

Day 4 | Honduras Mission Trip | Wednesday 15

Just when we thought the most intense part of our mission trip was behind us, the Lord had even more in store for us.

We grabbed our breakfast to go, packed our bags, and left at 6:00 a.m. for Monteverde. The journey along CA-5 brought countless sharp curves. After the first couple of hours on the bus, we transferred to pickup trucks with the logistical help of the local municipality. At the time, we thought *that* was the adventure... little did we know what the next few hours would bring.

After a long, bumpy ride over challenging terrain, we arrived at the clinic around noon. We were warmly welcomed by the community, Father Didier, and Father Juan. Father Bennett had the honor of blessing the new clinic, and the community surprised him by singing "Happy Birthday," making the day even more special as this beautiful milestone coincided with his birthday.

We then headed to the Casa Pastoral, where we would spend the night, generously welcomed and fed by the local community.

Later, we climbed back into the 4x4s for an experience that words simply cannot capture. What felt like an incredible adventure to us is simply everyday life for the people who live there. We visited several families whose homes reflect the realities of poverty. It was a mix of emotions—great joy to share time with our brothers and sisters in Christ, walking among the dogs, chickens, and piglets surrounding their homes, while also feeling the ache in our hearts as we witnessed the inequalities that shape such different futures.

One thing that deeply moved us was seeing how lovingly they cared for their church. Though many of their homes were modest, God's house was beautifully maintained. The Lenca people clearly recognize who our Lord is and the sacredness of His dwelling place.

As expected, we couldn't end the day without thanking the Lord. We gathered for Mass, and afterward we poured out our hearts, our thoughts, our gratitude, and our prayers before Him during Adoration. After such an unforgettable day, there was no better way to find peace than in His presence.

-Patty