

**Come! Make Mission a Movement!**



St John the Evangelist

**Feast Day: 27<sup>th</sup> December**

**O Glorious Saint John, you were so loved by Jesus that you merited to rest your head upon His breast, and to be left in His place as a son to Mary. Obtain for me an ardent love for Jesus and Mary. Let me be united with them now on earth and forever in heaven. Amen.**

**Are you longing for a VIBRANT CHURCH that responds to the call of the Universal Mission to take the GOOD NEWS to all people, everywhere? Join us!**

**The Pontifical Mission Organization (PMO) in India collaborates with the local Church to enhance passionate participation in achieving goals and objectives of the 4 Pontifical Mission Societies:**

- (1) Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith**
- (2) Pontifical Society of St Peter the Apostle**
- (3) Pontifical Society of Missionary Childhood Associations**
- (4) Pontifical Missionary Union of Priests and Religious**

**For more information contact us at:**

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# PROCLAIM

A magazine for Missionary Animation



**Jesus is the human face of God and  
the divine face of man – St John Paul II**

**"Go into the whole world and PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS to all creation" Mark 16:15**

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**THANK YOU!**

**With gratitude, we  
warmly acknowledge  
your whole-hearted  
participation in  
MISSION SUNDAY  
2018!**

**— Pontifical Mission  
Organization  
INDIA**

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

### Uniqueness and Mission

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

With immense gratitude to God and to the Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples for entrusting me with the office of the PMO, I take up this mission for the glory of Christ and His Church.

God's creation is so unparalleled that every one of his creatures, apart from the commonality they share, is so distinct and unique. I believe that the uniqueness of every person is God's gift to the world. The unique contribution of each individual to the society and the Church is the return gift to God. With a grateful heart, I acknowledge the extraordinary contributions of Rev Fr Faustine L Lobo for the past seven years as the director of PMO for the missions in India. I am determined, by the Grace of God, to continue to do the same to the best of my ability.



The celebration of the “All Saints Day” on 1st November is the attestation that the unique contribution of every saint for the church through his/her witnessing life is well remembered and acknowledged by the Church. This solemnity also offers us the invitation to contribute to the mission of the Church by one's witnessing life, however little it may be in the grandeur of the Church.

The All Souls Day which is commemorated on 2 November reminds us that the unique life of every individual comes to an end with the facticity of death. While we are reminded to pray for all the deceased members of the Church and for our own family, we are also invited to lead a meaningful and a significant life in this world as a witnessing missionary in the only life that we are gifted with.

The inspiration for any missionary is St Francis Xavier whose feast we celebrate on 3 December. He came to a foreign land without being aware of the cultural complexities and intolerable hot weather. He came to India with a mere zeal for the Gospel. His life attests to the fact that God's plan is inexplicable. We would not have had St Francis Xavier in India, had not one of the two actually chosen priests fell sick. St Francis thus was named by St Ignatius to substitute for the one. The substitute became the central missionary to the Indian sub-continent. He worked not only in India but also in Malaysia and Japan, and in 1927 was named Patron of Missions. He is our inspiration. God's ways are mysterious, and we are asked to respond to that mystery with our missionary zeal. Our loving Pope prompts us all, especially the youth, reflect over this existential and experiential task: What would Christ do if he were in my place?

The Christmas is yet another occasion to think of the unique love and the mission of God. The incarnation of the Lord is the surest sign, not only of God's love for humanity, but also of the necessity of being a missionary. God was on a mission to this world to proclaim His abounding love and fidelity. The celebration of Christmas indicates that this is the uniqueness of Christianity that God as Emmanuel lives amidst us as a human face of God and the divine face of human being.

As we close this year, let us cherish the gift of life that God has given us and do our best to reciprocate His love by being heralds of His Gospel. May God-Emmanuel be with us to guide us with His abiding presence also in the year to come!

Merry Christmas and a Hope-Filled New Year to you!

**Fr Dr Ambrose Pitchaimuthu**  
**National Director, PMO - India**