

iQue Pasa!

Christmas 2014

Volume 13, Edition 3

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elsauzal.org



There's no place like home

In Mexico the name for our orphanage is “Hogar Para Niños Necesitados del Sauzal”, meaning home for needy children of El Sauzal. El Sauzal Orphanage is a loving home and family for hurt

children. It is also a safe haven for the workers. People outside the orphanage often feel the love as well.

When you help the orphanage with your love, prayers and gifts, you are blessing many more people than just the children. I want to tell you a Christmas story about nanny Maria and her brother Celedonio. It's a story about a grown man who had no family for twenty years, and found one at our orphanage.

Destitute and desperate

Maria has been caring for the children at the orphanage for over a decade. When she first came to the orphanage she had no home, no job and three young daughters. She was separated from her husband, destitute and desperate. Getting a job at the orphanage was a tremendous blessing for Maria. It provided shelter for her and her children, as well as income, food and clothing. Her daughters were enrolled at the nearest school.

Maria has a true heart for children. God has gifted her with a special love. She has been a tremendous blessing to our home. For many years Maria worked in the nursery, caring for the babies. When new infants arrived, Maria would bring them into her room to calm them and help them sleep at night. Maria cherished mothering

them. She treasured being in the nursery and worked there until it was too difficult due to health issues.

“I feel part of a family”

A few years ago Maria had a serious health scare. Her doctors were concerned that she had cancer, so Maria underwent surgery a few days before Christmas. The procedure made it difficult to fulfill her duties; at the time she was the cook. Every year the orphanage celebrates on Christmas Eve with a special feast. They typically make six hundred tamales – chicken, beef and sweet tamales. They are time-consuming to prepare. After Maria's surgery, the teens helped prepare the tamales. They insisted on Maria taking it easy.

That Christmas, Maria's brother Celedonio was visiting from Los Angeles. Maria and Celedonio had been estranged for many years. They had lost contact and fallen apart until Celedonio found Maria online. He came to the orphanage to be with Maria after her surgery, very concerned for her health.

As the teens made the tamales Celedonio worked with them. Seeing their support for Maria made him emotional. He was moved to

see the kids helping her; he saw how they had become a family to Maria and her daughters. He told Maria, “I forgot for twenty years [what it was like to have a family]. I didn't know anything about my family. But now with you I feel part of a family [here at the orphanage].” Since that Christmas Celedonio has

visited several times to prepare special carne asada meals for his new orphanage family.



Maria with her husband Jesus. Jesus now also works at the orphanage, with the boys.

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AmazonSmile

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A time to give and receive

Our orphanage family includes the children, the workers and extends far beyond the orphanage's gates. Would you help our family with a financial gift this Christmas? Your generous present will bless our children, staff and spread to others, like it did with Celedonio. You also are part of our family. We pray that God's lavish love will overflow in your home this Christmas!

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Make a list - 3 ways to help this season

Deliver a different kind of Christmas gift

Are you looking for a way to share Christmas differently this year? Or have you been searching for a present for that hard-to-shop-for family member or friend?

This Christmas, instead of buying gifts, you can give a donation in honor of your loved one to help the children at El Sauzal. We will send this lovely glossy card to let your loved one know.

Get yours today:

1. Fill out enclosed form and send in.
2. Or order online at elsauzal.org/gifts



Celebrate the New Year with our kids

Why purchase calendars?

- A practical tool to connect you with our kids.
- Prayer requests to keep you emotionally and spiritually connected to our ministry.



- High-quality, standard-sized 13-month wall calendar.
- Beautiful full-color photos of our kids.
- A special gift to share with others.

Suggested donation: \$12 each

(Includes shipping & handling)

Two ways to order:

1. **Order online** through PayPal. Go to elsauzal.org/ordercalendar.
2. **Order by mail.** Fill out the order form on the insert and mail it in with your donation. You can pay by check, cash, or money order.

Got questions? Email Danielle Bergman at dani.bergman@elsauzal.org.



Put presents under your tree with AmazonSmile

How does AmazonSmile work?

For all items purchased through smile.amazon.com, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to El Sauzal Foundation, Inc.

1. Instead of going to amazon.com to purchase items, go to smile.amazon.com.
2. You will be prompted to select the organization to donate to. Choose "El Sauzal Foundation Inc." You can change and give to other organizations at any time.
3. Shop for your items. Most items that Amazon sells are available through AmazonSmile. They are the same price through either site.
4. Each time you shop at Amazon, go to AmazonSmile.com for donations to be made to El Sauzal Foundation, Inc.
5. If you are an Amazon Prime member, you will be able to use all of your Amazon Prime benefits.



Thank you for giving to our kids through AmazonSmile!