

To the Marianist community:

A few weeks ago I was sent a letter from Brother Rapp informing me of the cyclone that struck La Chinantla. I was devastated. Having gone on two immersion trips to La Chinantla, I have come to think of it as a home, and the people who live there a part of my family. For this reason, I wanted to do all I could to help. I knew that the money I personally could afford to donate would simply not be enough. So I sent the letter to my parents, my grandparents, aunts and uncles and asked them if they were willing to donate any amount to help the people who are so dear to me. Because they knew the impact La Chinantla had on me spiritually and emotionally, they generously contributed to the cause. I still felt like extending this to my family was not enough, so I posted a letter and a collection can in my place of work for several days. People, again, were generous and I was able to collect additional money.

I realize that this is only a small portion of what you need in order to make repairs and help the people of La Chinantla get back on their feet. I also realize that the generosity shown by those close to me illustrates how being a part of the life of the people of La Chinantla, as a volunteer, even for a short time, not only impacted my life but the lives of those around me also.

I wish you the best of luck in rebuilding. I hope to return to La Chinantla in the near future.