

# Good Shepherd/St. James Delegation to Ellacuria

## March 20-27, 2019

Please pray for our delegates on each day of their journey and our brothers and sisters in Ellacuria.

(\*There also are quotes from Archbishop Romero on which to reflect.)



Members of the delegation are Ron Leonhardt, Pat Sievers, Chuck Koenings, , Jenna Weis (Pat Sievers' granddaughter), Mark Rapant, Peggy Leonhardt and Bob Schuelke ( from St. James).

## Itinerary

**Wednesday, March 20:** --Depart for Ellacuria at 9:30am - Arrive in San Salvador, El Salvador

**Prayer:** *Dear God, We ask you to provide a safe journey to El Salvador for our delegates. Open their minds and hearts to the people and experiences that lie ahead. Amen*

\* **From Romero:** "We are all the new creation. The world will not be renewed without us .We are responsible for the renovation of the world."

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**Thursday, March 21:** -Welcome and orientation by SHARE staff (SHARE is the sponsor of the delegation and of our sister parish relationship.)

**Prayer:** *Dear God: Bless our delegates as they get to know our Ellacuria brothers and sisters. Help them to be open to their gifts and their needs. Amen.*

\* **From Romero:** "Christian faith does not separate us from the world, but rather submerges us in it. The Church is not elite, but rather a follower of Jesus who lived, worked, struggled and died in the midst of the city."

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**Friday, March 22:-** Activities in Ellacuria

**Prayer:** *Dear God, On this second day in Ellacuria, help our delegates to strengthen our bonds of solidarity. Help them to be open to and share heir lives, joys and sorrows, Amen.*

\* **From Romero:** "The Christian wears the sureness of Christ and is the seed of salvation. If there is hope of a new world, of a new nation, of a more just order, of a reflection of God's kingdom in our society, surely you Christians are the ones who will bring about this wonder of a new world"

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**Saturday, March 23:-** Activities in Ellacuria -- Return to San Salvador,-- On the way, visit the Fr. Rutillo Grande Memorial (Fr. Grande,- Who was killed by the military for his work and solidarity with poor farmers, was the inspiration for Archbishop Romero to also side with the poor )

**Prayer:** *Dear God: Help our delegates to carry the love and friendship of our brothers and sisters in Ellacuria as they continue on their journey. May they be inspired by the witness of Fr. Rutilio Grande. Amen*

\* **From Romero:** "I have faith that all will change if we truly believe in the word that saves and place our trust in it. For me, this is the greatest honor in the mission the Lord has entrusted to me: to be maintaining that hope and that faith in God's people and to tell them."

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**Sunday, March 24:** - Mass at Divina Providence Chapel (where Archbishop Romero was shot) - Pilgrimage to the National Cathedral for the 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Martyrdom of St. Romero; and visit his crypt--Visit El Rosario Church -- Visit Pueblo de Dios Camino at San Ramon (shop for crafts)

**Prayer:** *Dear God, As our delegates visit this holy place, may they be inspired by the sacrificial witness here of Archbishop Romero. Help us to carry on Archbishop Romero's work of working for justice for the poor and marginalized. Amen.*

\* **From Romero:** "If a grain of wheat does not die, it will bear no fruit, but if it dies, how great the fruit!" (last words of his homily just before he was shot)

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**Monday, March 25:** -- Meet with Isabel Hernandez, SHARE El Salvador director -- Visit the apartment of Archbishop Romero at Divina Providence Hospital and the chapel where he was shot -- Visit the University of Central America's museum dedicated to the six Jesuit priests including Fr. Ignacio Ellacuria after whom our sister village is named, their housekeeper and her daughter, and the garden where they were shot.)

**Prayer:** *Dear God, Our delegates are experiencing another holy place where people have given their lives for the poor. May they be open to the legacies of these faithful martyrs. Amen.*

\* **From Romero:** "God's reign is already present on our earth in mystery. When the Lord comes, it will be brought to perfection. That is the hope that inspires Christians."

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**Thursday, March 26:** Visit Museum of the Image and Word which has videos, artifacts and information of the Civil War (1980-1992) in El Salvador

**Prayer:** *Dear God,, Bless our delegates today as they learn about the Civil War in El Salvador which has taken the lives and affected the lives of so many people in El Salvador, including our brothers and sisters in Ellacuria.*

\* **From Romero:** "We know that every effort to better society, especially when injustice and sin are so ingrained, is an effort that God blesses, that God wants, that God demands of us."

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**Wednesday, March 27:** Depart for the United States

**Prayer:** *Dear God, bless our delegates as they return home to us, filled with the love and friendship of our brothers and sisters in Ellacuria. Help us to be open to the sharing of their experiences that we may grow in love and solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Ellacuria. Amen.*

\* **From Romero:** "Peace is not the product of terror or fear. Peace is not the silence of cemeteries. Peace is not the silent result of violent repression. Peace is the generous, tranquil contribution of all to the good of all."

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Archbishop Romero's Quotes from:

[A Martyr's Message of Hope: Six Homilies by Archbishop Oscar Romero](#), 1981, National Catholic Reporter Publishing Company

The Violence of Love, originally published in 1988 by Harper and Row Publishers, 1988, Plough Publishing House