

Nativity 8th graders make first annual mission trip.



Nativity 8th graders Patrick Lambert, Arlyn Barlaan, Mark Mooney and Cameron Regan attended the First Annual Nativity 8th Grade Mission Trip to La Victoria in the Dominican Republic. We also had 3 nativity alumni's Kayla and Brittany Pettenger and Ryan Walden. We also had a 6th grader at Nativity Tyler Pettenger accompany us on this trip. The trip was a complete success, a mission event that we would like to start and leave as a legacy for each graduating class to take. We left on April 13 and returned on the 17th. The main focus of this trip was to provide dental treatment for the children of La Victoria. We had one physician, Dr.

John Mikos, two Dentists; Drs. Luz Hernandez and Darryll Price and two Dental Hygienists Tiffany Lloyd and Michele Furu. We completely stocked and organized the Dental Clinic with supplies that were donated by people in Brandon. The Doctors and Hygienists saw hundreds of students from the local schools and the nutrition center. They also did some extractions, fillings, provided sealants which will prevent further decay. We even had some of the parents provide several hundred topical Fluoride applications and everyone received a tooth brush. Treatment plans were made on many of the children which is a great start for them. We did some painting for the Schoenstatt Sisters Retreat Center. We also laid a concrete floor for a poor family that had been living with a dirt floor. This work was done manually, what a difference from the cement truck just pulling up and dumping the cement. We spent a lot of time in the nutrition center just playing with the children. We also gave them toys, books, games, kites, bubbles, baseball bats and balls, and other nice goodies for the children. On Tuesday and Wednesday each family delivered food baskets to the poorest of the poor. We also visited the town center, played baseball and basketball with the local children. Many of us were fortunate enough to visit Maria Lana's orphanage which is supported by Academy of Holy Names, she takes in young females who would otherwise be left living on the streets alone. On Thursday we visited Santo Domingo and learned about Dominican culture. This was an experience that none of us will ever forget and bring with us in the next phase of our lives. It was truly an Easter week where we all met and experienced Christ in the poor, within ourselves, and each other.

