

The Light of Christmas

FRIENDS of SAN LUCAS

2018 Year End Appeal

December 10, 2018



Dear Friends,

One of the Christmas traditions in our house is to listen to the Festival of Lessons and Carols broadcast from King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England. It is broadcast on the morning of Christmas Eve here in the U.S. Each year the service begins in the same way, a single boy's voice, clear and strong soars over the heads of the worshippers gathered. By the time the voice reaches the exquisite high notes of, "Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child," I finally feel that Christmas has arrived.

The performance is even more remarkable because of the way it unfolds. Right before the broadcast begins, the 16 boys in the choir, ages 9-13, gather around the conductor. A red light flashes, indicating 10 seconds until the broadcast begins, and the conductor points to one of the boys. The chosen boy steps up to the microphone and begins singing, to over 10 million people around the world. No one in the choir knows who will be selected. Everyone must be ready.

Advent is a time of preparation. It is the time of getting ready, of waiting in the dark for the birth of the Infant Light. Our work, as people of faith, is to be ready for the light.

I think of The Friends of San Lucas that way; trying to be ready for the light and to do all we can to bring more light to the world. For in our work, every stove built brings light. Every house constructed brings light. Every student in class brings light. Every weaving made at the Women's Center, brings light. Every employee paid fairly for a day's work brings light. Every patient receiving care brings light. Every FOSL volunteer and every donor brings light.

Part of the beauty of FOSL's work is that the light brings its warmth and life to all of us. For even as we strive to bring light to the people of San Lucas, they bring light into our world. Make no mistake, we who volunteer and donate need this "light born in the darkness" as much as anyone.

In this season as we celebrate the birth of the Infant Light, we give thanks for you and your support of this ministry. Your generosity, your prayers and your passion keeps the light alive and bright. May the "light that shines in the darkness" lead you to a season of peace this Christmas.

In hope and faith,

Bill Peterson, Executive Director
Friends of San Lucas

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