



### **The Threads that Bind**

A small section of a Peruvian blanket has long been a symbol of the Ursuline Sisters' mission in Peru. Like the blanket, we are all part of a larger tapestry. Each of us a thread that weaves through the other until something more beautiful is formed. Each thread is needed to complete the pattern. If there isn't enough thread or if the thread is weakened or becomes discolored, the tapestry can come apart and the pattern forever marred.



### **A Community in Need**

For the people of Peru, their future is uncertain. Their home life is marred by poverty. Their land is weakened by pollution, there is a lack of education. The people of Peru need our partnership to sustain the tapestry of their blanket due impart to globalization and ecological changes.

We have begun working on that Peruvian tapestry. Three Ursuline Sisters are continuing the work of Jesus Christ and St. Angela Merici, tirelessly helping those they share life with in Peru. They are fulfilling their mission to Teach Christian Living in Muquiyauyo, Peru. Sister Yuli Onchihauy is teaching Montessori in a village school. Sister Sue Scharfenberger is working to educate the people about ecology and bringing people together for the common good. Sister Kathy Neely is overseeing parish catechetical programs and working with local women as well as local catechists to create parish sacramental formation experiences.

YOU can become a thread in this beautifully crafted tapestry by assisting us in providing the native Peruvians with whom we live and work the help they need to overcome pollution, poverty and illiteracy, as well as grow in their faith life. It is the generosity of you and others like you that has allowed us to continue the Ursuline Sisters' Mission with our Peruvian brothers and sisters, building solidarity that is rooted in our shared spiritual values.



### **Facts about today's Peru\*:**

The average payment for an hour of work in Peru is just \$1.25.

72.1% of rural Peruvians live below the poverty line equivalent to \$3,990 (U.S.) dollars per year. Of that, 19% live in absolute poverty, living on only the equivalent of \$1 (U.S.) dollar per day.

Only 32% of rural Peruvians have adequate sanitation facilities.

Only 2.9% of the land in Peru is arable.

Only 62% of the rural population have access to clean drinking water.

Peru's cities produce about 3.0 million tons of solid waste per year and the treatment facilities are inadequate for handling this volume.

The average Peruvian receives 7.6 years of schooling.

Teachers account for only 4.9% of the labor force.

\*Sources: [worldbank.org](http://worldbank.org)  
[ruralpovertyportal.com](http://ruralpovertyportal.com)  
[nationsencyclopedia.com](http://nationsencyclopedia.com)  
[nationmaster.com](http://nationmaster.com)