kill Him and you were obliged to flee to Egypt with Him and with His Most Holy Mother.

I ask you:
-For all the pains, labors and troubles you suffered during such a long and hard trip.
-For all the pains you suffered in Egypt on some occasions when, despite the fatigue of your work, you could not provide food for your poor family.
-For all the care to preserve the Divine Child and His Immaculate Mother, during the second journey, when you received the order to return to your home country.
-For the so peaceful life you had in Nazareth, mixed with so many joys and pain.
-For all your extreme affliction in staying for three days without the company of the adorable Child.
-For the joy you had, when you found Him in the temple, and for the inexplicable consolation that you felt in the house of Nazareth, living with the Divine Child.
-For His marvelous submission in staying subject to your will.
-For that pain you felt constantly thinking about all that the Child Jesus would have to suffer once you would not be at His side anymore.
-For that contemplation when you consider that those feet and those hands now so active in serving you would one day be pierced by cruel nails; that that head resting safely on your heart would have been crowned by acute thorns; that that delicate body, that you tenderly kept on your chest and pressed against your heart, would be scourged, illtreated and nailed on a cross.

I entreat you,
-For this heroic sacrifice of your will and the best affections, for which you offered to the Eternal Father the last and terrible moment when the Man-God should die for our salvation.
-For that perfect love and conformity with which you received the divine command to depart from this world and the company of Jesus and Mary.
-For the great joy that flooded your soul when the Redeemer of the world, triumphant over death and hell, entered His own kingdom, leading you to glory with special honors.
-For the glorious assumption of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary and for that ineffable bliss which she will eternally derive from the presence of God.

O Most loving father! I beg you for all the suffering, afflictions and joys, that you listen to me, and may obtain for me the favor of my ardent pleadings (here ask the grace you want to get by the intercession of St. Joseph).

I also entreat you on account of all those who recommend themselves to my prayers to give them what is more convenient, according to the designs of God. And finally, my beloved protector and father St. Joseph of the Mountain, be propitious to us in the last moments of our lives, so that we may sing eternally your praises together with those of Jesus and Mary.

Amen.

St. Joseph of the Mountain pray for us!

PENDING PROJECTS

BEDROOMS FOR THE SISTERS IN MISSION:



The bedrooms of the sisters who assist us at the Seminary are very small and need to be expanded to provide them with more comfortable and dignified living conditions.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHAPEL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:



We wish to build a chapel dedicated to the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, where the seminarians can find a place of silence, recollection, and personal prayer, separate from the spaces designated for liturgical prayer.

4th CHRISTMAS CONCERT

RESERVE YOUR SEAT!



Ambato - Friday, December 4th
Macas - Sunday, December 6th
Guayaquil - Saturday, December 12th
Cuenca - Sunday, December 13th
Quito - Sunday, December 20th
Esmeraldas - Sunday, December 27th
Ibarra - Wednesday, December 30th
Loja - Friday, January 8th

IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR SEMINARY, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.SRMEECUADOR.COM

WANT HELP US?

THIS MISSIONARY SEMINARY LIVES MAINLY FROM THE PRAYERS, DONATIONS AND THE GENEROSITY OF MANY BENEFACTORS. EVERY CONTRIBUTION HELPS AND GOD WILL BLESS ALL THOSE WHO GIVE SUPPORT FOR THE TRAINING OF PRIESTS.

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