

## What happens now?

Bishop Declan used his Chrism Mass homily to ask for the support of the Clifton Diocese for the part of the Universal Church which is the Parish of San Antonio. We are committed to raise £100,000 towards building the Church, which will cost £167,638. The first stage in a larger project which will cost a total of £291,000. Other funds are coming from the St James Society, donations from trusts, and private donations. The local council has also made a grant and will provide labour and machinery to build the foundations.



And the local people have also raised £7,000 in a region where a good monthly wage is £167 for those who are employed - over 50 % of people have no full time employment.

## How can I help?

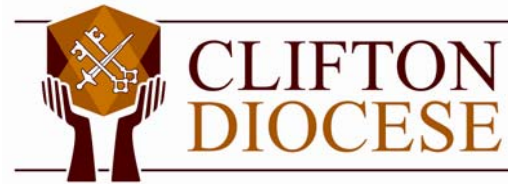
- By supporting Parishes, Deaneries and Communities across the Clifton Diocese who are working together raising money to help meet our appeal target.
- By making a personal donation. To do so please send a cheque payable to 'CCDTR re Peru Appeal', to Clifton Diocese Peru Appeal, St Ambrose, North Road, Leigh Woods, Bristol BS8 3PW.

And above all by praying for the work of the Parish of St Antonio and the Clifton Diocese.

*"Here may your children, gathered around your altar, celebrate the memorial of the Paschal Lamb, and be fed at the table of Christ's word and Christ's body."*

*From the prayer for the dedication of a Church*

Keep up to date with the Peru appeal by visiting the Clifton Diocese website [www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com) or emailing [peru@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:peru@cliftondiocese.com).



## Peru Appeal

The appeal is to support the Parish of San Antonio which is in the Moquegua region of Southern Peru, the red shading on the Map. There are more details about the area at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moquegua\\_Region](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moquegua_Region).



Though the population is very spread out in this area of the country the average age is young, 43.3% of people are under the age of 20.

The picture below is of the town of Moquegua. The Parish of San Antonio is on the other side of the hills which you can see in the distance.



In fact the parish and area of San Antonio will soon become bigger than Moquegua.

The mission to build a parish began in October 1996 under the care of Father Danny O'Sullivan, a priest of Clifton Diocese, and the St James Society. At present 3,000 families live there with an estimated population of 20,000 and more families arrive all the time.

The majority of people live in houses made of reed mats when they first arrive. They then seek to build houses with loans from the Materials Bank.

### **An appeal for support to build a Church**

During a pastoral visit to Peru in 2005, the people of the Parish asked Bishop Declan for help from the people of Clifton Diocese to assist in building a Church for this new and thriving Parish. Land has been set aside and plans drawn up. San Antonio was declared to be a parish by the local Bishop in November 2004, but the people have no hope of ever building a Church without help.

In a message as part of this appeal Father Danny O'Sullivan writes:

“I send you very warm and heart-felt greetings from this small part of the Lord's vineyard in the south of Peru. For some years now we have felt the need to build our parish church but many promises of help have gone unfulfilled. The local parish community have been magnificent and have doggedly continued their fund raising activities. They have raised about £7000 which for a poor community is really extraordinary.

“As you know when a parish has a common goal the community is built up. We celebrate Mass in a chapel made of reed matting but there exists a great family spirit. I tell the people that one day we will have a beautiful church but we mustn't lose the beauty that is a Christian community. The Lord had no where to lay his head and I feel we have experienced the same in these years and the Lord has been very close to us.



“Pastorally there are an average of 200 Baptisms, 120 First Communion, 80 Confirmations and 20 Marriages with 500 to 600 people at Mass on Sunday and numbers are growing all the time.

“Bishop Declan's visit last year was very uplifting and gave us real hope that the parish church of San Antonio will be built. The Bishop left saying that he made no promises but would appeal to you the priests and people of the Clifton Diocese.

“I feel very humble that you have decided so generously to support me and my poor community. I thank you for your support over the years and I salute your missionary spirit. In the new church your names will be written large and more importantly they will be written large in the House of our Heavenly Father.”

Father Danny



This is the model in the Parish of the Church it is hoped to build. As part of the complex there will also be administration and storage space as well as a Parish House