



# MISSIONS TODAY

VOL 80, NO. 3

Summer 2022

## Inside this issue

the Beatification of Blessed Pauline Jaricot" and if there is even more space continue with "and the role of women in the missions."



*The Society for the Propagation of the Faith*

Fr. Alex at the tomb of Blessed Pauline.

# National Director's Message

Missions Today Summer Issue 2022

## Pauline is now Blessed! A joy for PMS.

The Beatification Mass was held in Lyon May 23, 2022, at 3pm. Almost 13,000 people attended Pauline Jaricot's beatification.

Before the mass presided over by Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle in Lyon's Exhibition Hall, Mayline Tran carried the relic of Pauline Jaricot's heart in procession.

The Cardinal Prefect praised Pauline for her missionary zeal in bringing the love of Jesus to more people. "We marvel at how docile Pauline Jaricot was to the Holy Spirit, who prompted her with new ideas and initiative for spreading the Gospel and serving the poor." In his homily, Cardinal Tagle said "to love Jesus is to let him, who is the Word of God, live, act and love in me and through me. We see in Pauline, a living witness to the power of Jesus, a love that becomes an identification with Jesus."

Among those present at the mass were Mayline Tran and her family. Mayline experienced an unexplainable medical healing in 2012 at the age of three that was deemed by a panel of experts to be a medical miracle attributed to Jaricot's intercession. Mayline had fallen in a coma after suffering from cardiac arrest. The oxygen supply had been cut off to her brain after the three year old choked on a small French Sausage. The Tran family, who were not from Lyon, had never heard of Pauline Jaricot. But parents at Mayline's Catholic school, connected to Pauline's Living Rosary group, organized a prayer novena with the participation of the entire school asking for Pauline Jaricot's intercession for her healing. Mayline made a complete recovery within months after doctors had informed the Tran family that their daughter had no chance of being able to walk or talk again. "Miracles do exist and Mayline is living proof of it," Emmanuel Tran, her father, told the National Directors.



*Fr. Alex in Lyon, France*

On the day of the beatification, Pope Francis praised Jaricot for her courage and vision regarding the Church's mission. From the window of the Vatican Palace at the end of his Queen of Heaven address Pope Francis said, "May her example enkindle in everyone the desire to participate through prayer and charity in the spread of the Gospel throughout the world."

"Pauline dedicated her life to the missions, to the service of the poor and to prayer," the Pope wrote in a letter that was read at Beatification Mass.

"May our charity be as inventive and effective as hers, let us learn to offer generously what we are, our talents to God, and to our brothers and sisters, especially the poorest, to give of our means to support the mission that is incumbent on all of us in the church to bring the Gospel to the world," Pope said.

Fr. Alex Osei, C.S.Sp.  
National Director  
English Sector

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## 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.

**May: Faith-Filled Young People** - We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

**June: Families** - We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

**July: Elderly** - We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.

**August: Small Businesses** - We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

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*Mayline Tran and her family at the beatification of Blessed Pauline with heads of the four societies of the PMS and Archbishop Del Toso.*



## PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES

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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. Other news can be found at [fides.org](http://fides.org).*



## **AFRICA/NIGER - Street children rediscover dignity, hospitality and love at the Foyer totonn Gilles**

Niamey, Niger (Agenzia Fides) - "With the street children I met in Niamey, we organized a cleaning campaign in a field near our house", says Gilles, a Nigerian journalist who spends most of his time with these young victims in the Nigerien capital. "Machetes, rakes to cut, collect, sweep and burn rubble, we worked for two days. During these two days, the young workers felt useful and important for themselves and for society, forgetting at least temporarily the violence they had suffered, and no longer having to steal food to feed themselves", continues Gilles, who created the "Foyer totonn Gilles" in Niamey 15 years ago. Today, the house is home

to about fifteen young people, aged 4 to 20. They are children who have years of suffering and violence behind them on the streets of Niamey, without shelter or safety, abandoned to themselves. They came to the capital in search of fortune. This last group has been with us for a month - explains Gilles, who organized the house together with his wife and children - we approached them several times before they decided to join us. They finally left the street and returned to their families and forgot the ordeal of the city, far from their loved ones and for years. For the past fortnight, there have also been Malians, migrants fleeing the war who have promised to bring their mothers what they have been paid for their work. They live in a rented house in rather difficult but decent conditions and form a very heterogeneous family. Gilles, with his salary and the donations of a few benefactors, devotes his whole life to this, to these children, victims of the violence of war, of family or society, of exploitation. He himself had a similar experience: his father beat him almost every day and he ran away when he was only thirteen. Almost every evening, he visits the street children of the city, meets them, greets them, discusses a thousand things with them, helps them and is generally their defender and their lawyer in front of the police. Many young people have passed through the center and have now found a place in society, found a job, got married, have become independent. Gilles calls them his pride. (RC/AP) (Agenzia Fides, 22/2/2022)

<http://www.fides.org/en/news/71688>



## ASIA/INDIA - Care of leprosy patients: work of the Church on a mission

*Rome (Agenzia Fides) - In her missionary work, the Church has a long tradition of assisting lepers, often abandoned even by their own families. She has always offered them concrete possibilities of healing and reintegration into society. On the occasion of the Day of Vocations, we publish the testimony of the commitment in India of a missionary of the same congregation of St Damien de Veuster, of which he was the worthy heir.*

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The link between the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts (SS.CC.) in India and the ministry of care of the leprosy patients (Persons affected by Hansen's disease) dates back to June 19, 1975 when the first American SS.CC. missionary Fr. William Francis Petrie arrived in Calcutta with the invitation of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who was then renowned for her service to the poorest of the poor – the lepers in Calcutta, the City of Joy. Inspired by the life and ministry of St. Damien of Molokai, the leper priest on the island of Molokai in Hawaii, who himself was a missionary member of the Sacred Hearts Congregation from Belgium, Fr. William Francis Petrie had chosen to live out the spirit and legacy of St. Damien of Molokai in the service of the leprosy patients in collaboration with the works of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta. She was only too happy to receive him as a partner in her mission among the leprosy patients. For the first four years after his arrival in Calcutta in 1975 and being sent by St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Fr. William Francis Petrie served and worked with the leprosy patients in the famous Shanti Nagar leprosy rehabilitation centre in West Bengal. At the same time, he also took care of the spiritual and sacramental life of Missionaries of Charity Sisters serving the patients in the rehabilitation centre.

However, on the request of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, on February 14, 1979 Fr. William Francis Petrie once again moved from Shanti Nagar to Bhubaneswar – the capital city of the state of Odisha to assist in the development of Gandhi Shanti Nivas Leprosy Rehabilitation Centre at Janla which is about seventeen kilometres from Bhubaneswar. In the initial years, Fr. William Francis Petrie lived in the Archbishop's house in Bhubaneswar and won the trust, confidence and personal friendship of Archbishop Henry D'Souza, who also wanted Fr. William to share the spirit and charism of St.

Damien of Molokai and to coordinate various leprosy rehabilitation projects in the Archdiocese of Cuttack – Bhubaneswar where the Church Organizations were involved in the care of patients affected by Hansen's disease. (...) (Agenzia Fides, 7/5/2022)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/72119-ASIA\\_INDIA\\_Care\\_of\\_leprosy\\_patients\\_work\\_of\\_the\\_Church\\_on\\_a\\_mission](http://www.fides.org/en/news/72119-ASIA_INDIA_Care_of_leprosy_patients_work_of_the_Church_on_a_mission)

## AFRICA - The Comboni Missionaries: 150 years of love for the mission

Madrid (Agenzia Fides) - "The Congregation of the Pious Mothers of Nigrizia, now known as the Comboni Missionary Sisters, took its first steps on January 1, 1872. The day before, Maria Caspi had crossed the threshold of the house that Luigia Zago and Isabella Zadrich had in part made available in Montorio, a town near Verona, to prepare young people 'who follow in the footsteps and fulfill the functions of the pious women of the Gospel', as Daniel Comboni clarified in referring to the missionaries who would work alongside him in Central Africa". This is what the Provincial Superior of the Comboni Sisters in Spain, Sister Angela Colombi, says in a video message sent to Fides, speaking of the 150th anniversary of the institute, which falls in 2022.

Maria Teresa Romo, Comboni missionary of Portuguese origin, explains: "Retracing our history is important to remember and to give thanks, but also to find the light we need to live the present and the future in a 'charismatic' way. Charism, she emphasizes, shapes the lifestyle and the services with which we respond to the needs of a given time in a given place. Living charismatically is equivalent to assuming and carrying out our task in the world". The present moment - observes the religious - has its complexity, which the numerical decrease in our congregation further exacerbates, but this complexity also offers new opportunities: it urgently pushes us to reorganize the presences, the governance structures and the missionary methodology".

This is why a necessary transformation urges us to share more and to "walk together" in a more inclusive way also within the Congregation: "Remembering 150 years - says to Fides Sr. Martina Prado Fernandez, of the missionary and vocational animation in Madrid - sheds light on how to get through this difficult time and marked by further turning points: they are necessary to be able to situate oneself in the future in a meaningful way. This year, she continues - becomes an opportunity to reread our history and find further confirmations in it: they are those that give energy and courage to cross the complexity of our time. The Jubilee - she concludes - is certainly a moment of recognition, because the experience of the congregation allows us to recognize the passage of God, who has so often led us on unknown paths, protected us, strengthened our faith and nourished in us the courage to go forward". (ES/PA) (Agenzia Fides, 20/4/2022)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/72026-AFRICA\\_The\\_Comboni\\_Missionaries\\_150\\_years\\_of\\_love\\_for\\_the\\_mission](http://www.fides.org/en/news/72026-AFRICA_The_Comboni_Missionaries_150_years_of_love_for_the_mission)



# MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS TO PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES

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*{We publish below the Message that the Holy Father Francis has sent to the Pontifical Mission Societies (PMS) on the occasion of the opening of the General Assembly which is taking place in Lyon, at the Valpré Center, from May 16 to 23, 2022.}*

Dear brothers and sisters!

In this special year you have gathered in Lyon, the city where the Pontifical Mission Societies originated and where the beatification of Pauline Jaricot, the foundress of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, will be celebrated. It is the bicentenary, as well as the centenary of its elevation, together with the Society of the Holy Childhood and the Society of St. Peter the Apostle, to the rank of “Pontifical”. They were later joined, always recognized by Pius XII, by the Pontifical Missionary Union, which celebrates the 150th anniversary of the birth of its founder, Blessed Paolo Manna.

These anniversaries are part of the celebration for the 400th anniversary of the Congregation De Propaganda Fide, to which the Missionary Works are closely linked and with which they collaborate in supporting the Churches in the territories entrusted to the Dicastery. It was established to support and coordinate the

spread of the Gospel in hitherto unknown lands, but the evangelizing thrust has never waned in the Church and always remains its fundamental dynamism. Therefore, it is my wish that within the renewed Roman Curia, the Dicastery for Evangelization takes on a special role in order to foster the missionary conversion of the Church (Praedicate Evangelium, 2-3), which is not proselytism, but witness: going out of oneself to proclaim with one’s life the gratuitous and saving love of God for us, who are all called to be brothers and sisters.

You have therefore arranged to meet in Lyon because it is where, 200 years ago, a young woman aged just 23 - Pauline Marie Jaricot - had the courage to found an association to support the missionary activity of the Church; a few years later she started the “Living Rosary” which is devoted to prayer and the sharing of offerings. Pauline came from a wealthy family, but died in poverty: with her beatification, the Church attests that she knew how to store up treasures in Heaven (Mt 6:19), treasures that are born from the courage of giving and reveal the secret of life: only by giving is it possessed, only by losing it is it found (Mk 8:35).

Pauline Jaricot liked to say that the Church is missionary by na-

ture (Ad gentes, 2) and that therefore every baptized person has a mission, indeed, is a mission. Helping to live this awareness is the first service of the Pontifical Mission Societies, a service the Pontifical Mission Societies perform with the Pope and in the name of the Pope. This link between the PMS and the Petrine ministry, established a hundred years ago, translates into concrete service to the bishops, to the Churches, to the whole People of God. At the same time, it is your task, according to the Council (cf. Ad gentes, 38), to help the bishops open each particular Church to the horizons of the universal Church.

The jubilees you celebrate and the beatification of Pauline Jaricot offer me the opportunity to re-propose three aspects that, thanks to the action of the Holy Spirit, have contributed so much to the spread of the Gospel in the history of the PMS.

First of all, missionary conversion: The goodness of mission depends on the journey of going out of oneself, on the desire not to center one's life on oneself, but on Jesus, on Jesus who came to serve and not to be served (cf. Mk 10:45).

In this sense Pauline Jaricot saw her existence as a response to God's compassionate and tender mercy: since her youth she sought identification with her Lord, also through the sufferings she went through, in order to ignite the flame of his love in every man. Here lies the source of the mission, in the ardor of a faith that is not satisfied and that, through conversion, imitates day by day in order to receive God's mercy on the streets of the world.

But this is possible - second aspect - Only through prayer, which is the first form of mission (cf. Message to the Pontifical Mis-

sion Societies, 20 May 2020). It is no coincidence that Pauline placed the Society of Propagation of the Faith alongside the Living Rosary, as if to reaffirm that mission begins with prayer and cannot be achieved without it (cf. Acts 13: 1-3). Yes, because it is the Spirit of the Lord who precedes and enables all our good works: the primacy is always of his grace. Finally, the concreteness of charity: Along with a network of prayer, he said, "Pauline initiated a collection of offerings on a large scale and in a creative form, accompanying it with information about the missionaries' lives and activities. The offerings of so many simple people were providential for the history of the missions

Dear brothers and sisters who are part of the General Assembly of the PMS, I hope that you walk the path traced by this great missionary woman, allowing yourself to be inspired by her concrete faith, her audacious courage, her generous creativity. Through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, Star of Evangelization, I invoke the blessing of the Lord upon each one of you and I ask you, please, to pray for me.

Rome, Saint John Lateran,

May 12, 2022

FRANCIS

(Agenzia Fides, 17/5/2022)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/72182-VATICAN\\_Message\\_of\\_the\\_Holy\\_Father\\_Francis\\_to\\_the\\_Assembly\\_of\\_the\\_Pontifical\\_Mission\\_Societies\\_gathered\\_in\\_Lyon](http://www.fides.org/en/news/72182-VATICAN_Message_of_the_Holy_Father_Francis_to_the_Assembly_of_the_Pontifical_Mission_Societies_gathered_in_Lyon)

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## A REFLECTION ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE MISSIONS

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### The Role of Women is of great help for Mission! (Blessed Paolo Manna)

#### From the Gospel of Luke

"Afterward he journeyed from one town and village to another, preaching and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. Accompanying him were the Twelve and some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, Susanna, and many others who provided for them out of their resources." (Lk 8:1-3)

#### From the Magisterium of the Catholic Church

"The laity carry out their manifold apostolate both in the Church and in the world. (...) Since in our times women have an ever more active share in the whole life of society, it is very important that they participate more widely also in the various fields of the

Church's apostolate." (Second Vatican Council, Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, *Apostolicam Actuositatem*, 9)

"The awareness that women with their own gifts and tasks have their own specific vocation, has increased and been deepened in the years following the Council and has found its fundamental inspiration in the Gospel and the Church's history." (John Paul II, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation on the Vocation and the Mission of the Lay Faithful in the Church and in the World, *Christi-fideles Laici*, 49)

"The personal resources of femininity are certainly no less than the resources of masculinity: they are merely different. Hence a woman, as well as a man, must understand her 'fulfilment' as a person, her dignity and vocation, on the basis of these resources,



according to the richness of the femininity which she received on the day of creation and which she inherits as an expression of the 'image and likeness of God' that is specifically hers." (John Paul II, Apostolic Letter on the Dignity and Vocation of Women, *Mulieris Dignitatem*, 10)

"Christ's way of acting, the Gospel of his words and deeds, is a consistent protest against whatever offends the dignity of women. Consequently, the women who are close to Christ discover themselves in the truth which he 'teaches' and 'does', even when this truth concerns their 'sinfulness'. They feel 'liberated' by this truth, restored to themselves: they feel loved with 'eternal love', with a love which finds direct expression in Christ himself." (John Paul II, Apostolic Letter on the Dignity and Vocation of Women, *Mulieris Dignitatem*, 15)

"The Church acknowledges the indispensable contribution which women make to society through the sensitivity, intuition and other distinctive skill sets which they, more than men, tend to possess. I think, for example, of the special concern which women show to others, which finds a particular, even if not exclusive, expression in motherhood. I readily acknowledge that many women share pastoral responsibilities with priests, helping to guide people, families and groups and offering new contributions to theological reflection. But we need to create still broader opportunities for a more incisive female presence in the Church. Because "the feminine genius is needed in all expressions in the life of society, the presence of women must also be guaranteed in the workplace" and in the various other settings where important decisions are made, both in the Church and in social structures." (Pope Francis, Apostolic Exhortation on the Proclamation of the Gospel in Today's World, *Evangelii Gaudium*, 103)

#### **From the writings of Blessed Father Paolo Manna**

"If we admit the truth, we must confess that three- fourths of the material support of the Catholic apostolate comes through the

zeal of women. This apostolate of women began in the time of Our Lord."

(P. Manna, *The conversion of the pagan world. A Treatise upon Catholic Foreign Missions*, translated and adapted from the Italian of rev. Paolo Manna, M. Ap. by rev. Joseph F. McGlinchey, d.d., Boston, Society for the propagation of the Faith 1921, p. 209)

"In the last century the participation of women in the propagation of the Faith has been more intense and active than ever before. We shall not mention the thousands of Sisters, truly noble heroines, who have dedicated their whole lives to the apostolate of the missions, for we have already spoken of them at length. We shall confine our remarks to the co-operation given by our women at home. The queen of all works of co-operation in the apostolate the Propagation of the Faith Society was the creation of women; and just as it was founded by them (...) Then there is that other worthy institution, the Sodality of St. Peter Claver for the African Missions. This also is due to the zeal of a noble Polish woman, the Countess Maria Teresa Ledochowska." (P. Manna, *The conversion of the pagan world. A Treatise upon Catholic Foreign Missions*, pp. 209-210)

"In missionary propaganda women have an ability, a perseverance, a faith, and a love that overcome all difficulties and accomplish wonderful results." (P. Manna, *The conversion of the pagan world. A Treatise upon Catholic Foreign Missions*, p.211)

"To win women to the cause of the missions is to render an inestimable service to the Church. Women, naturally more sympathetic and pious than men, born to love and to sacrifice, cultivate Christian charity almost as an instinct of their sex. They can become valuable auxiliaries of the apostolate and can prepare for the Church generations of apostles, by instilling into the tender hearts of our children deep sympathy for the pagans and fervent zeal for their salvation." (P. Manna, *The conversion of the pagan world. A Treatise upon Catholic Foreign Missions*, p.214).



*The Dominican Sisters Of The Sacred Heart*



*Sister Cloudina's Novices*



# AN EXAMPLE OF A WOMAN IN THE MISSIONS

## THE STORY OF SISTER CLOUDINA MUTIZIRA AND HER COLLABORATION WITH PMS

*Sister Cloudina Mutizira, a Zimbabwean Dominican Missionary Sister of the Sacred Heart of, is currently the Novice Directress of the International Novitiate of her Congregation in Zambia. She was kind enough to share her story with us, especially her much appreciated collaboration with the Pontifical Mission Societies.*

### **How was your vocation born?**

I come from a Catholic family and I was inspired by my Aunt who is also a religious sister with the Daughter of Calvary sisters. Whenever she came home for holiday's I would admire her and I was touched by the way she would teach us to how to pray, singing church songs also her uniform, that is her habit. Since then at the age of 10, I would always tell her that I would like to be a sister. But my aunt would tell me that I was still too young and that I needed to grow. So she suggested that I join when I finish secondary school. That answer, which she gave me stayed with me until I had done my Ordinary Level Examinations and by then I was 17 years old. She then gave me an address to apply to the Dominican Sisters, which I did.

### **What attracted you in particular to the Dominican Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to whom you have belonged since 1988?**

The Dominican Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is an International congregation with communities in six countries, that is England, Germany, Kenya, South America (Bogota), Zambia and Zimbabwe. I was attracted to the Dominican Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus by their way of life, how they preach the word of God to his people, their Charism, which is Evangelization, and their motto VERITAS, which is the Truth.. The Dominican Sisters preach the word of God through teaching in Schools, giving first priority to the girl child, teaching the deaf child, nursing and giving hope to the sick in hospitals and taking care of homeless children. The kind of Apostolate they do really touched my heart and I was inspired to become one of the teachers. In addition to that, I also liked the fact that we are an International congregation. I can be sent anywhere on mission wherever there is need.

### **You have taught in some of your schools, including one of the schools for the deaf. Is being a teacher a mission?**

Yes, I feel being a teacher is being on the mission of Christ. I say so because through my experience as a religious and as a teacher I do not just teach my subject, which I am specialized in, but I am there to impart Christian values to these young people, trying

to make a difference, teaching and preaching Christ to them so that they grow knowing Christ and his values. Adding on to that, when they leave our schools they become good Christian, good men and women, good fathers and mothers, good husband and wives, good religious and good citizens in the society. Christ is the TEACHER and I feel energized and full of zeal as I draw strength and learn from him each day as I carry on his mission of teaching.

### **Sr. Cloudina, you have held positions of responsibility in your congregation and you have also collaborated with the Pontifical Mission Societies. Can you tell us about it?**

Working and teaching at one of our schools, Emerald Hill School for the Deaf, was a time of fulfillment. It was a joy to see these children growing up to be big girls and boys who became responsible and able to look after themselves. But the real challenge was how to look after them financially, because these children came from very poor homes and

they could not manage to pay their fees. So the school ran practically on donations most of the time and the Pontifical Mission Societies were one of the donors (photos in the gallery). So I am grateful and would like to thank whole-heartedly the Pontifical Mission Societies who came to our aid and helped us with money to build a block of toilets when we were really stranded. May God bless their generosity!

### **What is your main commitment and your challenge today?**

My main commitment today is being the Directress of the novices of our International Novitiate here in Lusaka Zambia, Africa. At the present moment we have 15 Novices from three different countries: Kenya, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. I feel very happy to journey with these young women in their vocation to religious life. I thank Christ who is the FORMATOR, for all the graces he has bestowed on me to carry on teaching and walking with each one of these novices. It is not an easy responsibility; it has its joys and challenges. But with Jesus on my side I find joy in doing the work. The big challenge today is COVID – 19. Having a big group of young women living together like this, I need to make sure that they are safe, they have enough food, enough provision. So when I have to leave for a while, I am afraid and hope that I am not the one to bring COVID to them since I am the one who goes out mainly looking for all what is needed in the house. This Pandemic has affected our program. I cannot plan ahead but have to take each day as it comes. But on the whole, I trust in God that he will see us through as we keep on praying for the whole world suffering from this COVID.



*Sister Cloudina's Novices*

# A REPORT ON THE BEATIFICATION OF BLESSED PAULINE JARICOT

*By Courtney Mares  
Catholic News Agency  
Rome Newsroom, May 23, 2022 / 10:00 am*



*Photo: taken by Fr. Alex*

Nearly 12,000 people attended the beatification of Pauline Jaricot in Lyon, France, on Sunday.

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle presided over the beatification Mass in Lyon's exhibition hall on May 22, during which a relic of Jaricot's heart was carried in procession.

Tagle, the prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, praised Jaricot for her missionary zeal to bring Jesus' love to more people.

"We marvel at how docile Pauline Jaricot was to the Holy Spirit, who prompted her with new ideas and initiatives for spreading the Gospel and serving the poor," Tagle said.

Jaricot, who was a friend of St. John Vianney, founded the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in 1822 when she was in her early twenties. The association helped Catholics to assist the foreign missions through prayer and small donations.

She later founded the Association of the Living Rosary, which was a great success in France and soon spread beyond it.

"To love Jesus is to let him, who is the Word of God, live, act and love in me and through me," Tagle said in his homily, which he read in French.

"We see in Pauline Jaricot a living witness to the power of love for Jesus, a love that becomes an identification with Jesus."

## **The miracle**

Among those present at the live-streamed beatification ceremony were 13-year-old Mayline Tran and her family.

Tran experienced a medically inexplicable healing in 2012 at the

age of three that was deemed by a panel of experts to be a medical miracle attributed to Jaricot's intercession.

Tran had fallen into a coma after suffering from cardiac arrest. The oxygen supply had been cut off to her brain after the three-year-old choked on a small French sausage.

The Tran family, who were not originally from Lyon, had never heard of Pauline Jaricot. But parents at the girl's Catholic school, connected to Jaricot's Living Rosary group, organized a prayer novena with the participation of the entire school asking for Jaricot's intercession for her healing.

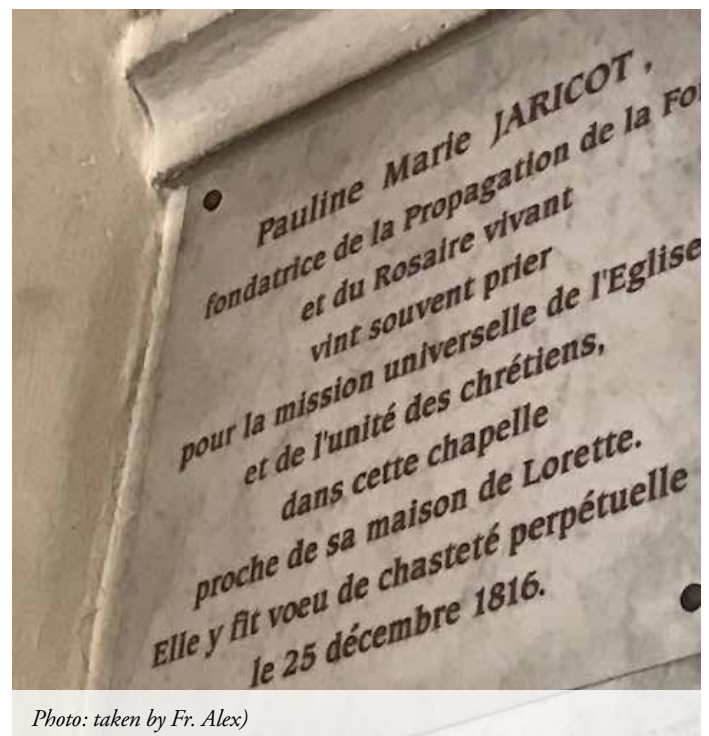
The girl made a complete medical recovery within months after doctors had informed the Tran family that their daughter had no chance of being able to walk or talk again.

"Miracles do exist and Mayline is living proof of it," Emmanuel Tran, her father, told the crowd before the Mass, according to the French daily newspaper Ouest-France.

## **An example of evangelization**

On the day of the beatification, Pope Francis praised Jaricot for her courage and vision regarding the Church's mission.

"May her example enkindle in everyone the desire to participate through prayer and charity in the spread of the Gospel throughout the world," the pope said from the window of the Vatican's apostolic palace at the end of his Regina Coeli address.



*Photo: taken by Fr. Alex)*

# PAULINE JARICOT IS BLESSED: “SHE LOVED CHRIST, LETTING HIM ACT THROUGH HER”

Lyon (Agenzia Fides) - Pauline Marie Jaricot (1799-1862), the citizen of Lyon, foundress of the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith, one of the four Pontifical Mission Societies (PMS), was proclaimed blessed yesterday, May 22, in a solemn Eucharistic celebration held at the Lyon Expo, an exhibition facility that welcomed more than 12 thousand faithful from all over the world. At the beatification ceremony, Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, who presided over the Eucharist together with more than 500 priests from five continents, told the faithful present: “Pauline Jaricot was a woman who loved Jesus Christ, letting Him, the Word of God, live, act and love in her and through her. We see in her a living testimony of the power of love for Jesus, a love that identifies with Jesus”. Cardinal Tagle, together with the Archbishop of Lyon, Olivier de Germany, welcomed the 120 national directors of the Pontifical Mission Societies who wanted to pay tribute to the foundress Jaricot during the annual General Assembly of the PMS in Lyon. All recognized the work of a woman who, in the course of a life always dedicated to evangelization, founded exactly 200 years ago a work that can be summed up in the motto, “a prayer and a penny for the missions”, and that was decisive for the growth and development of the particular Churches in Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania. Noting Jaricot’s extraordinary spiritual and missionary insights, the Cardinal added: “The Holy Spirit opens new paths, so that the Word and love of Jesus can reach more people. Pauline Jaricot was docile to the Holy Spirit who pushed her with new ideas and initiatives to spread the Gospel and serve the poor. In this she followed the great spiritual, missionary and social tradition of the Church of Lyon”. The local Catholic community, led by the Bishop of Germany, showed enthusiasm and emotion in welcoming the new blessed, “a contemplative and active woman at the same time”, remarked Msgr. de Germany, underlining that, stressing that, at the end of her life, as a rich woman she found herself poor, humiliated, forgotten by all and in conditions of poverty.

However, Cardinal Tagle recalled, Jaricot “accepted the loss of all things to gain Christ” (Phil 3,8), ending up in misery, having spent her life serving the poor and exploited, near and far. However, Pauline, at the foot of the cross, did not lose her peace of heart and hope in God: “Serving Jesus in the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, the imprisoned, leads to eternal beatitude. It is the peace of Jesus. The peace of Christ gave Pauline Jaricot serenity, patience and courage to face physical difficulties,



calumnies and humiliations”, recalled the Prefect of Propaganda Fide.

“The new blessed - he concluded – lived her love for Jesus, by being a missionary of the Church, a sister of the poor and an instrument of universal brotherhood”. During the celebration, the relic of Jaricot’s heart was brought to the altar, entrusted to the hands of a teenager, Mayline Tran, who ten years ago, when she was 3 years old, choked on a mouthful of food and ended up in a coma. After a chain of prayer and a novena of prayer to Pauline Jaricot, the doctors certified the girl’s extraordinary recovery. After the diocesan process and the subsequent examination by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, in 2020 Pope Francis recognized the miracle worked by God through the intercession of Venerable Pauline Jaricot, paving the way for her beatification. The entire city of Lyon celebrated and paid tribute to Jaricot, whom visitors and pilgrims can get to know better also thanks to the exhibition organized in the Basilica of Fourviere, which houses historical testimonies on her life and on the spiritual movement that she initiated. The exhibition of historical copies of the “Annals of the Propagation of the Faith” stands out in the exhibition, publications initiated by Jaricot with the aim of transmitting news of the missions to all the baptized and sensitizing them, so that they have the heart, the mind and open hands to support those who are committed to the proclamation of the Gospel to the ends of the earth. (PA) (Agenzia Fides, 23/5/2022)

[http://www.fides.org/en/news/72217-VATICAN\\_Pauline\\_Jaricot\\_is\\_blessed\\_She\\_loved\\_Christ\\_letting\\_Him\\_act\\_through\\_her](http://www.fides.org/en/news/72217-VATICAN_Pauline_Jaricot_is_blessed_She_loved_Christ_letting_Him_act_through_her)



# Seven ways to join the beatification of Pauline Jaricot

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Sunday May 22, Pauline Jaricot will be beatified during a mass celebrated at 3 p.m. at Lyon-Eurexpo, transformed for the occasion into a cathedral. It will be presided over by Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples. Here are seven ways to spiritually associate with the event.

No less than 13,000 people are expected in Lyon on May 22 to attend the beatification of Pauline Jaricot, a laywoman from Lyon, founder of the Work for the Propagation of the Faith, which will later become the Pontifical Mission Societies (OPM) at the request of Pope Pius IX in 1862. His canonization process was initiated by Pius XI in 1926, and resulted in the recognition of his heroic virtues by John XXIII in 1963. On May 27, 2020, the Congregation for the Causes of Saints announced the beatification of Pauline Jaricot after the attribution of a miracle, the healing of

Mayline Tran .

About fifty French bishops will be present on the day of his beatification, as well as 2,000 foreigners (the OPMs have about a hundred delegations abroad). If you cannot go there, it is nevertheless possible to unite in prayer at the mass which will make the “mother of the missions” Blessed Pauline Jaricot.

## **1 Praying nine days with Pauline Jaricot**

Pauline Jaricot's life finds its balance between action and prayer. “I am made to love and to act, my cloister is the world”, she liked to say when she testified to her vocation. A woman of action and devotion to the poorest, prayer nonetheless nourishes her daily life. Mgr. Georges Colomb, National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, said of her: “She is a subtle mix between Joan of Arc and little Thérèse, combatant and contemplative. Why not put yourself in her school by praying for nine days with her? The magazine *Magnificat* has just published a novena which proposes to explore, each day, an aspect of the spirituality of Pauline.

## **2 Discover the life of Pauline Jaricot**

To put yourself in her school, it is impossible to ignore the life that Pauline Jaricot led. A life marked by a dazzling conversion at the age of 17, following a sermon on vanity, and by his commitment to serving the poorest. Very early on, Pauline felt a call to alleviate the misery of the people around her, in particular that of the canuts, these workers specializing in the manufacture of silk, and multiplied the initiatives to come to their aid. The biographies of Catherine Masson (Cerf) are very complete. We will also quote the book of our columnist Henri Quantin, *Pauline Jaricot, marmiteuse de Dieu* (Cerf). Finally, for the youngest, two recent works retrace the life of Pauline: the comic book *Aimer et act* (Plein Vent) and the fictionalized biography *Lyonnaise with a small penny* (Pierre Téqui).

## **3 Immerse yourself in the writings of Pauline Jaricot**

Pauline wrote a lot, from her youth. Mame recently published her spiritual writings in the book *Infinite Love in the Divine Eucharist*. Meditations on the Eucharist that sound like a declara-

tion of love to Christ. She also reveals her missionary ardor in the work *Le Rosaire Vivant*, which brings together her meditations on the mysteries of the Rosary (Lethielleux).

#### **4 Make a gesture of charity**

One of Pauline's very first missions is to take small steps to help those most in need. She leaves aside jewelry and pomp to put on simpler clothes and goes to meet her father's workers. The misery of their condition touches her deeply. Through prayer and numerous gifts, she enables them to live with more dignity. A gesture in his homage on the occasion of his beatification could consist in making a gesture of charity oneself vis-à-vis one's neighbour, and in particular the poorest, the weakest, the most neglected.

#### **5 Go to a place that keeps its memory**

Why not make a pilgrimage in honor of Blessed Pauline, going to one of these places that preserve her memory? Born and died in Lyon, she rests today in the Saint-Nizier church, near the altar of the Virgin in the south transept, the very church where she experienced her conversion following the sermon on vanity. His heart is in the Saint-Polycarpe church in Lyon. It was in the chapel of Notre-Dame de Fourvière that she made a private vow of chastity



*In the footsteps of Pauline Jaricot: The Family Home of the Lyon Missionary.*

on Christmas Day 1816. Halfway up the hill, she founded the *Maison de Lorette*, a community of pious young girls, which today welcomes still have pilgrims from all over the world.

#### **6 Follow the beatification live**

You will have the opportunity to follow his beatification live from Lyon on KTO, Sunday May 22, at 3 p.m.

### **7 Recite the prayer to ask for a grace through the intercession of Pauline**

*Lord,  
you came to earth so that men  
have life and have it abundantly.*

*To this work which is yours, Pauline-Marie Jaricot gave herself entirely.  
She established the propagation of the faith  
for the multitudes who do not know Life, the Living Rosary  
for those who do not have it not in its abundance.*

*Blessed Pauline Jaricot,  
you who have dedicated your life to spreading  
the kingdom of Christ in serving God and men,  
intercede for us and may God deign  
to grant us the grace that we humbly ask.*

*Amen.*

*Photo: Gold Finch Eggs - Cedar Hedge Farm, Port Hope, ON*



# A View from the Pew...

## CELEBRATING THE PONTIFICAL SOCIETY OF SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE



By Lori Lisi

*Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.*

*When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “*

*The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” (Matt 9:35-38)*

As baptized Christians we are all called to be evangelists in our families and within our own communities, but not all of us become missionaries in the world at large. Evangelization happens organically in ‘our own backyard’; when we live as disciples of Jesus and share the good news, we invite others to become disciples, as well. Mission work requires that same sharing of good news and discipleship, but it requires the moving to, often, remote places and engaging in the culture and language of the indigenous people of those places, in order to share the good news with them and invite them to become evangelists within their own communities. The words of Pope Paul VI continue to remind us of the importance of missions, “they afford Christians to consider local evangelisation and distant evangelisation as integrated in the same missionary pastoral whose unique source is Christ”.

This is the mission of the Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle, which was established to support indigenous clergy, and continue to promote the awareness of the need to develop local clergy and consecrated life in recently founded missionary Churches. As with all other Pontifical Societies, the ultimate purpose is to evangelize. It does this by coordinating and bringing to life missionary collaboration through prayer, sacrifices and alms, in support of future priests, and men and women religious, and by collecting and distributing financial aid to support seminaries and novices, within their own communities.

As we celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Pontifical So-

cieties, which were founded in 1922, and the celebration of the beatification of Pauline Jaricot, foundress of the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of Faith, on May 20th, 2022, it is important to highlight the important role that women play in the propagation of our faith. Women have always held, and continue to hold, a significant place in mission work. Whether that role has been as women religious out in the world at large or as women religious in their local communities advocating for the missions abroad through prayer, sacrifice and almsgiving, women have been, and continue to be, instrumental in Christian evangelization.

The Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle was founded through the unwavering and steadfast support of Jeanne Bigard (nicknamed ‘iron head’ for her strength of will and steadfastness) and her mother; two women whose concern for indigenous clergy echoed those of Pope Leo XIII. Jeanne Bigard, born in Normandy on December 8th, 1859, devoted her life to working collaboratively with her mother and the Apostolic Society for world missions. They became involved, without restraint, in the work of The Fathers of the Society of Foreign Missions of Paris, who were on

mission in Manchuria, Korea and Japan. The Bigards provided financial aid and contributed to the construction of the church of St. Francis Xavier in Kyoto. The Bigards’ focus continued to be indigenous clergy, and their commitment developed into an organized movement, between 1889 and 1896, and consequently, The Society of St. Peter the Apostle was established. In 1895 the Society was granted apostolic blessings by the Pope.

The commissions of the Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle carry on today, and numerous projects have been successful because of the support and dedication of this society whose goal continues to be: to promote the awareness of the need to develop local clergy and consecrated life in recently founded missionary Churches and to support this with prayers, sacrifices and alms.

Together, all disciples of Jesus, are called to participate in supporting evangelization, near and far. Mission societies local and universal need everyone’s prayers, sacrifices and alms in order to bring people to Jesus. We are all missionary disciples and we are all connected to each other through the love of Jesus which lives within each of us. We share the good news of God’s love through the way we live our daily lives among our brothers and sisters, and through the missionary work for which we continue to offer ourselves. Evangelization is not the work of a few, but the work of ALL!





# Pontifical Society Of St. Peter Apostle

## Project Report : MEXICO

*New Philosophy Seminary - Diocese of Tarahumara*

The project includes two stages of construction, and the National Directorate of France has launched a special campaign for this project.

The new philosophy seminary that is hoped to be built is located in the diocese of Tarahumara, a poor and mountainous region inhabited by an indigenous people, the Tarahumara, in the State of Chihuahua in the North of Mexico.

The diocese gives great importance to the Tarahumara people's culture and wants the seminarians to carry out the first stages of their formation in close contact with their people's cultural and religious traditions. The local population has already offered the land and is willing to contribute the necessary labor force. The PSSPA wants to be the main financial backer and is looking for other bodies that can collaborate.

In 2019, PSSPA contributed to the training of 23 seminarians of the Diocese.

According to official statistics published by the Holy See in 2020, the Diocese of Tarahumara has a surface area of 31,354



km<sup>2</sup>, 202,637 inhabitants, 169,437 Catholics, 15 parishes, 5 churches/chapels, 17 diocesan priests, 19 religious priests, 4 seminarians, 12 religious brothers, 133 religious sisters, 13 schools, and 14 charitable institutions.

<https://www.ppoomm.va/en/i-progetti/tutti-i-progetti/progetti-2020/nuovo-seminario-filosofico-tarahumara-chihuahua-messico.html>

## Project Report : ZAMBIA

*Project for St. Augustine's Major Seminary Renovation of the Chapel - National Philosophical Seminary St. Augustine's, Mpima - Diocese of Kabwe*

This means that all diocesan priests receive their training in philosophical studies in this institute. The Seminary is situated about 15 kilometers from the centre of Kabwe town. St. Augustine's Major Seminary is situated within the ecclesiastical boundaries of the recently created Kabwe diocese.

This Major Seminary was established on 15 August, 1973. The structure used to be a Minor Seminary which was established in 1956. Thus, the buildings are old and require a lot of attention so as to respond to needs of a Major Seminary.

St. Augustine's Major Seminary offers a two-year Diploma program of Philosophical and Religious Studies. These studies lead to a four year degree study of Theology at the Theologicum - St. Dominic's Major Seminary. As a National Philosophical Seminary, it caters for all the Eleven (11) Arch/Dioceses in Zambia.

These are: Chipata, Kabwe, Kasama, Livingstone, Lusaka, Mansa, Monze, Mongu, Mpika, Ndola and Solwezi.



"We are grateful for the help you have given us. This has enabled us to do the works for which the monies were applied for.

Here are the pictures for the work that has been done, both for the renovation of the Chapel, and for the replacement of the asbestos water pipes in our seminary."

In 2019 the Society of St. Peter the Apostle contributed to the training of 90 seminarians and the support of 9 formators.

<https://www.ppoomm.va/en/i-progetti/tutti-i-progetti/progetti-2020/rinnovare-la-cappella-seminario-mpima.html>

# MARIA'S FAITH

## PONTIFICAL MISSIONARY UNION: CELEBRATING 150 ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF BLESSED PAOLO MANNA



By Maria Fornasier

The Pontifical Missionary Union, founded in 1916 by Blessed Paolo Manna, continues to be relevant and dynamic as it finds ways to support and expand its own work as well as that of the other three pontifical missions. Father Manna, who was born 150 years ago in Avellino near Naples, Italy, channelled his energy into the Missionary Union after spending

some years in Myanmar as a PIME (Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions) missionary. As stated by St. John Paul, Father Manna hoped that the Union would be an effective and collaborative way to include all Catholics in the importance of teaching and spreading the Catholic faith. He believed “that a mission-minded clergy would make all Catholics missionaries.” In other words, Father Manna’s goal was that the Union would work together with the other missions to make the Catholic Church – incorporating the individual diversity of all Catholics - known to all the world.

Initially, the Union was called The Missionary Union of the Clergy, but its purpose has expanded to not only educate and inform priests, but also Religious men and women, pastoral leaders and those responsible for catechesis and religious education. As a result, they can serve as role models to better motivate all Catholics to share their faith and to be missionaries themselves. The Union was given approval by various popes, including Pope Benedict XV, who, in 1919, encouraged its presence in every diocese, and Pope Pius XII, who designated it as a pontifical society in 1956.

The Missionary Union, which has centres in more than 120 countries around the world, works in close collaboration with the other three pontifical societies. For example, the present Secretary



Photo: <https://www.ppoomm.va/en/i-progetti/tutti-i-progetti/2021/loving-gaze-archdiocese-of-lagos.html>

General of the PMU, Father Dinh Anh Nhue Nguyen OFM, has announced that one of their joint goals is to gather and document in writing the lives and mission work of catechists working to teach the Catholic faith around the world. Earlier this year, at a gathering in the Netherlands, he stated that although “there are no easy answers or solutions,” to renewing and sustaining a sense of community and shared purpose, the Mission Societies can renew their missionary work in Europe, in small steps, with small groups guided by the Holy Spirit. Catholics are encouraged to follow the example set by Jesus’ disciples as they worked to emulate and fulfill his assignment for them: to spread the Word. Father Anh Nhue Nguyen affirmed that the Missionary Union operates from the understanding that mission work is the work of the Holy Spirit. As its instrument, Catholics speak with their hearts and the fire of the Holy Spirit. He reminded his audience that evangelization is the “essence of everyday life.”

Blessed Paolo Manna understood and appreciated the vital contribution made by women to the vocation of mission work: “If we admit the truth, we must confess that three-fourths of the

material support of the Catholic apostolate comes through the zeal of women. This apostolate of women began in the time of Our Lord” (P. Manna, The conversion of the pagan world. A Treatise upon Catholic Foreign Missions.) Through the evangelizing spirit and consistent hard work of devoted Catholics, including many women, the work of the Pontifical Missionary Union continues to thrive.



Photo: <https://www.ppoomm.va/en/i-progetti/tutti-i-progetti/2022/missionary-formation-youth-egypt.html>



# PONTIFICAL MISSIONARY UNION:

## Project Report : NIGERIA

*Improving the quality of catholic education among medical professionals, "LOVING GAZE", Catholic Archdiocese of Lagos*

The Pontifical Missionary Union (PMU) and Loving Gaze in collaboration with Catholic Archdiocese of Lagos Health Department (CALHD) provided support for this project.

Loving Gaze is an NGO with over 30 years of experience in Nigeria that serves unprivileged communities in Lagos and Taraba State.

The project aimed to revitalize the relevance of the human value, especially quality Catholic health care and supporting medical staff to rediscover the meaning of patients' care and reconnect with their original vocation, their responsibility towards the persons.

The first training, "Medical Work and the Person", was carried out on the 19th to 21st of November 2019. In attendance were 74 health providers (Medical Directors, Doctors, Nurses, Midwives, Health workers and Admin staff) from government, private and catholic health facilities. All participants represented a total of 24 hospitals. The attendants were taken on a journey to rediscover their mission and work ethics. As Medical professionals, the relationship with patients is a mystery, and the diseases of the people they encounter are a mirror that forces them to look at themselves. Everyone has an infinite value, which is given by virtue of being a human and God's creature and circumstances may not hinder a person's value.

The project also covered 4 quarterly meetings of the Catholic Clinics 'Heads' of the Archdiocesan Health Institution Management Committee (AHIMC) of Lagos State, with a total attendance of 155 persons. Dr Alda Gemmani, AHIMC member and Medical Director of St. Kizito Clinic, proposed at each meeting a reading from Pope Francis to improve awareness of the teaching and the love of the Catholic Church for each human being and each Catholic community in the world and to reawaken the pas-

sion for the Catholic mission of the hospitals.

At the 1st meeting held on 12th of November 2019, Dr Alda Gemmani also presented to the AHIMC Committee the Pontifical Mission Societies and the Extraordinary Missionary Month, the initiative officially proposed by the Holy Father Pope Francis for the month of October 2019 on the theme "Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World."

The 3rd meeting held in July 2020 was virtual due to the lockdown put in place to curtail the Coronavirus pandemic. Dr Alda Gemmani proposed summons and pictures of the "Extraordinary Moment of Prayer Presided over by Pope Francis - Sagrato of St Peter's Basilica, Friday, 27 March 2020" to help judging and facing the Coronavirus challenge according to the teaching of the Church.

In the 4th meeting which was held in November 2020, Rev Sr Theresa Afareha presented the Encyclical "Fratelli tutti."

The teaching of Pope Francis and the contributions helped all Clinics' leaders to rediscover their hospitals' Catholic identity and re-examine the adherence to the Catholic values.

The project offered the AHIMC members an extraordinary opportunity to improve awareness of the Catholic mission of the hospitals and the meaning of their Christian and medical vocation and to refocus their teams on the core of their mission, inspired by Pope Francis' words, "This is what you, Catholic doctors, try to affirm, first of all with your professionalism. Your work seeks to bear witness by word and deed that human life is always sacred, valuable, and sacrosanct. As such, it must be loved, defended, and cared for. Your professionalism, enriched with the spirit of faith, is a further reason to collaborate with those - even from different religious perspectives or thought - who recognize the dignity of the human person as a criterion for their activities." (Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to participants in the Commemorative Conference of the Italian Catholic Physicians' Association on the occasion of its 70th Anniversary of Foundation, 15 November 2014).

The formation project also included the Christian education of teenagers affected and infected by HIV/AIDS and helped the HIV positive women rediscover their uniqueness in the light of God's Gaze and their endless dignity and value, beyond their condition. It was a great opportunity for them to understand their value in a deeper way and positively deal with all the challenges they are going through. <https://www.ppoomm.va/en/i-progetti/tutti-i-progetti/2021/loving-gaze-archdiocese-of-lagos.html>





# PONTIFICAL MISSIONARY UNION:

## Project Report : EGYPT

“Together on our way to Emmaus”. Missionary Formation for Youth in Egypt

The PMS National Direction in Egypt with the support and collaboration of PMU organized a missionary formation course for about 100 young people in Egypt on the theme “Together in the Footsteps of Emmaus,” which took place from February 24 to 27, 2022 in Durunka, Diocese of Asyut.

On the first day, Fr. Andraws Fahmi, PMS National Director presented the Pontifical Mission Societies; then, Fr. Mettaos Adib, Director of the Catechetical Institute and parish priest of Asyut, explained the current challenges facing the mission today, starting from Christ’s mandate to the disciples, passing through the Second Vatican Council, up to the present day: spiritual life, economic life, mass media, divisions within Christianity, etc. Then, the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Nicolas Thevenin, spoke about the mission of the Church and the Pontifical Mission Societies. Finally, Brother Mina Anwar, a young Egyptian from the Comboni community shared his mission experiences in Zambia and Kenya.

On the second day, the presentation of Mgr. Thomas Habib,

Bishop of Sohag, spoke on the theme “Mission and Church at the time of Evangelii Gaudium” and opened the debate on the missionary situation in Egypt and the role of the local Church. Then, Fr. Pios Farag, Director of the Office for Human Development in Giza, illustrated the role of community sharing in missionary activity and the need for Christian morality in the encounter. The youth participated concretely in the catechetical activities of five parishes and visited the faithful in their homes.

On the third day with Mr. Roger Raaf, starting with a meditation on the account of the disciples of Emmaus, emphasized the importance of deep listening, the search for truth and the rediscovery of the richness of the other. Then, Fr. Emad Kamil illustrated the various motivations behind missionary activity: the spiritual motivation that results from the encounter with God in our neighbor; the joy and pleasure of living together; the happiness of moving forward together with our neighbor; and finally, the participation in Christ’s salvation through our neighbor.

<https://www.ppoomm.va/en/i-progetti/tutti-i-progetti/2022/missionary-formation-youth-egypt.html>



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# Message From The Editor

## CELEBRATING THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE MISSIONS



Needless to say, the Beatification of Pauline Jaricot on May 22, 2022, is a special celebration for all of us involved with the Pontifical Mission Societies. One of the interesting features of this celebration is that it provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the role of women

in the missions. The Catholic Church, by its very nature and purpose, is mission oriented. The Church exists to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to all the world. From its very beginning, moreover, women have played a crucial role in spreading the Gospel message. From the very first moment that the women returned from the empty tomb and proclaimed to the disciples that Jesus was risen, women have played a significant role in the work of evangelization. Mary Magdalene has become known as the Apostle to the Apostles precisely because she was the first to have believed in the resurrection of Jesus and, not being able to contain her joy, shared it with all those who had followed Jesus from Galilee. St. Paul also worked along side various women, such as Priscilla (Acts 18), to bring the message of Jesus to the Gentiles. Many women gave their lives as martyrs of the faith to witness to the message of the Gospel. Throughout the history of the Catholic Church, religious sisters have traversed the globe, courageously enduring all sorts of dangers and suffering, to bring the Gospel message to others. Yes, indeed, the work of the missions has always included women in many and varied ways, including positions of leadership.

The Beatification of Pauline Jaricot, therefore, is not only the celebration of one woman's accomplishments in the work of the

missions. It is a celebration of all women who have given their talents to spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. There have been outstanding women who have taught in the missions, provided health care, and helped communities grow food. Pauline's beatification is also a reminder that specifically lay women have had a significant role in the missions. Lay women have also been involved, whether at home or abroad, with the Church's primary purpose of spreading the Gospel. As we celebrate the beatification of Pauline Jaricot, let us pray in gratitude for all the contributions that all women have made in bringing God's message of love to the world.

Finally, as those who know the story of Pauline Jaricot, she never travelled far from her native city of Lyons, where her beatification was held. Indeed, much like St. Therese of Lisieux, one of the patron saints of the missions, she never did any missionary work herself. But arguably, only a handful of others, man or women, have had a greater impact on the missions than Pauline Jaricot. Due to her vision of creating a society that would support the work of the



*Photo: taken by Fr. Alex*

missions, for 150 years, the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith has impacted the work of the missions in any number of positive ways. Pauline is a reminder that not everyone is called to travel to far off destinations to engage in the missionary work of the Church. Women have been contributing to the work of the missions through their words at the kitchen table, by digging into their wallets, and by going down on bended knee. The impact of these small acts, as were Blessed Pauline's contribu-

tions, is immeasurable.

In these days of celebration for the Pontifical Mission Societies, let us be particularly mindful of the role of women in the missions and celebrate their contributions.

## In Remembrance

### Our Deceased Donors

Please remember in your prayers the recently deceased members of the Pontifical Mission Societies:

**Mr. & Mrs. Campbell, Joe & Rosemary** Saskatoon, Sk  
**Mr. Freel, Gerard**..... Toronto, On  
**Fr. Macneil, Hughie** ..... Red Point, Ns

**Mr. Pelletier, Neil** ..... Elkford, Bc  
**Mr. Samko, John P.**..... Petrolia, On  
**Ms. Taylor, Frances** ..... Binbrook, On



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- Immediate and long-term tax benefits
- Premium rates

## ANNUITY RATES CURRENTLY OFFERED

Age	Male	Female
65	4.22%	3.88%
70	4.86%	4.45%
75	5.77%	5.33%
80	6.68%	6.30%
85	7.74%	7.50%
90	9.22%	9.03%
93+	10.00%	10.00%

Rates posted as of April 22, 2021

For a personal consultation,  
brochure or further  
information please call:

**416 699 7077**

-or-

**1 800 897 8865**



**Society for the Propagation  
of the Faith**

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