

## St. Joseph Students Travel to Peru to Serve Santisimo Sacramento Parish

Twelve students from Saint Joseph's University traveled to Piua, Peru January 6-13, 2018, as part of the University's Winter Immersion Program. The program's mission is to work with SJU's students to encounter Christ by immersing themselves into the lives of the people of the [Santisimo Sacramento Parish](#).



Fr. Joseph Uhen, the Santisimo Sacramento Parish Priest who runs this mission, describes the program: "These students engage in many services for the poor. They build bamboo homes, deliver food packages, clothes and gifts, make home visits, teach at the school, visit orphanages, offer medical aid, and worship with the local people at Mass every evening. These students bring the joy of the Gospel to Piua and receive a deep experience of faith from the people they serve."

The students also engage in other activities, including offering homebound communion to the sick, host a Vacation Bible School at a village, teach English to school students, purchase food and help with daily activities at local orphanages, repair homes and play soccer with Rehabilitation Center patients.

Tinamarie Stolz, St. Joseph's University campus minister for the Winter Immersion Program, not only prepares the students for their time in Peru but works with the after as they reflect on the experience. According to Ms. Stolz, Winter Immersion Program is composed of three parts: Pre-Immersion Meetings, Immersions, Post-Immersion Meetings. Since coming back from Peru, the students have been in reflection what the immersion and the people they met mean to them. Ms. Stolz notes that students have shown a lot of growth as their world-view and perceptions have broadened and evolved.

The Santisimo Sacramento Parish is looking forward to the next SJU mission trip in January 2019, as they work together serving the poorest of the poor. Visit the [Santisimo Sacramento Parish website](#) for more information.