



## Fr. Ejaz Hayat, Pakistan...

I first met Fr. Ejaz when he came to the then twinned parishes of Our Lady and St Thomas, Willington and St Patrick's, Langley Moor Durham in 2014. He had come to England to both offer 'supply work' but also to raise money and awareness of the plight of His people in Faisalabad. He gave us an excellent presentation of the difficulties experienced. The Parishes above as well as in

the first instance Crook, Tow law and Wolsingham incredibly generously and tirelessly were already raising money for an orphanage that he was hoping to build and this was ongoing. Although happy to contribute to this development I felt that as The Host Apostolate we could perhaps help in other ways. I met him several times on his visit and he told me much more about his work and aims were more than delighted to do what we could in terms of the spiritual and catechetical need of his people. He needed such things as Rosaries, statuettes, medals, crosses, picture etc. There were also needs for vestments and sacred vessels and so we continue to send these on a regular basis. But as time went on other needs became apparent. Flooding caused much distress and he was very involved in the welfare of all his people not just Christians. There was also a need for medicines and 'base camps' were set up and we did our best to supply these until the law was changed and it was difficult to send these. There is a massive shortage of doctors for the poor.

Then there was a school. It is vital that the girls as well as boys go to school but the school was in a bad state of repair and as well as safeguarding the safety of the children, funds had to be found to secure the building, all much above available resources. We again went to help and sent major contributions so that the work could be done. We were and are able, to send non-prescription medicines to the Orphanage, now completed, and continue to do to which is much appreciated.



The children and young people do very well at school and some have now progressed to higher education.

The latest project that he has asked us to help him with is a getting a mini- bus to take the children to school. There is a vehicle but it requires many trips back and forth. Girls cannot attend school unescorted so it is both difficult to get them there as well as tiring in the heat to do so. We hope to be able to raise the funds necessary which will make things a little easier. We hope to apply for funds and try to raise the money ourselves in open forums or grants (about £10,000) Any help would be greatly appreciated.

One of the interesting things we sent twice, were two statues for different parishes, (Fr Ejaz had to move to Karachi.) The statues were nearly three feet, tall of our Lady of Fatima. In spite of facing many dangers the people carry the statues from home to home and pray the rosary. One is placed in a grotto. This requires much courage and we were very blessed to be able to obtain by donations to send the statues.

Fr. Ejaz is an outstanding priest with much courage who is often at risk of his life but brushes it off lightly.

There is much persecution of Christians in Pakistan who are in a minority, and we consider it a great privilege to be able to help Fr. Ejaz with his work. So far we have been able to respond in our little way. But we need help with the bigger projects. However we are very grateful to so many who donate all the articles and donation for us to be able to continue our work. Please keep helping.

Like all the priests that we support they offer masses for us as requested.



Learning to sew... life skills



Christmas/Epiphany Pakistan style...yes they are real camels.



### FATHER EJAZ – UPDATED 2022

Our contact with Fr. Ejaz continues in a happy relationship. Many parcels have been sent and they come in two forms, either articles for Fr. Ejaz and his people, such as devotional items, altar necessities or vestments or medicines for the children in Nazareth House. Nazareth House, the Orphanage is now complete and over forty children are housed and very well taken care of. We have also aided in the construction of a church, as well as improvements to the school the children attend.

**As the girls and young women need to be escorted (by law) there is also another problem of getting the girls to school and back. At present there is only one small car available and Fr. Ejaz has asked that we help him buy a small mini-bus for the purpose. He has found the vehicle and is willing to sell his car which would then leave £10,000 to be raised. WE are hoping to raise this by donations and funding website.... Unless anybody has any ideas....**

Pakistan, like the rest of the world, has been hit heavily by Coronavirus, but without the privileges of vaccination or medication for the poor. Fr. Ejaz himself has not been well, partly due to severe cold weather.

The devotional items have been many and varied, including statues, crosses, rosaries etc.

However, we always ask for more as there is great need and these things are valued. Any vestments are greatly appreciated. We have sent some, especially stoles but there is always room for more as they are often shared out.

Larger statues require our inventiveness for postage but are greatly appreciated. We have sent two statues of Our Lady of Fatima (as well as others).

It is worthwhile remembering that our brothers and sisters often pay with their lives for their faithfulness and devotion, so anything we can do is a help.



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**2023....**In the last six months we have received beautiful items donated to us, including chalices, chasubles and stoles and various altar needs. These have been forwarded to Fr. Ejaz and he has been delighted with them. The most recent parcel contains two Angels which were also candle stands, which were most unusual. Of course, the rosaries and medals are a standard 'send'.



We also managed to raise the money for the Minibus to get the children especially Girls to School. A large donation provided the sum that was requires and Fr. Ejaz delighted. grateful thanks to the donor.



We continue to send non-prescription children's medicines occasionally supplementing them with sewing bits, as well as stationary for the children.



**Fr. Ejaz, July 2023**  
Building a new Church.... Roof needed

