



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.



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

