



*Caminando por la Paz, a mission program in Guatemala, is supported by the non-profit organization, Misionero de Padre Tomas.*

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# CAMINANDO

## Por la Paz

*We're busy on many fronts at Caminando por la Paz:*

- Coffee Price is Up
- Student needs a Sponsor
- Achievements & Events
- Our Spiritual Life
- A Special Visitor
- Coffee Update
- Be Part of Our Mission



*Ron congratulates Anderson Zamora, a graduate after 10 years of sponsorship.*



# **Green Coffee Price Is Up in 2025: Caminando's Response**

Ron Covey

As you can read in this issue's Coffee Update, the price we must pay our growers has greatly increased. This exceptionally low production is due to international climate issues throughout the coffee belt.

In addition to purchasing green coffee, we are charged for milling (removing bad beans), cupping (grading), packaging for export, and transportation to the US. Then in the US, we pay for roasting, storage, packaging, and shipping. We did have a reasonable inventory on hand, and thus we were able to greatly reduce the amount of green coffee we needed to purchase.

While last year's profits helped us cover the cost of an appropriate purchase, very little remained to help support our Guatemalan program. Fortunately, the monthly donations have been sufficient for the program to continue its work. At our recent board meeting, we decided to proceed as usual for now and monitor the price of coffee at local stores.

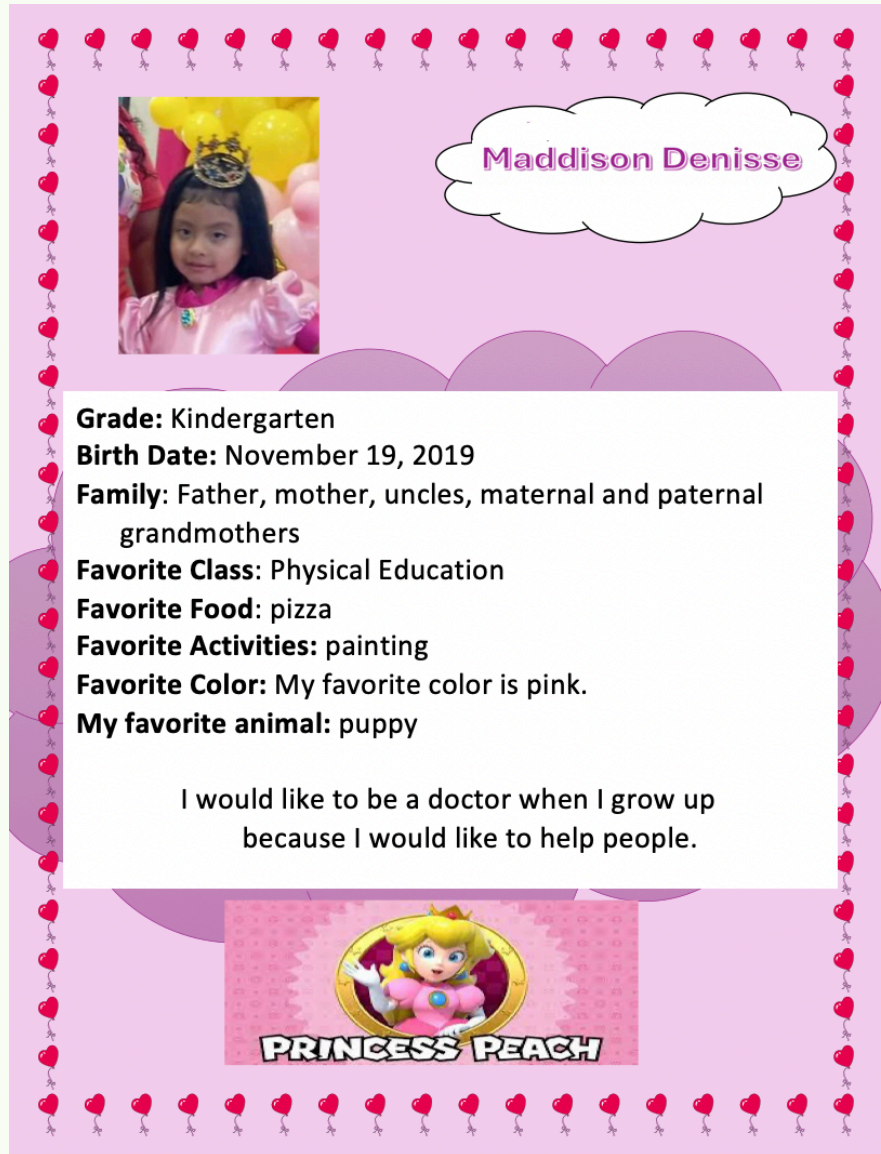
## **Future Coffee Decisions**

Several issues may influence how we proceed with our coffee project:

- We currently pride ourselves on the fact that, unlike a large number of coffee companies that sell their coffee in packages of 12 or 13 ounces, we sell only full pounds. To make our pricing directly comparable, should we also reduce our package size?
- Most of our sales are via the internet and require us to ship our product. We are paying ever increasing postal fees. Should we charge for shipping separately?
- Our coffee website is maintained by a host company that charges an annual fee. Additionally, we maintain memberships in other sites, such as Get Response, through which we distribute information about our products and offer coupons to our valued customers. Do these additional memberships and discounts generate sufficient sales to justify using them?

Knowing that we sell coffee to develop a reliable source of funds to educate marginalized youth in Guatemala, we take seriously the need to constantly improve our marketing plan. If you have comments or ideas regarding the above, please email me at [rocovey@yahoo.com](mailto:rocovey@yahoo.com).

# One Student Needs a Sponsor



**Maddison Denisse**

**Grade:** Kindergarten  
**Birth Date:** November 19, 2019  
**Family:** Father, mother, uncles, maternal and paternal grandmothers  
**Favorite Class:** Physical Education  
**Favorite Food:** pizza  
**Favorite Activities:** painting  
**Favorite Color:** My favorite color is pink.  
**My favorite animal:** puppy

I would like to be a doctor when I grow up because I would like to help people.

**PRINCESS PEACH**

The new school year begins soon, and nine children have already been sponsored.

Maddison is ready and hopes to go, too! Can you help her get there?

For just \$50 a month, or \$600 dollars a year, Caminando por la Paz will be able to pay for their school fees (which the government does not cover), required uniforms and shoes, and school supplies.

When you become a sponsor, you will be able (but not required) to communicate with your student by email several times a year, encouraging them and sharing their journey through school with them.

*Contact Judy Horstman, our scholarship coordinator!*

**[judyhorstman@gmail.com](mailto:judyhorstman@gmail.com)**



## Achievements and Milestone Events



Among the awards that Our Barrio Sports team won, this year they placed second in the league.



## High School Graduation



First a baccalaureate blessing,

Then the ceremony,



And congrats from family & friends.



Primary school graduation, complete with diploma



Grade school play





## *The spiritual side of life at Caminando por la Paz...*



We encourage our students to serve God in the Nativity of Mary Church youth group.



"There are no bad young people; There are young people who don't know that they can be good and someone has to tell them."–  
Saint John Bosco

For *All Saints Day*, November 1,  
we Guatemalans make nylon  
wreaths to decorate the graves of  
our deceased loved ones.



*Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe*  
December 12





## Christmas

The creche, the tree,



The cards, gifts, and posadas



Celebrating with our Maryknoll Affiliate community.



## *A Special Visitor*

Our good friend Jim Yourkovich visited in December and we traveled with him to Esquipulas.







## Coffee Update

**Ron Covey – Principal Manager**

As it has for the past several quarters, our market share is continuing to slowly improve. Our customers are pleased with the quality of our product and often refer their friends to our excellent Honduran Coffee. The great flavor of our coffee is behind many customers' repeat purchases. And some of our friends have been helping us promote our product.

Many internet customers first learned of our coffee when they purchased a pound or two at their parish church. We believe that many purchase our coffee simply as a means of supporting our effort to provide education to disadvantaged Guatemalan children. For whatever reasons customers buy, we are grateful.

Unfortunately, we are anticipating a steep increase in the price of green beans—approximately 200%! This heavy price increase is due to this year's limited harvest throughout the entire coffee growing belt. At present, we believe we will be able to absorb this increase without raising our internet sales price.

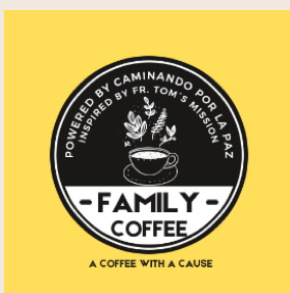
We will soon begin negotiating with our preferred producers. In the past, we have always shared a portion of our profits with them. This year they are asking for, and we will provide, a dividend upfront.

We are often asked if we are fair trade; instead, we are direct trade—we deal directly with the producers. Thus our producers are saved various certification expenses, and each year we obtain high quality beans at a price they deem to be appropriate. Our continued interactions validate their and our ethical actions.

We thank all who purchase our coffee. You are helping us educate marginalized children in Guatemala.

You can purchase this excellent coffee  
on our website:

<https://www.fathertomsfamilycoffee.org>



# How can you be a part of our mission?

Caminando por la Paz



Visit Our  
Website

[FatherTomsCaminando.org](http://FatherTomsCaminando.org)

Your prayers



are always helpful!

Help Educate  
a Student!



Contact ~

[judyhorstman@gmail.com](mailto:judyhorstman@gmail.com)

Try our coffee!

order at:

[fathertomsfamilycoffee.org](http://fathertomsfamilycoffee.org)

**SHARE**

Tell your friends about us!

**Donate!**

Donate on our website:  
[FatherTomsCaminando.org](http://FatherTomsCaminando.org)

Or send a tax-deductible  
check to:

**Caminando por la Paz**  
**PO Box 1583**  
**New Caney, TX 77357**

**Caminando por la Paz**  
**501(c)(3) Information**

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# We need and appreciate your support!