# **Present Needs**

- New kitchen (US\$ 65,000)
- Replacement of the current van (US\$ 10,000)
- Women's Educational Center (US\$ 20,000)
- Women's Health Care: \$20,000
- Implementation of a new Community Center: (US\$ 12,000)

#### 1. A new kitchen (US\$ 65,000) that will help us to:

- a. Reach more people with a daily meal. We are presently preparing 650 meals a day but the need is at least 5,000 given the current but growing population of 28,000 people in the settlements.
- b. Be able to support the bed ridden elderly not with just the mid-day meal but also with a breakfast and a light meal for the night.
- c. The funds will used for construction of the building, equipping the kitchen, purchasing a bigger second hand van for the distribution of food, and have a little capital to get it going.

#### 2. Replacement of the current van (US\$ 10,000):

a. The present van that transports the food daily needs to be replaced and we would need around US\$ 10,000 to replace it. The van is used to deliver food daily to 12 distribution centers from where people pick up their meals. After attending the distribution center then it distributes food to around 25 elderly in their homes. This goes on from Monday to Friday all year round. In 2006 more than 85,500 meals were delivered.

# 3. Women's Educational Center (US\$ 20,000).

- a. In order to help the people to generate a better income more adult education and skill training programs are needed. Under the supervision of Fr. Alex, the site for the *Women's Educational Facility* already has 2 existing walls, butted up against the day care center.
- b. The purpose is to provide training in one particular area for 6 months or so for a number of women until they become proficient, then move onto another area with different type of training for others. In this way, the educational facility would allow many, many women to become trained.
- c. Fr. Alex figures \$20,000 would cover not only the construction to complete this room, but also the implements necessary for training and for instructors. The existence of this facility will mean self-sufficiency for many women and their children. They are so willing to work; now they will have the opportunity.

#### 4. Women's Health Care: \$20,000

a. In the area of health we would like to expand the attention with regards to family planning education, assistance during pregnancies, deliveries and the post-natal conditions of both the mother and the child. Such a program may cost around US \$20,000 for the education material and basic equipment still needed in the existing clinic.

# 5. Implementation of a new Community Center: (US\$ 12,000)

a. It has recently been built. The purpose of this center is to have room for the different groups to meet and activities to take place. Activities that will be taking place in the center are skill training classes, alphabetization classes, family strengthening sessions meant to be preventive-steps against family violence, health care education, spiritual retreats, etc. The implementation includes basic furniture like tables, chairs, white boards, storage cabinets, multimedia equipment for projection and a sound system for the different activities. The cost of this project is US\$ 12,000.

# 6. Pastoral Care and the Bible Challenge US\$ 12 (per Bible)

As a Parish we are very committed to the mission of spreading the Word of God. Having the vast majority of our people coming from the highlands, they have a very limited idea of the Word of God, the Church and its doctrine. This is due to the fact that the number of missionaries is too small compared to the thousands of villages scattered all over the Peruvian Andes. Most of the people reach the Parish not baptized and we consider the mission as one of first evangelization. For this reason we start evangelization with groups of children as young as 5 years of age. There are various groups according to age and are distributed in the following way. Children from 5-9 years, 10 to 12 years, 13 to 15 years and the youth groups from 16 years and over. Once they get married they enter a special group for families and later on when people consider themselves old enough they integrate themselves in the group for the elderly. The parish prepares people for the sacraments through the mentioned groups. People who attend regularly to these groups receive their corresponding sacrament. The people are very open to the Word of God and the celebration of the Eucharist is very well attended. There is also a good number of prayer meetings every day and a number of local devotions.

The parish is presently launching a project that is being called THE BIBLE CHALLENGE. It is meant to secure that every family has a Bible. We are inviting parishes to take a challenge of supporting our parish with a number of Bibles. The Bibles that we need are a Spanish Latin American version. The cost of each Bible is \$12.00, includes the Old and New Testaments, has explanatory notes and written in Latin American Spanish for people to understand it better. This Bible version is the one used in high schools, catechists' training centers, and prayer groups all over Latin America. We are inviting parishes to launch THE BIBLE CHALLENGE in their areas. The parish invites parishioners to pledge for a Bible or more. Small parishes can take a challenge of 500 Bibles while larger ones can take a thousand or two according to possibilities. As mentioned before the people of Alto Cayma can hardly feed their children or treat them when they get sick, much less can they afford to buy a Bible.