

M Y INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE IN A KINDERGARTEN

in GRANEROS (CHILI)

The world of little children is full of challenges and questions. In Chili, I had the grace to experience this in a kindergarten named the « House of Christ ».



It is a home where children from vulnerable families are welcomed. The mission of this kindergarten is to accompany the children, to care for them, and to teach them using the Montessori method. The age range in the Creche is from three months to four years. In order to ensure that children are accompanied properly according to their level of attainment, the Creche has devised three stages : creche, lower infant and upper infant. Until now, I have worked in the creche where the ages are between three months and two years.

Together with the class teachers we welcome the children from 8.30 am. Our task is to feed them, sing and play with them, encourage them to interact with each other by greeting each other for example. We pray with them, change their nappies, console them when they cry, teach them to identify objects and name them and tidy equipment that is displaced.... All of this with great tenderness. Thanks to this treatment we meet the children every day.

This time with small children has been for me an experience of patience, tolerance, adaptation, deep and intense emotion... I learned to know them better and I was fascinated to discover the heart of a child ; children know how to quarrel, but above all how to pardon, to understand and to communicate with each other in their own speech.

From the bottom of my heart I wish to thank the Lord, our Congregation (especially the Provincial Superior of Chili) and the Kindergarten without whom I would never have experienced anything so precious.

Sr Chimene (from the Cameroon Region)

