

December 2004

Dear Friends of City of Angels:

The holidays are merry times in which we think about family gatherings, Christmas trees glowing with lights and decorations, and bundling up warmly against the cold. Last night one of our staff members took some children on a special outing. This is the story she told when she came home: "I had just purchased a treat for each of the kids and was driving down the street when we came to a stoplight. Our windows were rolled up because of the cold, but a little girl who looked to be about ten years old came to the window. She was begging for money to buy her baby brother some milk. She was a beautiful little girl with blonde hair and great big eyes and we could see her mother standing behind her, trying to shelter the baby from the cold. I gave her what money I could, but could not help crying for her and the life she must be leading. I was overwhelmed with a feeling of helplessness for this little girl and as I drove away I thought, 'What difference are we making?' Yet even in times like this, when the need seems to be greater than all our efforts, I only have to walk into the home at City of Angels to know that this Christmas - for the children that God has already given us - there will be a wonderful Christmas. These are children who could be living the same way as the little girl we saw. But by the grace of God they are not living that way - just because there is a place called City of Angels."



Today at City of Angels the children who were once in the streets celebrate Christmas with presents, tamales and piñatas. This Saturday they will be given presents at the City of Angels Christmas party, while at the same time they will be blessing the givers with their gratitude and friendship. During the party the children will perform a Christmas drama, which they have been preparing for weeks. They have been working very hard learning their lines and their hard work has paid off.



They are so good that the City of Tijuana has asked them to perform the drama in their Christmas festival. The children at City of Angels are truly angels and when you see the delight that your presence brings them it makes you feel like you have made a difference. It is always a privilege to be involved in the ministry to which God has called us. Although our ability to help the family on the corner is limited to prayers and monetary support, we can help the thirty children of City of Angels spend Christmas - and all year long - being cared for.

Thanks to God's care for us in many ways, including gifts from faithful friends like you, we are able to function. It has been especially hard in the last two months to cover our operating budget and as a result we have had to make sacrifices in many areas. This Christmas please help us to provide for the children by making a financial contribution to benefit City of Angels. May your holidays be filled with the joy and blessing of Christ as you delight in all He has given you and your family.



Celebrating Him with you,
The Staff at City of Angels