

A person stands on a rocky peak, seen from behind, with arms outstretched towards a vast, dramatic sky filled with soft, colorful clouds. The person is wearing a light blue t-shirt and dark pants. The overall mood is one of hope, aspiration, and openness.

MISSIONS TODAY

VOL 78, NO. 4

Fall 2020

Here I am Send me

Inside this issue

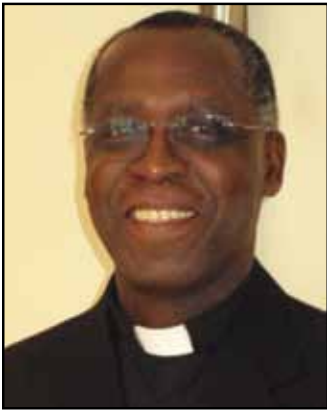
**World Mission Sunday -
October 18, 2020**

Life of Pauline Jaricot

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

National Director's Message

Mission Today Fall Issue 2020



“Mission, like our lives, is full of new beginnings. We must commit ourselves to its service” (St. John Paull II; World Mission Sunday Message 2004).

Mission is that activity of the Church aimed at evangelizing those cultures a local church has not yet come to birth or reached maturity (Ad Gentes 6, Redemptoris Missio 33). In this sense, evangelization is the

primordial and specific task of the Church. The church exists in order to evangelize. All that the church and Christians do should make know the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Objective of evangelization is to cooperate with the Holy Spirit, to offer people a personal encounter with Christ and a participation in His life, in His Paschal Mystery. Hence, evangelization is all that the church does, not only by word but also by other forms of living witness, to make the Gospel message known so that people may be brought to share in the mystery of Christ. Both missionary activity and pastoral activity are complementary ways of evangelizing. Mission in specific sense is announcing the Gospel to those who do not yet or hardly know Christ and his Gospel. Pastoral activity is also a form of evangelization. Its basic objective is the ongoing evangelization of those who already are Christians and participate in the life of the local Churches, through catechesis, sacramental life as well as a commitment to missionary activity (Mission ad gentes).

According to Pope Francis, the proclamation of the Gospel is something different from all political, cultural, psychological or religious forms of proselytism. Mission, he said, is a gift of the gospel; and cannot be entrusted to “training programs” or “ecclesiastical establishments” that seem to be swallowed up by the obsession of promoting themselves and their own initiatives. Pope Francis, reflecting on the foundations of the Christian mission in a message to the Pontifical Mission Societies(PMS), which were to meet in Rome for their annual General Assembly recalled that the most central trait of the Church’s mission is that, it is “the Holy Spirit” and not the consequence of our ideas and projects. Receiving the joy of the Spirit is a grace and is the only force that enables us to preach the Gospel.

The celebration of World Mission Day is an opportunity for us to reaffirm how prayer, reflection and our material help actively support the mission of Jesus in his church. According to Pope Francis, the charity expressed in the collections that take place during liturgical celebration of the third Sunday of October, is aimed at supporting the missionary work carried out in his name by Pontifical Mission Societies, in order to meet the spiritual and material needs of people and churches throughout the world, for the salvation of all. Let us embrace this opportunity despite Covid 19 Pandemic. The generosity of Canadian Catholics can always be relied upon. I would like to ask you to support, with your continued generous hearts, this year’s World Mission Sunday in whatever way you can, thereby living your baptismal response “Here am I, Send me.” God bless you.

Mission is still only beginning, and we must commit ourselves wholeheartedly to its service. (Pope John Paul II)

Rev. Fr. Alexander Osei, C.S.Sp
National Director.

The Pope’s Monthly Prayer Intentions:

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father’s request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month.

SEPTEMBER: Respect for the Planet’s Resources

We pray that the planet’s resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

OCTOBER: The Laity’s Mission in the Church

We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

NOVEMBER: Artificial Intelligence

We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

DECEMBER: For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

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During Excursion Trip (Namtu Reparation Sisters Convent/ 2018-2019)



PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES

Missions Today is published four times a year by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 2219 Kennedy Road Toronto, Ontario M1T 3G5

International Standard Serial Number
ISSN 0843-1515

Design: Marcucci Studios
Printed: Timeline Printing Inc.
Toronto, ON

Cover Photo: Joshua Earle on Unsplash -
<https://unsplash.com/@joshuaearle>

Back Cover Photo: <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/545d9e4b08c4a3adca405/t/>

55d6c05ae4b019cdc53413
6f/1440137306726/BCS_9618.jpg
Propagation of the Faith & St. Peter the
Apostle: Income Tax Number:
BN 12888 2883 RR0001

Holy Childhood Association: Income Tax
Number: BN 11909 5818 RR0001
Canadian Publications Mail Sales
Product Agreement No. 0040008362

Editor: Deacon Dominic Pullano
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editor@missionsocieties.ca or at

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Across the Globe

*The Pontifical Mission Societies host their own web news service called **agenzia fides**. The news service is updated daily and allows us to keep current about events around the world and within Catholic missions. Below are three articles from the website and other news can be found at fides.org.*



■ VATICAN - Aid from the PMS Fund for the Covid emergency to support monasteries, rural communities, parishes in Africa and Latin America

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/68405>

Vatican City (Agenzia Fides) - The Covid-19 pandemic that has been marking the lives of peoples of all continents for months, also places serious limits on the life of ecclesial communities, which face difficulties and often dramatic situations. To support the Churches of mission countries in the face of the Covid-19 emergency, Pope Francis has set up an emergency fund at the Pontifical Mission Societies (PMS) which is responding to requests from dioceses around the world (see Fides, 6/4/2020). The latest aid has been sent to Africa and Latin America.

The Poor Clares of the Mary Queen and Mather Monastery in Lilongwe, Malawi offer, with their prayers, a valuable and appreciated contribution to the life of the Church and the country, spiritually supporting the mission. They usually draw their livelihood from the small offerings of the faithful who join in their prayer in the chapel of the monastery. With the closure of the churches imposed by the need to contain the pandemic, the 31 nuns find themselves without economic means also to pay the current consumption costs of the monastery and meet basic needs, for this reason they have been sent help from the emergency Fund of the PMS.

The diocese of Kwito-Bié in Angola habitually assists many poor people, but the situation created following the pandemic makes it impossible to continue this charity service to parishes and missions. The help sent by the PMS Fund will allow the diocese in particular to support Radio Ecclesia, a fundamental tool to guarantee communication and spiritual animation in this period of isolation.

The Archdiocese of Yaoundé, Cameroon, includes the country's political capital, so it is a crossroads for many people who go there

for work or other business, making it one of the places most exposed to the pandemic. The efforts made by the diocese's health services for health prevention are limited and cannot cover the many needs of a city with about 2 million inhabitants. The most urgent need reported to the PMS Fund concerns the sanitation of the premises and the awareness of the faithful of the 162 parishes of the 23 Eucharistic Centers of the diocese for the fight against the coronavirus.

The diocese of Ngaoundéré is located in northern Cameroon, Catholics are 20%

of the population. Most of its 26 parishes are located in the rural area, not only for evangelization, but also to help improve the living conditions of that population through schools and health centers. Priests, religious, seminarians, catechists, animators of ecclesial communities contribute generously to the Church's action. In March the first case of Covid-19 was registered and therefore all the provisions aimed at containing the pandemic were issued, both by the State and by the Church. The majority of the population thus found themselves unable to earn their daily bread. The closure of the prayer and catechesis meetings no longer allowed, among other things, to collect offers for the sustenance of parishes and pastoral workers.

The San Pedro Claver retirement home, located in the Apostolic Vicariate of San Andrea, Providencia and Santa Catalina, Colombia, no longer has resources to assist its guests. Usually a food festival is organized annually to collect contributions and offers, but following the pandemic this year it was not possible. Of the 38 elderly hosted, not all are able to contribute economically to the management of the house. The help sent by the PMS Emergency Fund will be used to support some priests who no longer have livelihoods and who so far had also contributed to the expenses of the Vicariate.

In the Apostolic Vicariate of Camiri, Bolivia, this year 2020 marks the 25th anniversary of the birth of the diocesan clergy. In the parishes, efforts have always been made to make the faithful aware of the need to support themselves economically, keeping the structures and pastoral workers at the service of the community. During this time of pandemic, various forms of solidarity aid have been promoted for people in difficulty, but with the churches closed and the fear of contagion it is not possible to collect offers among the faithful. The aid from the PMS Fund will go to basic services and pastoral activities in parishes held by both diocesan priests and religious, as well as for the families of some catechists in difficulty. (SL) (Agenzia Fides, 21/7/2020)

■ AMERICA/PARAGUAY - Missionary Childhood Day: growing in holiness through daily experiences

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/68472>



Asuncion (Agenzia Fides) - On Sunday 2 August the Day of Missionary Childhood and Adolescence, JO-NIAM2020, is celebrated in Paraguay, on the theme "May

it be done to me according to your Word" ("Hágase en mí según tu Palabra"). As explained by Laura Román, National Secretary of Missionary Childhood and Adolescence (IAM) in Paraguay, in a note sent to Fides, this year's motto urges us to be in communion with the Bishops of Paraguay, who declared 2020 "Year of the Word of God", and motivates us to spread the Word of God, announced by the Blessed Virgin Mary, the first missionary, an example of dedication and holiness.

"We will thus live the year dedicated to Holiness, as a way to achieve the gift received in Baptism, following Jesus - continues the note -. As Pope Francis says, holiness does not consist in expecting to have other people's qualities, but in rejoicing in the qualities we have and in giving glory to God. We can forge ourselves in holiness through daily experiences, like refraining from gossip, listening to a family member who needs help or assist and speak with a needy person on the street, help with household chores ... This theme will also help us to recover the dimension of holiness present in the name of the Society from the moment of its foundation: Bishop Charles de Forbin Janson in fact placed the Society under the protection of the Holy Childhood of Jesus, Son of God, and following his example, children and adolescents can become missionary disciples. Today we are called to live holiness at home. If the missionary is accustomed to going out to preach, those who need our actions most are at home: mother, father, grandparents, uncles and aunts, cousins and brothers and sisters".

In preparation for the National Day of August 2nd, IAM proposed a Week of Prayer, from July 27th to August 1st, dedicated in particular to prayer for children and adolescents who suffer most all over the world, especially those who lost a loved one due to coronavirus. The guide prepared for the occasion invites to hold meetings with parents in one's own home, and contains the intention for each day, a testimony of the children on mission in the continent for which they pray or a testimony of the holiness of the children taken from the Bulletins of POSI, therefore a short prayer and a commitment that children and adolescents can carry out to live their daily holiness at home.

For the celebration of the Day, on August 2, the Animators have organized a "Caravan of vehicles" to pass in front of the homes of the missionary children, who are called to prepare a small altar on the sidewalk of their homes, so that the Animator can make a short prayer with the child and his parents, since meetings are not pos-

sible due to health regulations. In the liturgical celebrations it will be the Animators of IAM who participate in animating prayer and material sacrifice. (SL) (Agenzia Fides, 1/8/2020)

■ ASIA/PHILIPPINES - Bishops to the faithful, put to the test by the pandemic: "Let's not lose hope. The crisis can bring out the best in us"

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/68558>

Manila (Agenzia Fides) - "The current crisis linked to Covid-19 can bring out the best in us all. The fear and suffering, anxiety and uncertainty we experience today are caused not only by the new coronavirus, but also by the old social virus of selfishness and corruption": this is what Bishop Rex C. Ramirez, at the head of the diocese of Naval, and President of the Episcopal Commission for health care says in a letter addressed to all the "People of God" living in the Philippines. The letter, sent to Bishops, priests, religious and laity, to all parishes and ecclesial associations - and sent to Agenzia Fides - was approved and co-signed by Bishop Pablo Virgilio S. David, interim President of the Bishops' Conference.

"We cannot allow the current health crisis to encourage the worst in us Filipinos. Rather we are on the side of those who, understanding that health is not just about physical well-being, spend their best efforts on the global improvement of our communities, our country and ourselves", says Bishop Ramirez, noting that "the social virus of selfishness can harm people and the whole nation. "The letter, in a period marked by uncertainty and precariousness, intends to "keep hope alive and ask for a collective effort to face the crisis together".

The letter cites words pronounced by Pope Francis on the Covid-19 pandemic, and states: "Like a sudden storm, the coronavirus crisis has taken us all by surprise, abruptly changing our personal, family, work and public life globally". In this framework, the text observes, believers spread and promote a culture characterized by mutual respect, responsibility, patience and hope, and all are invited to prayer that keeps the relationship with God alive.

As a sign of responsibility and commitment to the common good, the Church points out to everyone the example of the so-called "heroes", the health workers engaged in the fight against coronavirus, "including those who lost their lives anonymously". Celebrating a special day dedicated to them, on 31 August last, the Bishops' Conference of the Philippines exhorted the faithful to "pray for those who render their service and sacrifice during the public health crisis".

In Manila, Bishop Broderick Pabillo, Administrator of the archdiocese, thanked the "heroes of our days" during a mass celebrated at the parish of San Filippo Neri in Mandaluyong City. On the other hand, he noted that, alongside those who give their lives with dedication, spirit of sacrifice and altruism, there are people who "know how to sink our country" among debts, corruption and the lack of concrete plans against the pandemic.

Mgr. Ruperto Santos, Bishop of Balanga, also wanted to mention Overseas Filipino workers (OFW) who "with their work and financial aid support our fragile economy", showing "the best there is in Filipinos, like our strong faith in God and our resilience". (SD-PA) (Agenzia Fides, 2/9/2020)

Here I am, send me (Is 6,8)



Vatican City (Agenzia Fides) - Pope Francis released his annual Message for World Mission Sunday 2020 on Pentecost Sunday. Its theme is taken from Isaiah: "Here am I, send me" (6:8). World Mission Sunday is celebrated on October 18 in 2020.

«Here I am, send me» (Is 6,8)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I wish to express my gratitude to God for the commitment with which the Church throughout the world carried out the Extraordinary Missionary Month last October. I am convinced that it stimulated missionary conversion in many communities on the path indicated by the theme: "Baptized and Sent: the Church of Christ on Mission in the World".

In this year marked by the suffering and challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic, the missionary journey of the whole Church continues in light of the words found in the account of the calling of the prophet Isaiah: "Here am I, send me" (6:8). This is the ever new response to the Lord's question: "Whom shall I send?" (ibid.). This invitation from God's merciful heart challenges both

the Church and humanity as a whole in the current world crisis. "Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying 'We are perishing' (v. 38), so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this" (Meditation in Saint Peter's Square, 27 March 2020). We are indeed frightened, disoriented and afraid. Pain and death make us experience our human frailty, but at the same time remind us of our deep desire for life and liberation from evil. In this context, the call to mission, the invitation to step out of ourselves for love of God and neighbour presents itself as an opportunity for sharing, service and intercessory prayer. The mission that God entrusts to each one of us leads us from fear and introspection to a renewed realization that we find ourselves precisely when we give ourselves to others.

In the sacrifice of the cross, where the mission of Jesus is fully accomplished (cf. Jn 19:28-30), God shows us that his love is for each and every one of us (cf. Jn 19:26-27). He asks us to be personally willing to be sent, because he himself is Love, love that is always "on mission", always reaching out in order to give life. Out of his love for us, God the Father sent his Son Jesus (cf. Jn 3:16). Jesus is the Father's Missionary: his life and ministry reveal his total obedience to the Father's will (cf. Jn 4:34; 6:38; 8:12-30; Heb 10:5-10). Jesus, crucified and risen for us, draws us in turn into his mission of love, and with his Spirit which enlivens the Church, he makes us his disciples and sends us on a mission to the world and to its peoples.

"The mission, the 'Church on the move', is not a programme, an enterprise to be carried out by sheer force of will. It is Christ who makes the Church go out of herself. In the mission of evangelization, you move because the Holy Spirit pushes you, and carries you" (Senza di Lui non possiamo fare nulla: Essere missionari oggi nel mondo. Una conversazione con Gianni Valente, Libreria Editrice Vaticana: San Paolo, 2019, 16-17). God always loves us first and with this love comes to us and calls us. Our personal vocation comes from the fact that we are sons and daughters of God in the Church, his family, brothers and sisters in that love that Jesus has shown us. All, however, have a human dignity founded on the divine invitation to be children of God and to become, in the sacrament of Baptism and in the freedom of faith, what they have always been in the heart of God.

Life itself, as a gift freely received, is implicitly an invitation to this gift of self: it is a seed which, in the baptized, will blossom as a response of love in marriage or in virginity for the kingdom of God. Human life is born of the love of God, grows in love and tends towards love. No one is excluded from the love of God, and in the holy sacrifice of Jesus his Son on the cross, God conquered sin and death (cf. Rom 8:31-39). For God, evil – even sin – becomes a challenge to respond with even greater love (cf. Mt 5:38-48; Lk 22:33-34). In the Paschal Mystery, divine mercy heals our wounded humanity and is poured out upon the whole universe. The Church, the universal sacrament of God's love for the world, continues the mission of Jesus in history and sends us everywhere so that, through our witness of faith and the proclamation of the Gospel, God may continue to manifest his love and in this way touch and transform hearts, minds, bodies, societies and cultures in every place and time.

Mission is a free and conscious response to God's call. Yet we discern this call only when we have a personal relationship of love with Jesus present in his Church. Let us ask ourselves: are we prepared to welcome the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to listen to the call to mission, whether in our life as married couples or as consecrated persons or those called to the ordained ministry, and in all the everyday events of life? Are we willing to be sent forth at any time or place to witness to our faith in God the merciful Father, to proclaim the Gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ, to share the divine life of the Holy Spirit by building up the Church? Are we, like Mary, the Mother of Jesus, ready to be completely at the service of God's will (cf. Lk 1:38)? This interior openness is essential if we are to say to God: "Here am I, Lord, send me" (cf. Is 6:8). And this, not in the abstract, but in this chapter of the life of the Church and of history.

Understanding what God is saying to us at this time of pandemic also represents a challenge for the Church's mission. Illness, suffering, fear and isolation challenge us. The poverty of those who die alone, the abandoned, those who have lost their jobs and income, the homeless and those who lack food challenge us. Being forced to observe social distancing and to stay at home invites us to rediscover that we need social relationships as well as our communal relationship with God. Far from increasing mistrust and indifference, this situation should make us even more attentive to our way of relating to others. And prayer, in which God touches and moves our hearts, should make us ever more open to the need of our brothers and sisters for dignity and freedom, as well as our respon-



sibility to care for all creation. The impossibility of gathering as a Church to celebrate the Eucharist has led us to share the experience of the many Christian communities that cannot celebrate Mass every Sunday. In all of this, God's question: "Whom shall I send?" is addressed once more to us and awaits a generous and convincing response: "Here am I, send me!" (Is 6:8). God continues to look for those whom he can send forth into the world and to the nations to bear witness to his love, his deliverance from sin and death, his liberation from evil (cf. Mt 9:35-38; Lk 10:1-12).

The celebration of World Mission Day is also an occasion for reaffirming how prayer, reflection and the material help of your offerings are so many opportunities to participate actively in the mission of Jesus in his Church. The charity expressed in the collections that take place during the liturgical celebrations of the third Sunday of October is aimed at supporting the missionary work carried out in my name by the Pontifical Mission Societies, in order to meet the spiritual and material needs of peoples and Churches throughout the world, for the salvation of all.

May the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of Evangelization and Comforter of the Afflicted, missionary disciple of her Son Jesus, continue to intercede for us and sustain us.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 31 May 2020, Solemnity of Pentecost Franciscus

(Agenzia Fides, 1/6/2020)

http://www.fides.org/en/news/68032-VATICAN_Here_I_am_send_me_Pope_Francis_Message_for_World_Mission_Sunday

A View from the Pew...



Before retiring, Lori Lisi was the Coordinator of Programs for Secondary Schools at the York Catholic District School Board. Lori is a member of St. David's Church in Maple, ON.

"We're in this together." How often have you heard or read this, recently, on social media, radio or television? This is the current universal catch phrase in response to the 2020 Covid-19 Pandemic. What does it really mean? For Christians, this is not some colloquial phrase; rather, it is a sentiment embedded in our life mission. As disciples of Christ, we are invited, as Pope Francis reminds us, to "step out of ourselves for love of God and neighbour", always and everywhere. This invitation does not hinge on the fact that there's a pandemic; nor does it hinge on what day of the week it is, or what time of day it is, or whether we're in one place or another. Conversely, it rests totally on our willingness to bear witness to our faith in all that we say, in all that we think, and in how we live our lives. This is what motivates us, as missionaries of Jesus.

Jesus was God's first missionary. He sent his only son to bear witness to His love and to free us from evil and deliver us from sin and death. God continues to ask, Who shall I send, and who will go for us? -Isaiah 6:8. Our readiness and willingness to 'be in this together' is our response to God's calling. As missionaries of Christ, we are called to evangelize and help all those who are in need, by proclaiming the Gospel and being living examples of 'love, joy and charity.' This is our mission.

On the 3rd Sunday of October, each year, as we celebrate World Mission Day, our mission is notably stated and a theme is chosen. This year it will be celebrated on October 18th, 2020 and the theme is: Here am I, send me. -Isaiah 6:8. As Pope Francis says, "The celebration of World Mission Day is an occasion for reaffirming how prayer, reflection and the material help of our [your] offerings are so many opportunities to participate actively in the mission of Jesus in his Church." World Mission Day supports missionary work through the Pontifical Mission Societies throughout the world. It provides support to the people and to the churches in areas such as pastoral and evangelization programs, catechists and catechetical work, the building of churches and chapels, the work of religious communities in health care and education, and for communication and transportation needs.

So, how can we respond, as missionary disciples of Jesus? How do lay persons in the Church answer this call to 'go forth, announce the Gospel of the Lord and glorify the Lord by our life'? Do we

get on the next flight to a remote part of the world to teach about God to those who have not yet found Him? Perhaps, but for some of us this may not be an option. What can we do from where we are? Our common vocation, as baptized Catholics, commissions us to be missionaries in communion with Jesus and that means that it is incumbent upon us to be active participants on this mission.

Actively participating through prayer, reflection and charity in our homes, in our parishes and in our communities helps us build communion among people with God and with each other. All that is required of us to do so with an open heart, in love with God and with each other.

- Prayer is essential in our missionary work. We pray for God's guidance and grace, strength and courage for both the missionaries who travel afar to share the Word of God and for those who carry out their mission at home. Prayer is reciprocal: it benefits the one who prays and the one who is being prayed for.
- Reflection is one way to check in on how we're doing as missionary disciples of Jesus. We can ask ourselves, "Am I growing in my relationship with Jesus? Am I consistent in how I share my faith? Are my words, my actions and my lifestyle congruent with my mission? Reflection affords us the opportunity to think about our own encounter with Christ and to renew our commitment to saying 'Yes' to God.
- Charity is multifaceted and yet the common goal is simple: to share with others. We can share our time, our talents and our treasures with those around us and we can provide financial support to the Pontifical Mission Societies for the work they do around the world to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus and help people and Churches in need.

Although there may be diversity in the way we fulfil our mission, there is unity in the mission itself. Everything that we do to help people to know God and to be in relationship with God is our response to God's calling.

**"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"
And I said, "Here am I; send me!" ~Isaiah 6:8**

LIVING WORLD MISSION SUNDAY Throughout The Year

#1 Ways to Encourage Global Missions

All Catholics are called to support the work of the missions, as the theme for this World Mission Sunday suggests. But Catholics are called to support the missions more than just one day a year. Here are some ideas for engaging more fully in global mission work either on the parish or individual level throughout the year.

1. Observe World Mission Sunday in October using the resources at missionsocieties.ca.
2. Share stories of those working in the missions in parish bulletins.
3. Have links to missionary websites like fides.org and missionsocieties.ca on the parish website.
4. Get names and email addresses of missionaries who have gone out from your diocese, or who are serving in countries that interest you, and write to them. Your words of encouragement would help them immensely.
5. Host "Mission Evenings" and invite a current or returned missionary to speak at your church.
6. Twin your parish with a parish in a mission country.
7. Regularly include missionaries and mission parishes in the prayers of the faithful.
8. Display photos and letters of missionaries your parish and/or diocese is supporting.
9. Use wall calendars that have a global theme. One can be obtained through the Canadian Pontifical Mission Societies of Canada.
10. When you read of a disaster in any part of the world, pray for those who are suffering, and find out how you can help the mission activities in that area.

#2 PRAYING FOR THE MISSIONS

"The Society of the Propagation of the Faith promotes...missionary spirituality, which through prayer and sacrifice, contributes to rekindling the missionary ardor of the Christian communities and the individual faithful through meditation on the Word of God, Eucharistic Adoration and the Missionary Rosary."

Taken from its website, these words indicate that one of the main pillars of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith is prayer. From its inception, Blessed Pauline Jaricot made prayer an essential feature for promoting the work of the missions. It was not

enough to only give donations, we needed to pray for the missions in the world and for those who served in them. To help us pray for the missions, here are some intentions that we can use in our own prayer.

1. Focus on God - That all missionary disciples may be focused on God and on God's plan for their lives and their ministry.
2. Fidelity to Prayer - That all missionary disciples regularly spend time in prayer that they may discern their role in the mission field.
3. Eucharistic - That all missionary disciples make the Eucharist the "source and summit" of their lives and the source of their inspiration for mission work.
4. Confession and Repentance - That all missionary disciples regularly examine their lives and seek the sacrament of reconciliation for greater strength and self-knowledge.
5. Humility - That all missionary disciples have a spirit of humility, and a willingness to ask God for wisdom in carrying out their vocation.
6. Purity - That all missionary disciples be pure of spirit and share in the work of missions with no personal or hidden agenda.
7. Boldness - That all missionary disciples be bold in their proclamation of the gospel and announce the coming of God's Kingdom with courage.
8. Sabbath Rest - That all missionary disciples remember that even God rested on the seventh day and that rest and self-care are a necessary part of mission work. That missionary disciples be healthy in mind, body, and spirit.
9. Peace - That all missionary disciples be relieved/allayed of the stress and anxiety of their work by the peace that only our God can give us.
10. Marriage/Family - That parents become the first teachers of the faith for their children and that family life becomes the setting where children first learn that they are called to be missionary disciples.
11. Education/schools - That Catholic schools support the work of the missions and form students to become missionary disciples.
12. God's Perspective - That all missionary disciples have eyes to see as God sees and to empower them to love the outcasts, the rejected, and the lonely.
13. Love - That all missionary disciples be models of God's merciful love as they love their neighbor as themselves.
14. Persistence - That all missionary disciples have the endurance, stamina, and pacing to ensure long-term, fruitful ministry.
15. Team Spirit - That missionary disciples learn to collaborate and work with others in a collaborative way.

How Your World Mission Sunday Collection in English Canada Was Distributed in 2019

SOUTH AFRICA

Contribution: 115,014.00

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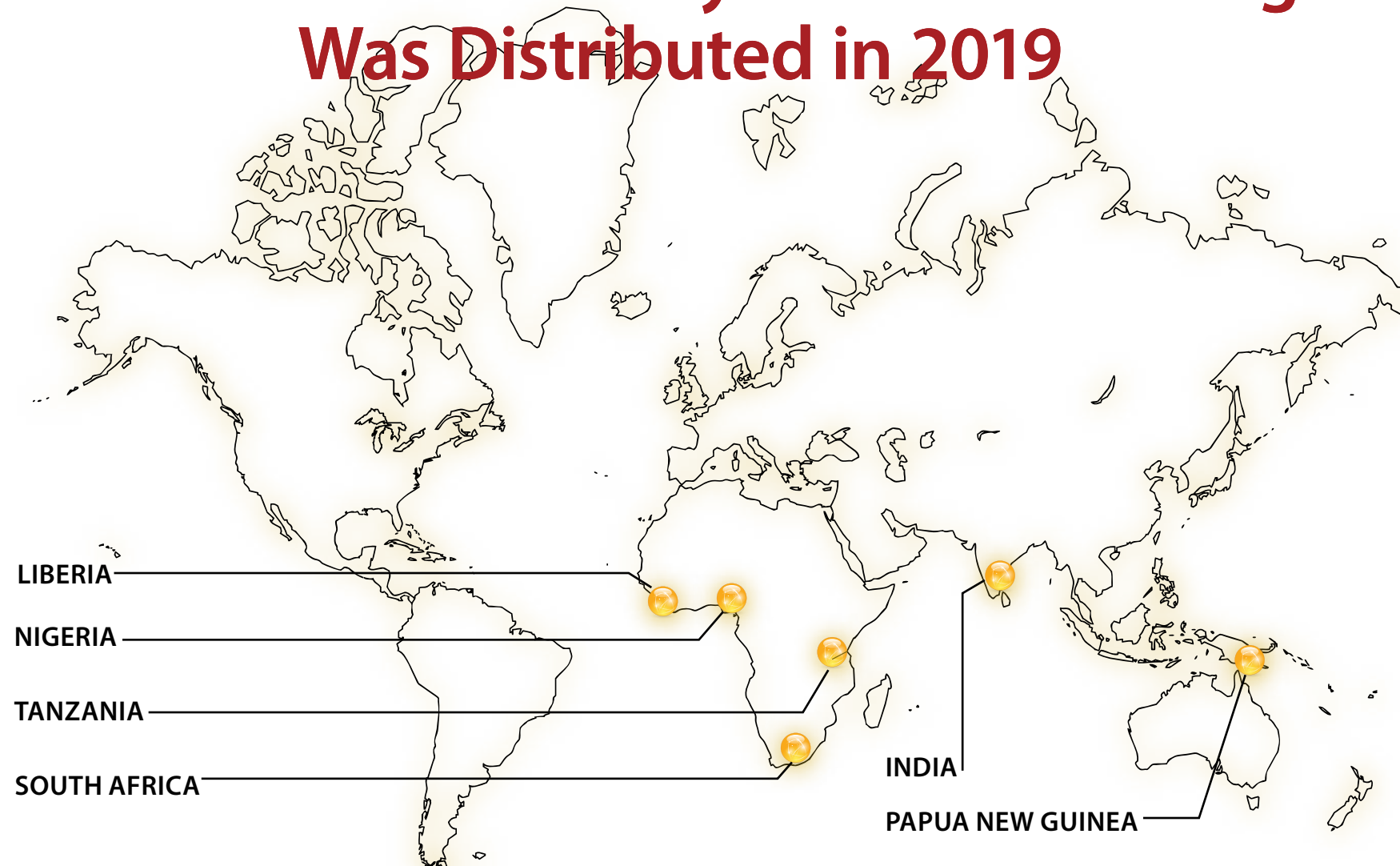
SUBTOTAL 2,217,997.00

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World Mission Sunday 2020

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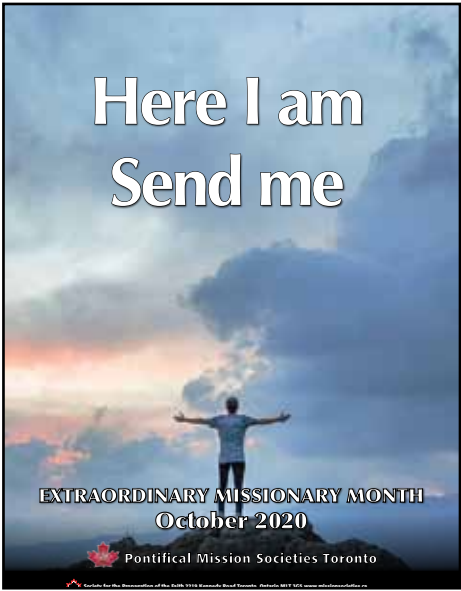
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Diocese of Charlottetown	16,117.25	11,711.67
Archdiocese of Edmonton	84,086.18	89,523.67
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Diocese of Thunder Bay	10,000.00	9,500.00
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Diocese of Vancouver	152,880.93	166,580.12
Diocese of Victoria	14,456.75	13,000.70
Diocese of Whitehorse-Bishop's Office	1,591.00	1,122.65
Archdiocese of Winnipeg	27,199.15	28,193.20
Ukrainian Eparchy-Edmonton	2,000.00	-
Individual	4,135.90	-
Diocesan total	1,485,284.20	1,495,906.64

World Mission Sunday collections are sent to the National Office of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, Toronto, ON.

Every year in May National Directors from around the world meet in Rome to approve projects submitted for financial assistance. Specific projects submitted for financial assistance. Specific projects are allocated to specific countries for financial support. The money is sent directly from the National Office to the country of the approved project. The money is not sent to Rome.



ALL of our World Mission Sunday materials are available on our website. This will make it easier for those who wish to copy directly on to bulletins, etc. The documents can be downloaded in Word format.

Our website is at www.missionsocieties.ca Items of missionary interest are available there, including World Mission TV and links to related sites.

The Society for the Propagation of Faith Report: The Life of Pauline Jaricot

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/68002->

VATICAN - Pauline Jaricot’s miracle recognized: the joy of the Pontifical Mission Societies

Vatican City (Agenzia Fides) - “It is a moment of great joy for the Pontifical Mission Societies all over the world. We are extremely happy because the Congregation for the Causes of Saints has made known the recognition of the miracle attributed to Pauline Jaricot, French laywoman, foundress of the Pontifical Society of the Propagation of the Faith, the first of the Pontifical Mission Societies. This is a very important step: it means that her commitment to the mission, made of prayer and charity, speaks and is still significant today for the universal Church”: this is what Archbishop Giampaolo Dal Toso, President of the Pontifical Mission Societies and Adjunct Secretary of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, told Agenzia Fides, commenting on the promulgation of the Decree of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints.

On May 26, the Holy Father Francis authorized Cardinal Angelo Becciu, Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, to promulgate the Decree concerning the miracle attributed to the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God Pauline Maria Jaricot, Foundress of the Societies of the “Council of the Propagation of the Faith” and of the “Living Rosary”; born on July 22, 1799 in Lyon (France) and died there on January 9, 1862.

Born in Lyon in a period of rapid political and cultural upheavals, Paoline Maria Jaricot in 1822 founded the Association of the Propagation of the Faith, with the characteristic of universality. She perceived that the problem of missionary cooperation was not helping this or that mission, but all, without distinction. She marks the beginning of that great missionary cooperation movement which was to gradually involve the whole Church. Passionate for the spread of the Kingdom of God, she was firmly convinced that missionary work did not derive its effectiveness from human resources, but exclusively from God. In 1826 she therefore founded the movement of the “Living Rosary”: groups of people to whom every month after a Eucharist, a mystery of the Rosary was entrusted to be prayed for the missions. Her existence was not without the cross, and she spent the last period of her life in absolute poverty. She was declared Venerable by John XXIII on February 25, 1963. (Agenzia Fides, 27/5/2020)

{At the end of May 2020, it was announced that Pope Francis had accepted as authentic a miracle attributed to the Venerable Pauline Jaricot and therefore, making her one-step closer to beatification (see text box for more details on this announcement). But who was this courageous woman of faith who founded the Society for the Propagation of Faith? Below is a summary of the life of Pauline Jaricot taken from the book by Massimiliano Taroni, Pauline Jaricot: Founder of the Propagation of the Faith. Quotations are taken from this edition.}

Pauline Jaricot, a laywoman of deep faith and concern for the poor, was born on July 21, 1799. She was the seventh and last child of Jeanne Lattier and Antoine Jaricot, a silk merchant. Pauline was born in Lyon, France which at the time was a major bastion of atheism. Pauline’s parents, however, were fervent Catholics and Pauline’s mother took her daughter regularly to pray at the neighbourhood church. Early in her life, Pauline demonstrated a strong attraction to the faith. There is a story of Pauline as a child asking her mother to let her stay longer at the church to pray, reminiscent of a young Jesus staying back in Jerusalem in God’s house (cf. Luke 2:42-50). Pauline’s parents were also a model of charity, as there was always a helping-hand for any poor person who came to their door. Support for the poor would be a mainstay in the life of Pauline as well. In these early years, Pauline learned to read, and she liked to read especially stories about missionaries.

In her adolescent years, she was sent to a prestigious boarding school. Like many an adolescent, Pauline’s attention turned from her faith to more mundane matters. At this time, she was more interested in clothes, parties, and, of course, young men. But in her teen years, Pauline would also suffer a tragic accident that would prove to have a profound influence on her life. Pauline fell off a stool and received a tremendous shock to her nervous system. She became bed-ridden for a long period, unable to walk and even talking was difficult. During her convalescence, an elder brother passed away and her mother, who became very sick taking care of her daughter, also died. As a result of all these tragedies, Pauline would enter a period of deep depression in her teen years.

A priest who visited Pauline in her depression encouraged her to turn to God and take up anew the spiritual practices of her younger years. Taking the priest’s advice to heart, Pauline began to spend many hours in prayer, developing a special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and she started attended daily mass. In time, she began to feel better both physically and emotionally and she would recover from her illness. She also stopped focusing on herself and began to concern herself with the plight of the poor. She started visiting a hospice on a daily basis, sitting with dying



patients and changing their bandages. She also felt a call to assist young, female factory workers. When work was slow, these women would be the first to be let go and they would have to turn to begging or prostitution to support themselves. In the afternoon as they left work, Pauline would stand outside factories spreading the Good News of God's love to these women and arranging to meet with them on Sunday's for further instruction on the faith. These groups would become communities of mutual support and Pauline had them make artificial flowers, which would be sold to support the young women, but also a portion of the proceeds would go to support the missions.

Pauline's life would take a new turn when her brother Phileas asked a favour of his sister. Phileas was a seminarian, studying to become a missionary priest. On hearing that his sister was raising funds for the missions, he asked Pauline to support the Paris Foreign Mission Society that had just been established. At first, Pauline did not know how to respond to her brother's request. Her time was already taken up with prayer and her volunteer work that she was not sure how she could assist her brother.

As she thought about how to further support the missions, Pauline devised a plan where she would gather a group of ten people. The object of this group would be to pray daily for the missions and make a weekly donation to the missions. More importantly, however, each group member was responsible to create another group of ten people which were given the same three responsibilities. This program grew rapidly. For example, at the parish of St. Polycarp in Lyon thousands of parishioners took up the call to support the missions. Pauline would give this movement the name of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and would grow world-wide to become the organization that we know today.

Moreover, when Phileas moved to Paris to continue his seminary studies, he arranged to get official approval for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith from the Paris Foreign Mission Society.

This movement of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith was unique for the time as it suggested that the missions was not just the concern of priests and religious. Pauline's organization involved the laity and taught that the mission of evangelization was the call of every baptized Catholic. The impact that her efforts for the missions would have would also be significant. Her Society would contribute to the poorest dioceses in the world and support the charitable works of the church. In short, Pauline "...strongly influenced the vision of the church's mission in the nineteenth century." (p.3)

In 1820, Pauline would have a relapse of her illness of the nervous system and was advised by doctors to spend time at the family's country home. She spent this time praying and writing about the importance of the Eucharist. During these days of peace and serenity, Pauline had another idea that would be well received. When fully recovered in 1825, she would create another association known as the Living Rosary. She gathered fifteen people to form a group to pray the Rosary every day. Naturally, they would also be commissioned to create another group of fifteen people to pray the Rosary. In 1832, the Living Rosary got official approval by the Pope, which had over a million people enrolled at the time.

While Pauline experienced many successes in her early life, the last years would prove more difficult. In 1831, Pauline would have a heart attack, partly caused by the death of a sister and brother and the illness of her father. But partly, due to a new round of revolutionary fervour in the city of Lyon, her physical difficulties were the result of accusations of the misuse of missionary funds. She thought about joining a contemplative order of sisters. Her doctors, however, encouraged her to leave the city. She left in 1835 for a pilgrimage to Italy and, upon reaching Rome, would be invited to meet with Pope Gregory XVI. The Pope honoured her and showed his gratitude for all the contributions Pauline had made to the life of the church. After leaving Rome, she would continue her pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. Philomena of Mugnano, near Naples. While praying before the Holy Eucharist, Pauline was miraculously healed, which allowed her to return home and continue her various apostolates.

On her return to Lyon, her problems would only intensify. Pauline wanted to use the family fortune that she had inherited to start a factory that would make religious articles and hire the poor as the employees. While this was a brilliant vision for economic and social renewal, unfortunately she put the funds for the factory into the hands of an untrustworthy associate, who would swindle

her of all her money. Pauline would sue the individual to get her money back. But the court costs would leave her destitute for the last ten years of her life. She was able to keep the family home, which she had turned into a home for laywomen to live a life of prayer and charity. Her health would continue to diminish and on January 9, 1862, Pauline died and would return to her God to receive the reward of God's faithful disciples.

There are two tributes that appropriately describe the impact of the life and work of Pauline Jaricot. Fr. Szmydki states, "Her life is an example of daring deeds inspired by love, which are bearing lasting fruit." (p.3) Fr. Taroni, describes the legacy of Pauline as, "She was a woman who was extremely gifted in coming up with ideas and devising practical ways to implement them for the renewal of the faith in her own country and the improvement of the apostolic mission." (p.41) The life of Pauline Jaricot demonstrates the saintly nature of this woman and hopefully the recent announcement that the miracle attributed to her will pave the way to her beatification and eventual sanctification. In the meantime, let us pray the following prayer for her beatification.

Hasten, Lord, the day
When the Church can celebrate
The saintliness of your servant
Pauline Jaricot,
Inspired by you to found
The Propagation of the Faith
And the Living Rosary,
And promote the welfare of the poor.

May Christians everywhere
Strive to follow her selfless example,
Dedicating themselves
To spreading the Good News of the Gospel,
So that all peoples may come to know
The boundless love revealed to the world
Through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who lives with you and the Holy Spirit
For ever and ever. Amen.

http://www.fides.org/en/news/68002-VATICAN_Pauline_Jaricot_s_miracle_recognized_the_joy_of_the_Pontifical_Mission_Societies

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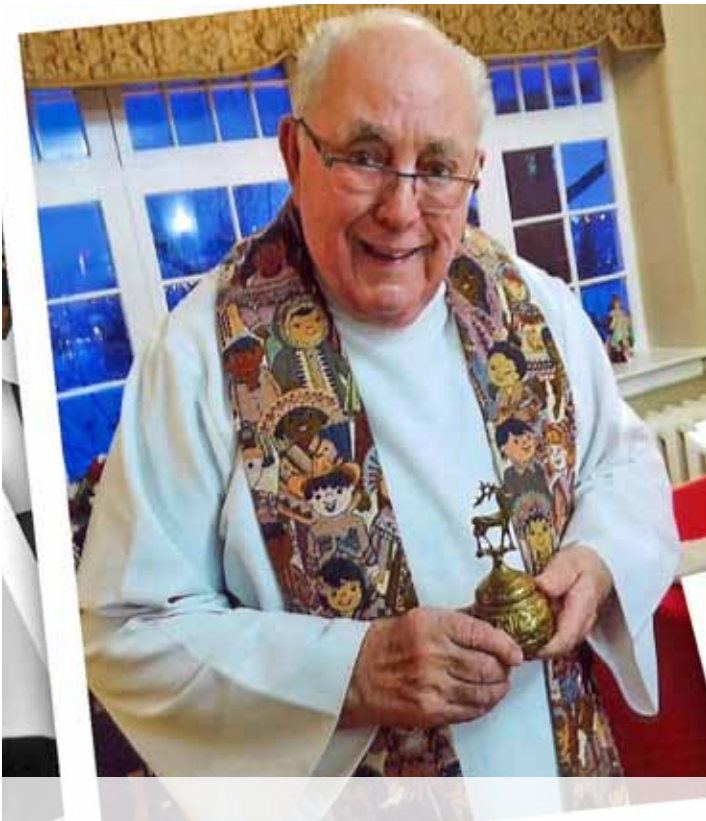
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Society of Saint Peter the Apostle

Looking forward to Holy Week in Tuktoyaktuk,
Father Don plans one last trip north



At 85, most priests would be content to mark six decades of priesthood with quiet retirement. But not Rev. Don Stein. Father Stein has been a beloved pastor in the Edmonton Archdiocese for six decades. It's a ministry he has loved, and his parishioners have loved him back. Decades later, they still remember him both in Edmonton and Tuktoyaktuk, N.W.T., where he has celebrated Holy Week Masses for years.

This year, Stein's trip to Tuk will be part of a farewell trip to see the people of the Arctic Ocean hamlet one last time. He is among four priests from the Archdiocese who will be celebrating Holy Week in various communities in the northern Diocese of Mackenzie-Fort Smith.

As any pastor would, Stein will meet with the parish community after Mass. He may trade stories of hunting and fishing. He'll listen to the children tell their own stories. And he may share a traditional Inuvialuit meal of dried meat and muktuk, Beluga whale blubber.

"He's like a grandfather to all of us. He shared some of his own life with the people here," said Sister Fay Trombley, a nationally renowned educator and pastoral leader who first brought him to Tuk after he officially "retired."

"Father Don is such a blessing for us. He helped to raise consciousness of the centrality of Holy Week, which the people had a hard time to grasp prior to his coming."

"Holy Week is so important," Stein explained. "You have the whole mystery of our faith. They're trying to keep the church alive, but this will be my last trip. I'm just doing it for my 60th anniversary ... It's almost a miracle," he laughed. "My whole vocation is God sending me here, there and everywhere. Sixty years went by very quickly."

Donald Stein was born on June 4, 1934, in the Calder neighbourhood of northwest Edmonton, where he lived with his older brother Benny, now a retired Edmonton firefighter, his dad Ben and mother Marie-Anne, a strong Catholic.

As a young man, Stein attended St. Mary's Redemptorist College minor seminary in Brockville, Ont. but his grades didn't make the cut. His former principal helped him out.

"Father A.D. Macdonald, the principal at St. Joseph's high school, said 'What's wrong? He's got a 65-per-cent average!' Three days later, he said, 'Bishop wants you to apply to St. Joseph's Seminary.' " Stein considered becoming a chef, because he liked cooking. But the call to the priesthood was loud.

Stein was ordained on June 4, 1960, his 26th birthday. Afterwards, Father Stein was assigned to St. Francis Xavier Parish in Camrose. He returned last fall for the opening of the new church.

Throughout his career, Stein was assigned to both urban and rural parishes, including St. Patrick's, Assumption, and St. Theresa's in Edmonton, Sacred Heart in Gibbons, St. Anthony's in Lloydminster, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Sherwood Park.

"I was back and forth like a yo-yo," Stein recalled. "I liked them all. I was from the city and I knew how to handle people, but you become personally involved with people more so than in the city."

St. Clare Parish in' Redwater was a highlight. "I am a city boy and all of a sudden I'm out combining with the farmers," Stein laughed. "They talked to me a lot."

Father Stein's last parish was Sacred Heart in Red Deer and he helped celebrate its 100th anniversary before he retired in 2008. It was then that he answered a call from Sister Trombley, a former professor at Newman Theological College, to come up North.

"She said, about being up there, the hardest part is Holy Week, because they

have no priests," Father Stein recalled. "So I volunteered."

"I knew I had to organize and adapt to the situation," he said. "You had ups and downs. For Holy Thursday, you could have 12 people and then Good Friday, you'd have 25 or something. You bring the message to their level. In other words, you're speaking ordinary language. You're not giving a highfalutin' sermon."

The Diocese of McKenzie-Fort Smith is twinned with the Edmonton Archdiocese and still in the need of priests. Some parishes may only see a priest a handful of times per year. In their absence, church services in Tuktoyaktuk are led by lay pastoral leaders Jean Gruben, Dorothy Loreen and Lucy Cockney. Sister Trombley will preach.

"They held together the faith and the church in Tuktoyaktuk in the absence of priests," Stein said.

As in past years, Father Stein will stay at Sister Trombley's house. The people of Tuktoyaktuk are excited to show him their new

church building. For years, services were at her house or at the school gym.

"The people have a deep faith," Sister Trombley explained. "It's not based on memorizing the Ten Commandments or knowing a lot of theological specifics or catechetics, but it's really a relationship with Jesus Christ, and it's very visible in funerals and in church gatherings. People have a profound relationship and simple faith that is really a blessing to anyone who has a chance to be sharing it with them."

For his part, Father Stein said this will be his last trip to the North, but the people of Tuktoyaktuk know better. "We don't believe that! " Sister Trombley said. "We say Father Don has a spirit that is eternal. His spirit is always here with us and we smile every time we remember him and share stories and just know what a blessing he has been to us."

(This article was forwarded to Missions Today by Fr. Stein, the subject of the article, and used with his permission. The article was edited for length but the full article can be found at Grandin Media, Catholic Alberta, at the following web address:

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The Editor's Point of View



WHOM SHALL I SEND?

The theme for this year's World Mission Sunday is taken from the call of the Prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 6: 1-8). The Prophet Isaiah has a vision where he is before the throne of God in heaven when he hears God shout out "Whom shall I send?" Immediately, the Prophet Isaiah replies in the affirmative. But the question that God poses to Isaiah is not unique to him. Rather, this question is directed to all God's followers of every age. God is always calling his people to go out on mission. It is the question that today God asks each and every one of us, "Whom shall I send?"

This year's theme for World Mission Sunday is a reminder that God has called all of us to a special vocation. We each have a special calling from God based on the talents with which God has created us and based on the gifts that God has given to us at our Baptism and Confirmation. More specifically, this year's theme is a reminder to all of us that we each have a role to play in Catholic missions. Those of us in the developed world have a unique call and a particular responsibility to support the Catholic missions. We are all called, if even in a small way, to spread the Gospel message of Jesus throughout the world.

We might wonder what anyone of us has to offer to those labouring in God's vineyard around the world. It was the same question that Pauline Jaricot asked herself when her brother asked her to support the work of the mission. But that is why the life of Pauline Jaricot is so critical and inspiring for us today. Even though Pauline Jaricot hardly ever left her home city of Lyon, there are few people who have had more of a profound influence on the missions than Pauline Jaricot. Even though she never herself did any missionary work, her life is a model of how those of us who live in affluent communities can support our Catholic brothers and sisters who are struggling in other parts of the world.

As her life story earlier in this issue indicates, Pauline taught us that there are three key ingredients that make up our call to sup-

port the missions. One is to pray for the missions. Pauline is not only the founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. She was also instrumental in the establishment of the Living Rosary Society. Pauline knew the power of prayer and she had experienced miracles that prayer had brought into her own life. Similarly, Pauline knew that prayer could work wonders in the missions as well. The more we bring to prayer those missionaries who have sacrificed their lives for the sake of the Gospel, the more we will be inspired to support their efforts. The more we intercede for new Catholic communities who are not only struggling financially but also from lack of acceptance from their own society, the more our own hearts will be moved to sustain them in their journey of faith.

Pauline also taught us to provide financial support. Young Catholic parishes always struggle to support themselves from their own resources. We who have more are called to give what we are able to ensure that the seeds that are planted by our missionaries are able to flourish. Moreover, not only are we called to financially support the work of the missions, we can also learn how are donations are being using. By examining where our donations are going, we will discover how even the smallest amount can have such a great impact. By appreciating the impact that our donations have, it will inspire us to be more committed to the work of the missions. It is for this reason that every issue of the magazine has a report on where funds have been allocated. By seeing concretely, the effect that our donations have on the welfare of our sister parishes and schools around the world, hopefully, we will also hear the call from our God, "Whom shall I send?"

Another brainchild of Pauline Jaricot was to encourage others to support the missions. Not only did Pauline create groups of ten who would daily pray for the mission and provide a weekly offering. These ten, in their turn, would be responsible to create another group of ten. Those in these groups of ten were to go out and inspire another ten to support the missions. While we do not need to form our own groups of ten, we can take from this example to go out and attract others to the cause. We are called to suggest to family and friends, to acquaintances and co-workers, when conversation turns to world events, that they too have a role in supporting the missions. Especially with our Catholic family

Missions Today is always interested in hearing from you. If you have any comments on the articles we have used; the new structure of the magazine; or anything you would like to see us explore in future issues, please get in touch with us!
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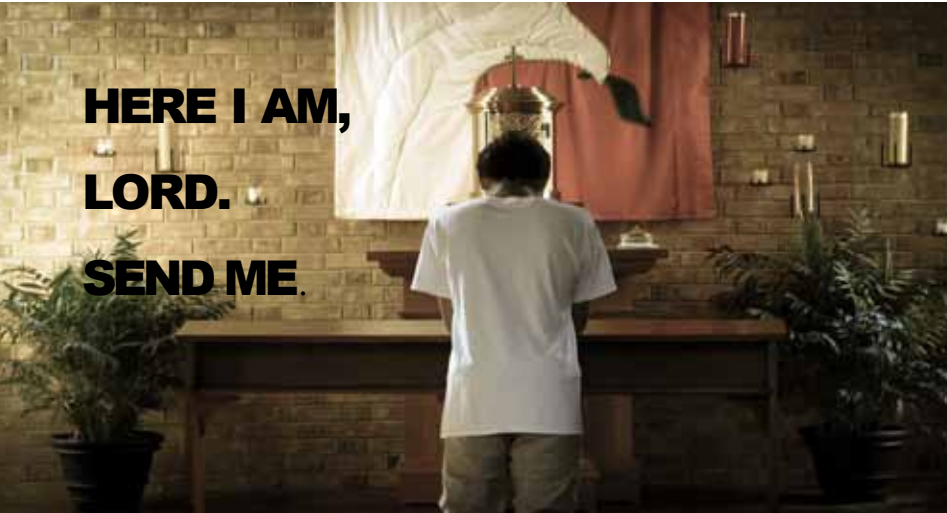
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Our Deceased Donors

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Mr. Patrick Boyle	Scarborough, On	Mrs. Emmie Leliveld.....	Forest, On
Mrs. Kathleen Bucher.....	Kamloops, Bc	Mr. Jose Maia	Winnipeg, Mb
Mr. John Dunay Jr.	Tilley, Ab	Mr. Sheridan Penhale	Sarnia, On
Mr. Clement Giovanatti.....	Sault Ste. Marie, On	Miss Mary K. Pletz	Regina, Sk
Fr. Michael J. Hogan.....	Regina, Sk	Mr. Harry Snow	Stratford, Pe
Mr. John Leo Koberinski.....	Humboldt, Sk		



During this World Mission Sunday 2020, we should also remember that we are not the only ones in the grip of a pandemic. Our sisters and brothers are also feeling the effects of this global pandemic without having the resources that we have to combat this virus. Medical supplies and facilities are in short supply in mission territories in the best of times. The lack of medical supplies is an acute problem today, especially for the poorest of the poor. Clearly, many are suffered in Canada today because of the consequences of this pandemic. But what our sisters and brothers are going through in less developed parts of the world is so much

and friends, we can always appeal to their generosity of spirit and show them that God is calling them too.

We are also called, however, to support the work of the missions in other ways. As the saying goes "knowledge is power." Another important task for Catholics in affluent communities is to be well informed. Through our typical news sources, we rarely get to hear what is fully happening in other parts of the world. We certainly do not get any news about the struggles that our Catholic brothers and sisters are facing on a daily basis. By keeping informed, we will no doubt grow to appreciate the courage of some of our fellow Catholics in other parts of the world and the need to stand in solidarity with them. One of the best ways to keep informed is to periodically check the news arm of the Pontifical Mission Societies at fides.com. In every issue of our magazine, we include a few features from that website to hopefully whet the curiosity of our readers. By going on the website, you will be able to stay informed about the good work of our missionaries and the circumstances of different Catholic communities around the world.

more tragic. Certainly, God this year is calling us to be a lifeline to those who have so little.

As we approach another World Mission Sunday, let us remember our call to support the missions. As in previous years, God continues to ask the question, "Whom shall I send?" This year, I pray that we may all be inspired to reply,

Here I am Lord. Send Me.



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*At the foot of your Cross, Lord,
we are gathered together
to lovingly receive the fruits of life.
Today Lord, may you make felt
from one end of our poor world to the other,
The power and strength of your resurrection,
The grace of Easter Sunday.*

*(A Prayer by Pauline Jaricot,
in "If you Wish to Pray with Pauline Jaricot...")*