

Peruvian Journal

Let's start with the good news!

CALLAO

Carol has returned and has been in Callao since mid-March. She has resumed her work with energy medicine and healing touch, giving workshops to people in the medical profession. Interest continues to grow as more and more people turn to alternative medicine, understanding the human body — the human person — as one. Energy medicine recognizes that we have healing powers within us and that those powers often only need to be stimulated for healing to happen. Energy medicine relies on the mutuality of our energy systems in such a way that we can be agents of healing for one another.

Yuli is in Callao this year and is using all of her experience to help the pre-school teacher at Saint Angela. The teacher is new to the school but has experience in Montessori. The new teacher has also participated in the Company of Angela, the group of young women living the charism of Angela Merici.

SAN MIGUEL

Kathy shared Holy Week in a little village called Chalaques. The invitation came from the mothers of some of the children in the parish soup kitchen. She writes of her experience: "Madi Cueva, a member of the support group for the handicapped and I took a 'moto-taxi' from the highway, to the road, to Chalaques. Rosemary Cerner Quispe met us and accompanied us walking up to the chapel that the community there has built with much pride.

Fortunately, the morning was beautiful and sunny. About 10:00 A.M. we placed the papers that we had prepared with the names of each of the 15 Stations



of the Cross around the walls of the chapel. We had also prepared copies of the hymns we would sing as we walked from station to station. Two children held the candles and one of the mothers carried a cross in the center. Madi and I were very pleased with the participation of so many families. After the reading of the Passion and the Veneration of the Cross, the women had prepared a huge kettle of an herb drink and rolls of bread to share among everyone. Later we descended the hill toward the homes of many of the families. Rosemary's mother and father greeted us in their home. Seven years ago, Rosemary's father suffered an accident that left him totally blind. He was a farmer and now cannot work in the fields. He asked me for a book of prayers that his granddaughter can read to him. But I told him that the best prayers that he could say are from his heart, which he seemed to understand very well. We shared their home for the night and returned the next morning, Holy Saturday, to have the prayer service: the blessing of the new fire, the Paschal Candle (which we had prepared ourselves), the water, and of course the proclamation of the Resurrection. . . . A special blessing came from our visit to Chalaques. Rosemary is now participating in our program for the Rural Catechist and will be able to lead the prayer services in their chapel each week."

You may ask, why so much news in the Peruvian Journal about the mining companies?

Not only are the mining companies in the daily news here, but also, Kathy works in an area of the country where the local communities are most organized against the possibility of another mine being opened at the risk of destroying the water resources for the agricultural community. There was hope that a recent study by internationally recognized experts would show the unviability of the project. However, the conditions placed upon the study only reveal that there are necessary changes that must be made, and that the underground water supplies require further study. President Humala picked up on that study to suggest some minor changes: rather than destroying four lakes, we would destroy only two. Any first grader knows that