

PUERTO QUITO PROJECT

ECUADOR

Working for the people

of Ecuador.

22 Ambleside Close,
Bromborough,
Wirral.
CH62 7JF
Lent, 2022

LENTEN SMALL CHANGE COLLECTION

(For the Children in the Parish of Our Lady of Mount Carmel)

The predominant form of marital relationship in Ecuador is the 'compromiso', or free union, in which there is a very high rate of desertion by the male partner. The abandoned mothers are then left without any wage coming into the household.

The houses these families live in are crude constructions with bamboo walls, wooden or dirt floors and zinc sheets for roofs. Toilets are non-existent just a hole dug in the ground at the back of the shack and the people remain a prey to parasitic, diarrhoeal and infectious diseases.

The Lenten Small Change Collection will provide formula milk for the newborn babies born into severe poverty and whose mothers are unable to feed them themselves due to malnourishment. Follow-On milk will be given to the toddlers and nourishing fresh food, vitamin enriched milk and vitamins to all the young children suffering from chronic malnutrition. Due to cultural conditioning or lack of education many families do not understand that young children have special nutritional needs and, as a result, don't realize that when their children become ill they are suffering from diet deficiency. Many mothers, because of their poverty, will go to 'curanderos' who include magical techniques in their treatments or to 'hierbateros' who use folk remedies. However, our Medical Project offers the mothers all the medical help they need for their children and with your help I would like to be able to continue with this work.

At the end of Lent I would be grateful if you could please hand to me after Mass any coins clearly marked 'For Ecuador'. Thank you.

Vivienne J. Farnin