



Dec 12, 2019 Weekly Report from Oblate Youth Ministry in Tijuana.

Last Saturday 25 youth from the Oblate parish here in Tijuana joined other churches in the



diocese in a 300 person procession in preparation for the Our Lady of Guadalupe feast. The walk was right down town Tijuana and ended at the cathedral where mass was celebrated with our bishop. Throughout the walk the youth held a candle in one hand and a Rosary in the other while praying the Rosary. The bishop's homily was on not being embarrassed to show our faith and to be willing to live out our faith in a way that the world

sees what we believe.

Our youth group is the largest in the parish and we often draw many youth to our SEARCH retreats from other parishes. We also have youth that represent our parish at a diocese level planning for youth activities. Our largest diocese level youth event is the 5000 youth walk and conference at Easter.



Dahlia is saying thank you to her scholarship donor, Kristina Gelazis. Dahlia is majoring in accounting. She co-leads one of our newer start-up youth groups in the rojo gomez area, where many of the poorer people live. It is a tough assignment, but the group has grown to about 12 youths since its inception last year. That isn't a huge number, but one of the youths was pretty disconnected living so remotely and another was starting to associate with some people that might

have lead him another direction. When Dahlia started this assignment, she asked her mentor what she could do to help the youth grow spiritually. She was told to get closer to God herself. Her younger sister always declined to go to the youth group, but eventually she did come, saying that it was because of the change she saw in her sister.



Sara is 37 years old and she has movement disability because she was a victim of medical negligence at a young age. She is not able to walk, talk, feed or dress herself. Her two adult sisters have taken care of her all her life. One sister, Josefina, does not work in order to take care of this sister. The second sister, Nereida, is married with four children. She babysits her grandchildren and also helps with Sara, so is not able to work either. So we help out with despensas and supplies for Sara.

Josefina has been involved in social ministry with the church for 10 years and has introduced us to people in need. She also occasionally accompanies us to clean and visit. Nereida has been giving catechism classes for 15 years. What a beautiful example of giving unselfishly these sisters are to us all.