

Hot Showers, Hot Food and Jesus!



de Leon, Candelario <donorservices@dphx.org>
To: Wentz, Lisa

Reply Reply All Forward

Sat 3/5/2022 7:05 AM

[WARNING: This email originated outside of The Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix]



When I was serving in the Marine Corps, most of us Marines had to spend many days, weeks, and sometimes months in what we called the “field.”

Basically, we would be training in the desert or mountains and sleeping on the ground at night and eating “MREs” (*Meal Ready to Eat – packaged and designed to last up to 10 years.*)

You can ask any service member what they want to do as soon as they get back...they will all tell you the same thing – **hot shower and hot food!**

You have probably experienced something similar on a long trip, or maybe even a camping trip, and needed a **hot shower** or a **hot meal** after a long time away.

Nothing beats a hot homemade meal prepared with love after eating away from home!

Somehow it tastes SO GOOD!

These are some of the many things in life we take for granted.

A daily shower, a hot meal, proper attire, clean clothing, comfortable shoes, a home, an incredible job, and friends.

These things are HUGE blessings, but not everyone has these basic things.

If you've never been introduced to [Paz de Cristo](#) in Mesa, you need to know about them! Recently I went to visit with them and I was AMAZED!

It all starts with their meal service – they serve a **hot, home-cooked meal (made with love) to anyone** who needs it 365 days a year. Guests come for the food, fellowship, a cool dining room, and a moment in time to escape their not-so-easy reality.

And there's more (yes I love saying that) ... **if you come for dinner, you will get a PB&J Sandwich for the road! Isn't that awesome!?**



Paz de Cristo also offers food boxes for people who prefer to eat at home, but struggle to make ends meet. In all, **they provide more than 50,000 meals each month** to the homeless and working poor!

Here is another great thing...

On my recent visit, there were guests who were there for the weekly shower program.

Did you get that? Weekly shower?

The Paz guests are so grateful for this hot shower!



These are folks who live on the street – fighting like heck to protect what few belongings they have, but are able to trust staff at Paz while they wash off the grime and sweat.

They also have the opportunity to pick out a few select clothing items, clean underwear, receive some toiletries, so after their shower they are refreshed.

I think what struck me the most at Paz de Cristo was its staff and volunteers.

The way ***they treat their guests with the utmost respect, dignity, and compassion.***

I observed caring volunteers who assist the guests at the showers, those who carefully provide basic necessities and toiletries. And then the joy-filled staff and volunteers who prepare and serve the evening meal. These are all the people who “receive” FAR more than they give – their smiles tell it all. And they keep coming back to help.

And one more important thing to know...

Our **Charity and Development Appeal** supports **Paz de Cristo** and other similar agencies that are doing amazing work among the working poor and those without homes.

Please know that when you support the Charity and Development Appeal, you help people served by Paz de Cristo and other agencies like it. **YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE – THANK YOU!** Just as Christ has called us to serve the poor and hungry, you DO that with your support of the CDA.

If you want to make your gift to the CDA, go to www.give.dphx.org

Thank you, and God bless you tonight with a warm meal, soft bed, and love to surround you!



Cande de Leon
Executive Director
Office of Mission Advancement



**CHARITY AND
DEVELOPMENT
APPEAL**

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Diocese of Phoenix](#)

400 E. Monroe St., Phoenix, AZ 85004-2336