

Vol 39, No. 5

September - October 2016

# PROCLAIM

A magazine for Missionary Animation



**Are you on a Mission of Mercy this  
MISSION SUNDAY?**

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

**Wish to participate in PROCLAIMING the GOOD NEWS?**

# **WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

**16 Oct 2016**

**"Whom shall I send?"**

**"Here I am Lord" - Isaiah 6:8**



**"Missionary Church - witness of mercy" - Pope Francis**



**National Director - PONTIFICAL MISSION ORGANIZATION (INDIA)**

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## **MISSION SUNDAY**

*"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back." - Luke 6:38*



**This is my contribution to help  
proclaim the GOOD NEWS**

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

# PROCLAIM

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# Contents—————(with Page Number)

- **From the DIRECTOR'S DESK** —————(2)
- **Witnessing God's merciful love**—————(3)  
*World Mission Sunday*
- **Jesus wants to stay in your house today**————(5)  
*World Youth Day*
- **Sacrament of CONFIRMATION – 3** —————(8)  
*Rite of Confirmation*
- **World Youth Day**————— (11)
- **SAINT OF THE MONTH**  
**Blessed Frederic Ozanam**—————(15)  
*Feast Day: 9<sup>th</sup> September*  
**St Theodora Guerin**—————(17)  
*Feast Day: 3<sup>rd</sup> October*
- **Bible Quiz 30** —————(19)
- **Bible Crossword No. 4**—————(21)
- **STORY CORNER**  
*Story :A gangster's journey to sainthood* ———(23)
- **NEWS ROUND-UP** —————(25)  
*PMO News*

**And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my  
spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for He has looked  
with favour on the lowliness of His servant..."**

**—Luke 1: 46-48**



## **Missionary Church – the Witness of Mercy**

We are in the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of celebrating the Mission Sunday first approved by Pope Pius XI in 1926. Incidentally, this is also the Jubilee Year of Mercy. In his address at the audience to the National Directors at the Clement Hall in the Vatican, Pope Francis said, “Missionary Church is the witness of mercy”. How beautifully the pope explains the missionary task. Mission is nothing but life of mercy. ‘Mercy is the face of God’ he says. If at all we are up to revealing the face of God to the world then it should be through acts of mercy. Further, in the message for the Mission Sunday, the Holy Father says, “When mercy encounters a person, it brings deep joy to the Father’s heart for from the beginning the Father has lovingly turned towards the most vulnerable, because his greatness and power are revealed precisely in his capacity to identify with the young and the marginalized and the oppressed.” (Cf. Deut 4.31; Ps 86.15; 103.8; 111.4)



A missionary is an ambassador of mercy. The Word of God is made known to those who do not know Jesus through the merciful acts of love. Bl Pope Paul VI in *Evangelii Nuntiandi* says, “Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.” (EN 41) The Word of God is received by the listeners not from our preaching but by the life that is based on the Gospel. Our life must be the medium of revelation. The listener always has a question in mind, “Whether what is heard is practical?” Our witness or example makes it easy for the listener to accept the Word of God because we prove to them what we preach is practical and useful. Albert Schweitzer says, “Example is not the main thing influencing others, but it is the only thing.”

We in the Pontifical Mission Organization have selected these very words of the Pope as the theme for the Mission Sunday 2016 – *Missionary Church, the witness of Mercy*. Shall we, therefore, promote missionary zeal among all the faithful on the occasion of the Mission Sunday as being ‘Witnesses to Mercy’? Being missionary is the mandate for all the followers of Christ and it is possible for all --- the Clergy, the Religious and the Lay Faithful --- through the life of mercy to proclaim Christ to the world. Let us shed that traditional image that we have in mind that being missionary missionary going to remote parts of the world and preaching the Good News by words. There is mission in my own backyard. We are revealing the Good News through our life and actions louder than through our words in our own living surroundings. Around me there are those who do not know Christ, there are those who know and want to know more, and there are those who have rejected Christ. To all these we have to preach the Good News through our witness.

One such witnessing is required at home. Home is the first and the best place of evangelization. Our little one’s are to be evangelized properly. To foster the spirit of mission among the children, we ought to give befitting witness in our lives. Parents and the siblings ought to give a wonderful example of living the Gospel in life. May this Mission Sunday be beautiful and special to every one – to the evangelizer and to the evangelized.

**Fr. Faustine L Lobo**  
**National Director (PMO-India)**

## Witnessing God's merciful love

Pope Francis' message for World Mission Sunday 2016

The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which the Church is celebrating, casts a distinct light on World Mission Sunday 2016: it invites us to consider the *missio ad gentes* as a great, immense work of mercy, both spiritual and material. On this World Mission Sunday, all of us are invited to "go out" as missionary disciples, each generously offering their talents, creativity, wisdom and experience in order to bring the message of God's tenderness and compassion to the entire human family. By virtue of the missionary mandate, the Church cares for those who do not know the Gospel, because she wants everyone to be saved and to experience the Lord's love. She "is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel" (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 12) and to proclaim mercy in every corner of the world, reaching every person, young or old.



When mercy encounters a person, it brings deep joy to the Father's heart; for from the beginning the Father has lovingly turned towards the most vulnerable, because his greatness and power are revealed precisely in his capacity to identify with the young, the marginalized and the oppressed (cf. *Deut* 4:31; *Ps* 86:15; 103:8; 111:4). He is a kind, caring and faithful God who is close to those in need, especially the poor; he involves himself tenderly in human reality just as a father and mother do in the lives of their children (cf. *Jer* 31:20). When speaking of the womb, the Bible uses the word that signifies mercy: therefore it refers to the love of a mother for her children, whom she will always love, in every circumstance and regardless of what happens, because they are the fruit of her womb. This is also an essential aspect of the love that God has for all his children, whom he created and whom he wants to raise and educate; in the face of their weaknesses and infidelity, his heart is overcome with compassion (cf. *Hos* 11:8). He is merciful towards all; his love is for all people and his compassion extends to all creatures (cf. *Ps* 144:8-9).

Mercy finds its most noble and complete expression in the Incarnate Word. Jesus reveals the face of the Father who is rich in mercy; he "speaks of [mercy] and explains it by the use of comparisons and parables, but above all he himself makes it incarnate and personifies it" (John Paul II, *Dives in Misericordia*, 2). When we welcome and follow Jesus by means of the Gospel and sacraments, we can,

with the help of the Holy Spirit, become merciful as our heavenly Father is merciful; we can learn to love as he loves us and make of our lives a free gift, a sign of his goodness (cf. *Misericordiae Vultus*, 3). The Church, in the midst of humanity, is first of all the community that lives by the mercy of Christ: she senses his gaze and feels he has chosen her with his merciful love. It is through this love that the Church discovers its mandate, lives it and makes it known to all peoples through a respectful dialogue with every culture and religious belief.

This merciful love, as in the early days of the Church, is witnessed to by many men and women of every age and condition. The considerable and growing presence of women in the missionary world, working alongside their male counterparts, is a significant sign of God's maternal love. Women, lay and religious, and today even many families, carry out their missionary vocation in various forms: from announcing the Gospel to charitable service. Together with the evangelizing and sacramental work of missionaries, women and families often more adequately understand people's problems and know how to deal with them in an appropriate and, at times, fresh way: in caring for life, with a strong focus on people rather than structures, and by allocating human and spiritual resources towards the building of good relations, harmony, peace, solidarity, dialogue, cooperation and fraternity, both among individuals and in social and cultural life, in particular through care for the poor.

In many places evangelization begins with education, to which missionary work dedicates much time and effort, like the merciful vine-dresser of the Gospel (cf. *Lk* 13:7-9; *Jn* 15:1), patiently waiting for fruit after years of slow cultivation; in this way they bring forth a new people able to evangelize, who will take the Gospel to those places where it otherwise would not have been thought possible. The Church can also be defined as "mother" for those who will one day have faith in Christ. I hope, therefore, that the holy people of God will continue to exercise this maternal service of mercy, which helps those who do not yet know the Lord to encounter and love him. Faith is God's gift and not the result of proselytizing; rather it grows thanks to the faith and charity of evangelizers who witness to Christ. As they travel through the streets of the world, the disciples of Jesus need to have a love without limits, the same measure of love that our Lord has for all people. We proclaim the most beautiful and greatest gifts that he has given us: his life and his love.



All peoples and cultures have the right to receive the message of salvation which is God's gift to every person. This is all the more necessary when we consider how many injustices, wars, and humanitarian crises still need resolution. Missionaries know from experience that the Gospel of forgiveness and mercy can bring joy and reconciliation, justice and peace. The mandate of the Gospel to

...Continued on Page 10



[Here is a Vatican translation of the text of Pope Francis' prepared homily at the closing Mass he celebrated at Campus Misericordiae in Krakow on the occasion of World Youth Day]

Dear young people, you have come to Krakow to meet Jesus. Today's Gospel speaks to us of just such a meeting between Jesus and a man named Zacchaeus, in Jericho (cf. Lk 19:1-10). There Jesus does not simply preach or greet people; as the Evangelist tells us, he *passed through* the city (v. 1). In other words, Jesus wants to draw near to us personally, to accompany our journey to its end, so that his life and our life can truly meet.

An amazing encounter then takes place, with Zacchaeus, the chief “publican” or tax collector. Zacchaeus was thus a wealthy collaborator of the hated Roman occupiers, someone who exploited his own people, someone who, because of his ill repute, could not even approach the Master. His encounter with Jesus changed his life, just as it has changed, and can daily still change, each of our lives.

But Zacchaeus had to face *a number of obstacles* in order to meet Jesus. *At least three of these* can also say something to us.

The *first obstacle* is *smallness of stature*. Zacchaeus couldn't see the Master because he was little. Even today we can risk not getting close to Jesus because we don't feel big enough, because we don't think ourselves worthy. This is a great temptation; it has to do not only with self-esteem, but with faith itself. For faith tells us that we are “children of God... that is what we are” (1 Jn 3:1)....

That is our real “stature”, our spiritual identity: we are God's beloved children.... So you can see that not to accept ourselves, to live glumly, to be negative, means not to recognize our deepest identity. It is like walking away when God wants to look at me, trying to spoil his dream for me. God loves us the way we are, and no sin, fault or mistake



of ours makes him change his mind. As far as Jesus is concerned – as the Gospel shows – no one is unworthy of, or far from, his thoughts. No one is insignificant. He loves all of us with a special love; for him all of us are important: *you* are important! God counts on you for what you are, not for what you possess. In his eyes the clothes you wear or the kind of cell phone you use are of absolutely no concern. He doesn't care whether you are stylish or not; he cares about you! In his eyes, you are precious, and your value is inestimable.

At times in our lives, we aim lower rather than higher. At those times, it is good to realize that God remains faithful, even obstinate, in his love for us. The fact is, he loves us even more than we love ourselves. He believes in us even more than we believe in ourselves. He is always “cheering us on”; he is our biggest fan. He is there for us, waiting with patience and hope, even when we turn in on ourselves and brood over our troubles and past injuries. But such brooding is unworthy of our spiritual stature! It is a kind of *virus* infecting and blocking everything; it closes doors and prevents us from getting up and starting over. God, on the other hand, is hopelessly hopeful! He believes that

we can always get up, and he hates to see us glum and gloomy.

Because we are always his beloved sons and daughters. Let us be mindful of this at the dawn of each new day. It will do us good to pray every morning: “Lord, I thank you for loving me; help me to be in love with my own life!” Not with my faults, that need to be corrected, but with life itself, which is a great gift, for it is a time to love and to be loved.

Zacchaeus faced a *second* obstacle in meeting Jesus: *the paralysis of shame*. We can imagine what was going on in his heart before he climbed that sycamore. It must have been quite a struggle – on the one hand, a healthy curiosity and desire to know Jesus; on the other, the risk of appearing completely ridiculous. Zacchaeus was public figure, a man of power. He knew that, in trying to climb that tree, he would have become a laughingstock to all. Yet he mastered his shame, because the attraction of Jesus was more powerful. You know what happens when someone is so attractive that we fall in love with them: we end up ready to do things we would never have even thought of doing. Something similar took place in the heart of Zacchaeus, when he realized that Jesus was so important that he would do anything for him, since Jesus alone could pull him out of the mire of sin and discontent. The paralysis of shame did not have the upper hand. The Gospel tells us that Zacchaeus “ran ahead”, “climbed” the tree,



and then, when Jesus called him, he “hurried down” (vv. 4, 6). He took a risk, he put his life on the line. For us too, this is the secret of joy: not to stifle a healthy curiosity, but to take a risk, because life is not meant to be tucked away. When it comes to Jesus, we cannot sit around waiting with arms folded; he offers us life – we can't respond by thinking about it or “texting” a few words.

Dear young friends, don't be ashamed to bring everything to the Lord in confession, especially your weaknesses, your struggles and your sins. He will surprise you with his forgiveness and his peace. Don't be afraid to say “yes” to him with all your heart, to respond generously and to follow him! Don't let your soul grow numb, but aim for the goal of a beautiful love which also demands sacrifice. Say a firm “no” to the narcotic of success at any cost and the sedative of worrying only about yourself and your own comfort.

After his small stature and the paralysis of shame, there was a *third* obstacle that Zacchaeus had to face. It was no longer an interior one, but was all around him. It was the *grumbling of the crowd*, who first blocked him and then criticized him: How could Jesus have entered his house, the house of a sinner! How truly hard it is to welcome Jesus, how hard it is to accept a “God who is rich in mercy” (Eph 2:4)! People will try to block you, to make you think that God is distant, rigid and insensitive, good to the good and bad to the bad.





Ins

stead, our heavenly Father “makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good” (*Mt* 5:45). He demands of us real courage: the courage to be *more powerful than evil* by loving everyone, even our enemies. People may laugh at you because you believe in the gentle and unassuming power of mercy. But do not be afraid. Think of the motto of these days: “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy” (*Mt* 5:7). People may judge you to be dreamers, because you believe in a new humanity, one that rejects hatred between peoples, one that refuses to see borders as barriers and can cherish its own traditions without being self-centred or small-minded. Don’t be discouraged: with a smile and open arms, you proclaim hope and you are a blessing for our one human family, which here you represent so beautifully!

That day the crowd judged Zacchaeus; they looked him over, up and down. But Jesus did otherwise: he gazed up at him (v. 5). Jesus looks beyond the faults and sees the person. He does not halt before bygone evil, but sees future good. His gaze remains constant, even when it is not met; it seeks the way of unity and communion. In no case does it halt at appearances, but looks to the heart. With this gaze of Jesus, you can help bring about another humanity, without looking for acknowledgement but seeking goodness for its own sake, content to maintain a pure heart and to fight peaceably for honesty and justice. Don’t stop at the surface of things; distrust the worldly cult of appearances, cosmetic attempts to improve our

looks. Instead, “download” the best “link” of all, that of a heart which sees and transmits goodness without growing weary. The joy that you have freely received from God, freely give away (cf. *Mt* 10:8): so many people are waiting for it!

Finally let us listen to the words that Jesus spoke to Zacchaeus, which seem meant for us today: “Come down, for I must stay at your house today” (v. 5). Jesus extends the same invitation to you: “I must stay at your house today”. We can say that World Youth Day *begins today and continues tomorrow, in your homes*, since that is where Jesus wants to meet you from now on. The Lord doesn’t want to remain in this beautiful city, or in cherished memories alone. He wants to enter your homes, to dwell in your daily lives: in your studies, your first years of work, your friendships and affections, your hopes and dreams. How greatly he desires that you bring all this to him in prayer! How much he hopes that, in all the “contacts” and “chats” of each day, pride of place be given to the golden thread of prayer! How much he wants his word to be able to speak to you day after day, so that you can make his Gospel your own, so that it can serve as a compass for you on the highways of life! In asking to come to your house, Jesus *calls you*, as he did Zacchaeus, *by name*. Your name is precious to him. The name “Zacchaeus” would have made people back then think of the *remembrance of God*. Trust the memory of God: his memory is not a “hard disk” that “saves” and “archives” all our data, but a heart filled with tender compassion, one that finds joy in “erasing” in us every trace of evil. May we too now try to imitate the faithful memory of God and treasure the good things we have received in these days. In silence, let us remember this encounter, let us preserve the memory of the presence of God and his word, and let us listen once more to the voice of Jesus as he calls us by name. So let us now pray silently, remembering and thanking the Lord who wanted us to be here and has come here to meet us. ♦

## **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION – III**

### **Rite of Confirmation**

**By Fr Dr S Joseph Lionel**

Through the Sacrament of Confirmation the apostles and the bishops, who are their successors, hand on to the baptized the special gift of the Holy Spirit, promised by Jesus Christ (Jn 14:16, 15:26) and poured out upon the apostles at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4). In Confirmation, the initiation in the Christian life is completed so that believers may carry out their mission to bear witness for Christ in word and deed, and bound more closely to the Church, the Body of Christ. In order to fulfill this mission, believers are strengthened by the power from heaven (Lk 24:49, Acts 1:8).

Ordinarily, administration of Confirmation takes place within Mass. However, in some other special circumstances Confirmation is given outside Mass --- eg: when the candidates for Confirmation are children who have not received first holy communion or the children are not accepted for first holy communion at this celebration; or any other special circumstances.

#### **Rite of Confirmation within Mass**

The Church teaches us about the dignity of this Sacrament of Confirmation as great feast of Pentecost in the life of believers. Therefore, the celebration should reflect that dignity of the sacrament with an orderly entrance procession accompanied by suitable hymn, seating arrangement for the candidates to be confirmed, setting the sanctuary with appropriate decorations and seating for the concelebrating priests, and everything that is required (e.g.: oil, cotton, hosts) for an orderly and meaningful celebration of the liturgy. It would be more appropriate if the candidates receiving Confirmation join the

entrance procession, if orderliness can be ensured. However, if the number is more, then they need not join the procession and stay in the place designated for them.



Normally, red or white vestments are worn by the bishop and priests for the celebration of Confirmation. The Mass begins as usual. The introduction may draw attention to the significance of the Sacrament of Confirmation..

The Rite exhorts that great importance be given to the word of God that introduces the rite. Through this hearing of his word, God's will is made known in the life of Christians. The Lectionary and the Rite give several choices of reading. Before the Mass, appropriate readings should be chosen and practiced by those who are assigned to read them. Enthronement of the Book of the Gospel as per the norms given in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM 60) may

take place in order to highlight the words of Christ promising the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

After the gospel the bishop and the priests take their seats. The parish priest or another priest, deacon, or catechist presents the candidates for Confirmation according to the local custom and circumstance. Each

candidate is called by name and he/she comes to the sanctuary accompanied by their sponsors or parents. However, if there are several candidates they are not called by name, but they take their suitable place before the bishop. Then the bishop gives homily. He explains the biblical readings in order to lead the candidates, their sponsors and parents, and the entire assembly to a deeper understanding of the mystery of Confirmation.

After the homily, the bishop invites the candidates to renew their Baptismal promises and make profession of faith. In the Roman rite this is done in the form of question and answer. The candidates stand and respond to the questions asked by the bishop by saying “I do.” After the renewal of Baptismal promises, the next element is Laying-On of Hands. After a short introductory prayer by the bishop everyone prays in silence for a short time. Then, the bishop and the priest who will minister the sacrament together with bishop will extend their hands over the candidates. The bishop alone says or sings the prayer.

Then, the bishop sits and the candidates come before him in an orderly manner. The bishop dips his right thumb in the chrism and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the one to be confirmed as he says: “(Name), be sealed with the



gift of the Holy Spirit” for which the candidate responds “Amen.” Then, bishop says, “Peace be with you” for which the candidate responds, ‘And with your spirit.’ If the priests assist the bishop in conferring the sacrament, they receive the container with chrism oil from the hands of the bishop. This

action acknowledges that the bishop is the ordinary minister of the sacrament of Confirmation.

After the congregation listens to three or four candidates being confirmed, a suitable song may be sung.

After the anointing and washing the hands of bishop and priests who did the anointing, the next element is general intercession. While the general intercession has the same structure as any other Mass, on the occasion of Confirmation the intercessions should include a prayer for the Church to witness for Christ; for pope, bishops and unity of faith; for the parents and sponsors; the candidates being confirmed; and for all people that they may experience peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

The Creed is omitted since the renewal of Baptismal promises has already taken place.

After the intercession, the liturgy of the Eucharist begins. The confirmed candidates may join those who bring the gifts of bread and wine to the altar. The Mass is celebrated in a usual way. If the first Eucharist Prayer is used, there is a special form to be inserted at the appropriate place as indicated in the rubrics. At the time of communion, the confirmed and their parents and sponsors may receive communion under both species. After the

Post-Communion prayer there are two ways to end the Mass. The first option is that there is a provision for Prayer Over the People and then give final blessing followed by the rite of dismissal. The second option is that instead of usual blessing at the end of the Mass, a solemn blessing may be given followed by the rite of dismissal..

### **Rite of Confirmation Outside Mass**

Even in the celebration of Confirmation outside Mass, the word of God should be given importance. After the introductory greetings, bishop says the opening prayer followed by the celebration of the word of God. The same readings assigned for Confirmation within Mass may be used. The usual structure is to be maintained: that

is, OT reading, responsorial psalm, the NT writings, and then gospel. After the gospel the structure of various rites till the general intercession are the same as the celebration of Confirmation within Mass, that is, Presentation of the candidate; Homily or instruction; Renewal of Baptismal promises; Laying-on of hands; Anointing with chrism; and General intercession. The general intercession is followed by the recitation of the Lord's Prayer after a brief introduction by bishop. After the recitation of the Lord's Prayer, the bishop blesses everyone like he does for the celebration within Mass. Here too, he can say the prayer Over the People or give solemn blessing.♦

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#### *Continued from Page 4: Witnessing God's Merciful Love*

go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Mt 28:19-20) has not ceased; rather this command commits all of us, in the current landscape with all its challenges, to hear the call to a renewed missionary "impulse", as I noted in my Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*: "Each Christian and every community must discern the path that the Lord points out, but all of us are asked to obey his call to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the 'peripheries' in need of the light of the Gospel" (20).

This Jubilee year marks the 90th anniversary of World Missionary Day, first approved by Pope Pius XI in 1926 and organized by the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith. It is appropriate then to recall the wise

instructions of my Predecessors who ordered that to this Society be destined all the offerings collected in every diocese, parish, religious community, association and ecclesial movement throughout the world for the care of Christian communities in need and for supporting the proclamation of the Gospel even to the ends of the earth. Today too we believe in this sign of missionary ecclesial communion. Let us not close our hearts within our own particular concerns, but let us open them to all of humanity.

May Holy Mary, sublime icon of redeemed humanity, model of missionaries for the Church, teach all men, women and families, to foster and safeguard the living and mysterious presence of the Risen Lord in every place, he who renews personal relationships, cultures and peoples, and who fills all with joyful mercy.♦

# WORLD YOUTH DAY

## 01. If we do not serve, we deny Christ: Pope

Pope Francis gave a solemn address on 29 July in Krakow after an artistic and musical presentation of the Via Crucis, in which the 14 stations of Christ's Passion were linked to the 14 corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

“Where is God?” Where is God, if evil is present in our world, if there are men and women who are hungry and thirsty, homeless, exiles and refugees? Where is God, when innocent persons die as a result of violence, terrorism and war? Where is God, when cruel diseases break the bonds of life and affection? Or when children are exploited and demeaned, and they too suffer from grave illness? Where is God, amid the anguish of those who doubt and are troubled in spirit?,” the Pope asked the thousands of young people in Krakow for World Youth Day, acknowledging that these are the questions that come to our hearts.

“These are questions that humanly speaking have no answer,” he said.

But Jesus' answer is “‘God is in them.’ Jesus is in them; he suffers in them and deeply identifies with each of them,” the Pontiff reflected. “He is so closely united to them as to form with them, as it were, ‘one body.’”

Dying on the cross, Francis said, Jesus took “upon himself and in himself, with self-sacrificing love, the physical, moral and spiritual wounds of all humanity.”

The Way of the Cross prayed by the youth, the Pope continued, emphasized the importance of imitating Jesus with the works of mercy.

In one of the most emphatic moments of his address, he reminded that Christians must follow this way. “In welcoming the outcast who suffer physically and welcoming sinners who suffer spiritually, our credibility as Christians is at stake.”

“Unless those who call themselves Christians live to serve, their lives serve no good purpose. By their lives, they deny Jesus Christ,” he said.

The Pope asked the young people to answer Jesus' call to commit themselves to a life of service.

“To enable you to carry out this mission, [Jesus] shows you the way of personal commitment and self-sacrifice. It is the Way of the Cross,” he said. “Those who take up this way with generosity and faith give hope and a future to humanity.”

“Dear young people,” the Pope concluded, “on that Good Friday many disciples went back crestfallen to their homes. Others chose to go out to



the country to forget the cross. I ask you: How do you want to go back this evening to your own homes, to the places where you are staying? How do you want to go back this evening to be alone with your thoughts? Each of you has to answer the challenge that this question sets before you.”

## **02. Pope urges youth to reject indifference**

The toll of a half-ton bell announced the arrival of Pope Francis at the Campus Misericordiae Saturday evening. Situated in the outskirts of Krakow but part of the territory of Weiliczka, the area where the 31st World Youth Day is hosted can accommodate more than a million people. Two places will remain here as a tangible sign of the mercy that has presided in these days: a day care centre for the elderly, named “Campus Misericordiae”, and a Caritas Centre, entitled “The bread of mercy”, a food bank to serve those most in need in various parishes.

The Holy Father arrived at the Campus shortly after 6.30 p.m., 1<sup>st</sup> August, and toured the zone extensively by popemobile before arriving at the Holy Door, which he crossed on foot accompanied by five young people representing the five continents.

The theme of the vigil was “Jesus, source of mercy,” and was divided into five key points --- faith to those who doubt, hope for the disillusioned, love to the indifferent, forgiveness to those who have done harm, and joy to the sorrowful --- illustrated with testimonies from young men and women from, among other places Poland, Syria and Paraguay.

The first spoke about her return to faith after years of drifting away from it, when one day

she felt an imperative need to confess. The fear that the priest would tell her that her sins were very grave faded when instead he told her that she had made a beautiful confession. This coincided with Divine Mercy Sunday, at 3 p.m. (the hour of mercy) in the cathedral in Lodz where St. Faustina Kowalska prayed every day. “Your sins are forgiven. They are no more, think of them no more, remove them from your mind”, he told her. “I left the church as if returning from a battlefield: tremendously tired but at the same time extremely happy, with a feeling of victory and the conviction that Jesus was coming home with me”. She went on to collaborate in the preparations for World Youth Day so that others might have the same experience. “God's mercy is living and continues to act today too, without interruption”.

The second, Rand, explained that in Aleppo “we live lives that are surrounded by death”, and that at times one asks “Is it possible that ... we were born to die in pain? Or are we born to live, and to live life to the fullest?” Rand serves at the Don Bosco Centre in Aleppo which receives more than seven hundred young men and women “who come hoping to see a smile and hear a word of encouragement. They are also seeking something that is otherwise lacking in their lives: genuine humanitarian treatment. But it is very difficult for me to give joy and faith to others while I myself am bankrupt of these things in my life”. However, she added, “Through my meagre life experience, I have learned that faith in Christ supersedes the circumstances of life. This truth is not conditioned on living a life of peace that is free of hardship. More and more, I believe that God exists despite all of our pain. I believe that

sometimes through out pain, He teaches us the true meaning of love”.

Finally, Miguel, a young Paraguayan, is a former drug addict who served six years in prison and was rehabilitated thanks to a priest, a friend of the family who introduced him to the Fazenda da Esperança, “a community whose method of healing consists of living the Word of God”. After overcoming initial difficulties of integration, Miguel learned to relate with others and to forgive, and is now responsible for the “Quo Vadis?” House of the Fazenda da Esperança in Cherro Chato. “God truly transforms us”, he affirmed. “God renews us”.

### **03. He found his faith**

When Pope Francis spoke from the Archbishops's residence in Krakow Wednesday night, 27 July, he paused and asked for silence as he paid tribute to a 22-year-old World Youth Day volunteer from Poland who died on July 2 from an aggressive form of cancer.

Maciej Szymon Cieśła was a graphic designer with a promising career who quit his job in 2014 to work full-time as a volunteer for World Day 2016. Cieśła helped design the banners that hang all around the city of Krakow announcing the celebrations, and he was one of the people behind the welcome kits that every pilgrim and volunteer receives when they arrive. He also helped build the event's website.

According to Fr. Tom Rosica from the Holy See Press Office, at the time Cieśła joined the organizing committee “he had lost his faith in the Church, but decided to help because he wanted to believe that there was still some good in it.” He apparently found it again in the friendship and

support he discovered in the people he met and worked with on the World Youth Day events. He was even scheduled to travel with Pope Francis on a tram ride during the festivities.



Cieśła was diagnosed with cancer in November 2015, and after many kinds of treatments, doctors had to amputate one of his legs in May. Before that happened, he wrote in his Facebook profile:

“How fast life and priorities change! And how different our dreams are... some dream with a career and fame, promotion, a new job, wealth or for World Youth Day to be a success. For the last 150 days, I've been dreaming of only one thing: I'd like to live. Nothing else.”

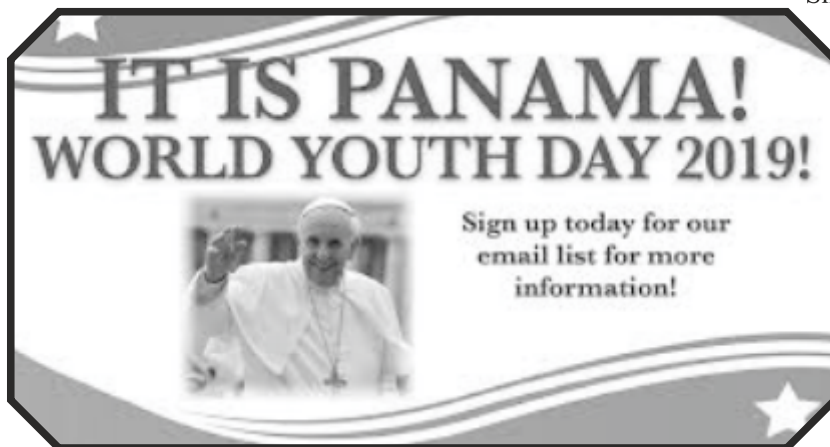
Sadly, Cieśła died three weeks before World Youth Day began, but he helped up until the last moment he could.

In his words about Cieśła, Pope Francis noted the faith of the young volunteer and told all those listening that Cieśła “was looking down on them.” As Fr. Rosica reports, “The Holy Father went on to ask the young people to pray in their hearts, reiterating that the young man was with them and that this was a grace.”

*May Maciej Szymon Cieśła, and all the*

*faithful departed, rest in peace.*

#### **04. Panama to host WYD 2019**



Panama will host the 32nd World Youth Day, to be held in 2019, announced Pope Francis at the end of the Mass celebrated in the Campus Misericordiae, calling to his side the Panamanian bishops present in order to give the blessing with him.

“At the conclusion of this celebration, I join all of you in thanking God, the Father of infinite mercy, for allowing us to experience this World Youth Day”, said the Pope, thanking Cardinal Dziwisz and Cardinal Ryłko, “indefatigable in their efforts to make this Day possible”, and “for the prayers which have accompanied the preparations for this event”.

“I also thank all those who have contributed to its successful outcome. A big word of thanks goes to you, dear young people! You filled Krakow with the contagious enthusiasm of your faith. St. John Paul II has rejoiced from heaven, and he will help you spread the joy of the Gospel everywhere”.

“In these days, we have experienced the beauty of our universal fraternity in Christ, the

centre and hope of our lives”, he continued. “We have heard His voice, the voice of the Good Shepherd Who dwells in our midst.

He has spoken to each of you in your heart. He has renewed you by His love and He has shown you the light of His forgiveness, the power of His grace. He has made you experience the reality of prayer. These days have given you a spiritual 'breath of fresh air' that will help you live lives of

mercy once you return to your own countries and communities”.

He went on to indicate, beside the altar, the image of the Virgin Mary venerated by St. John Paul II in the shrine of Kalwaria. “Mary, our Mother, teaches us how we can make our experience here in Poland be productive. She tells us to do what she did: not to squander the gift you have received, but to treasure it in your heart so it can grow and bear fruit, with the help of the Holy Spirit. In this way, each of you, for all your limitations and failings, can be a witness to Christ wherever you live: at home, in your parishes, in your associations and groups, and your places of study, work, service, entertainment, wherever God's providence will lead you”.

“Trusting in the intercession of Mary, let us ask the Holy Spirit to enlighten and sustain the journey of young people in the Church and in the world, and make you disciples and witnesses to God's mercy”, concluded the Holy Father, before inviting all present to recite together the Angelus.♦

## SAINT OF THE MONTH - I

### Blessed Frédéric Ozanam

**23 April 1813 — 7 Sept 1853**

**Feast Day: 9 Sept**

A man convinced of the inestimable worth of each human being, Frédéric served the poor of Paris well and drew others into serving the poor of the world. Through the St Vincent de Paul Society, his work continues to the present day.

Frederic Ozanam was born on April 23, 1813 in Milan, Italy. He was the fifth child of fourteen born to Jean-Antoine- Francoise and Marie Nantas Ozanam, ardent French Catholics of middle-class circumstances. His father had served with distinction as an officer under Napoleon, retiring early to become a tutor and later to practice medicine. When the city of Milan fell to the Austrians in 1815, the Ozanams returned to their native city of Lyons in France where Frederic spent his early years.

As a teenager he began having doubts about his religion. Reading and prayer did not seem to help, but long walking discussions with Father Noirot of the Lyons College clarified matters a great deal. Frédéric wanted to study literature, although his father, a doctor, wanted him to become a lawyer. Frédéric yielded to his father's wishes and in 1831 arrived in Paris to study law at the University of the Sorbonne. When certain professors there mocked Catholic teachings in their lectures, Frédéric defended the Church.

A discussion club which Frédéric organized sparked the turning point in his life. In this club Catholics, atheists and agnostics debated



the issues of the day. Once, after Frédéric spoke about Christianity's role in civilization, a club member said: "Let us be frank, Mr Ozanam; let us also be very particular. What do you do besides talk to prove the faith you claim is in you?"

Frédéric was stung by the question. He soon decided that his words needed grounding in action. He and a friend began visiting Paris tenements and offering assistance as best they could. Soon a group dedicated to helping individuals in need under the patronage of St

Vincent de Paul formed around Frédéric.

Feeling that the Catholic faith needed an excellent speaker to explain its teachings, Frédéric convinced the Archbishop of Paris to appoint Father Lacordaire, the greatest preacher then in France, to preach a Lenten series in Notre Dame Cathedral. It was well attended and became an annual tradition in Paris.

After Frédéric earned his law degree at the Sorbonne, he taught law at the University of Lyons. He also earned a doctorate in literature. Soon after marrying Amelie Soulacroix on June 23, 1841, he returned to the Sorbonne to teach literature. A well-respected lecturer, Frédéric worked to bring out the best in each student. Meanwhile, the St Vincent de Paul Society was growing throughout Europe. Paris alone counted 25 conferences.

In 1846, Frédéric, Amelie and their daughter Marie went to Italy; there he hoped to restore his poor health. They returned the next year. The revolution of 1848 left many Parisians in need of the services of the St Vincent de Paul conferences. The unemployed numbered 275,000. The government asked Frédéric and his co-workers to supervise the government aid to the poor. Vincentians throughout Europe came to the aid of Paris. Frédéric then started a newspaper, *The New Era*, dedicated to securing justice for the poor and the working classes. Fellow Catholics were often unhappy with what Frédéric wrote. Referring to the poor man as "the nation's priest," Frédéric said that the hunger and sweat of the poor formed a sacrifice that could redeem the people's humanity

His journalistic writings are strikingly modern in social analysis, praise of democracy, support of workers' rights. His lectures, books and correspondence document his belief that Christianity and progress, like faith and science, far from being incompatible, are mutually generative.

A loving husband and devoted father, Frederic achieved greatness as a gifted scholar, a dedicated teacher, a generous Christian and a gentle but effective reformer. True to the example of St. Vincent de Paul, he creatively sought to respond to the needy with sensitive charity and worked tirelessly to replace class struggle with just relationships.

In 1852 poor health again forced Frédéric to return to Italy with his wife and daughter. He died on September 8, 1853. In his sermon at Frédéric's funeral, Lacordaire described his friend as "one of those privileged creatures who came direct from the hand of God in whom God joins tenderness to genius in order to enkindle the world." Frédéric was beatified in 1997.

In his homily at the beatification Mass at Notre Dame Cathedral, Saint John Paul II mentioned that before World War II he belonged to the St Vincent de Paul Society. He noted that Frédéric Ozanam "observed the real situation of the poor and sought to be more and more effective in helping them in their human development. He understood that charity must lead to efforts to remedy injustice. Charity and justice go together."♦  
**Source:** [www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org);  
[www.svdpid.org](http://www.svdpid.org); [www.newadvent.org](http://www.newadvent.org);

## SAINT OF THE MONTH - II

### St Theodora Guérin

**1798-1856**

**Feast Day: 03 October**

Trust in God's Providence enabled Mother Theodore to leave her homeland, sail halfway around the world, and found a new religious congregation.

Mother THÉODORA—ANNE-THÉRÈSE GUÉRIN—was born Oct 2, 1798, in the village of Etables, France. Her devotion to God and to the Roman Catholic Church began when she was a young child. She was allowed to receive her First Communion at the age of 10 and, at that time, told the parish priest that someday she would be a nun.

The child Anne-Thérèse often sought solitude along the rocky shore near her home, where she devoted hours to meditation, reflection and prayer. She was educated by her mother, Isabelle Guérin, who centered lessons on religion and Scripture, thus nurturing the child's love of God. Anne-Thérèse's father, Laurent, who served in Napoleon's navy, was away from home for years at a time. When Anne-Thérèse was 15 years old, her father was murdered by bandits as he traveled home to visit his family. The loss of her husband nearly overwhelmed Isabelle and, for many years, Anne-Thérèse bore the responsibility of caring for her mother and her young sister, as well as the family's home and garden.

Through those years of hardship and sacrifice, indeed through all the years of her life, Mother Théodora's faith in God neither wavered nor faltered. She knew in the depths of her soul that God was with her and always would be with her, a constant companion.



Anne-Thérèse was nearly 25 years old when she entered the Sisters of Providence of Ruillé-sur-Loir, a young community of women religious serving God by providing opportunities for education to children and by caring for the poor, sick and dying. While teaching and caring for the sick in France, Mother Théodora, then known as Sister St. Theodora, was asked to lead a small missionary band of Sisters of Providence to the United States of America, to establish a motherhouse, to open schools and to share the love of God with pioneers in the Diocese of Vincennes

in the State of Indiana. Humble and prone to feelings of unworthiness, Mother Theodore could not imagine that she was suitable for such a mission. Her health was fragile.

During her novitiate with the Sisters of Providence, she became very ill. Remedies cured the illness but severely damaged her digestive system; for the remainder of her life she was able to consume only soft, bland foods and liquids. Her physical condition added to her doubts about accepting the mission. Nevertheless, after hours of prayer and lengthy consultations with her superiors, she accepted the mission, fearing that if she did not, no one would venture to the wilderness to share the love of God.

Equipped with little more than her steadfast desire to serve God, Mother Théodora and her five companion Sisters of Providence arrived at the site of their mission at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, the evening of October 22,

1840, and immediately hastened along a muddy, narrow path to the tiny log cabin that served as the chapel. There, they knelt in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament to thank God for their safe journey and to ask for God's blessings for the new mission.

She and her community persevered despite fires, crop failures, prejudice against Catholic women religious, misunderstandings and separation from their original religious congregation. She once told her sisters, "Have confidence in the Providence that so far has never failed us. The way is not yet clear. Grope along slowly. Do not press matters; be patient, be trustful." Another time, she asked, "With Jesus, what shall we have to fear?"

Mother Théodora's holiness was evident to people who knew her, and many described her simply as "saintly". She possessed the ability to draw out the best in people, to enable them to attain more than they thought possible. Mother Théodora's love was one of her great hallmarks. She loved God, God's people, the Sisters of Providence, the Roman Catholic Church and the people she served. She did not exclude anyone from her ministries or her prayers, for she dedicated her life to helping people know God and live better lives.

She went to her eternal reward on death on May 14, 1856. She is buried in the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, and was beatified in 1998. On Oct 15, 2006, Mother Theodora Guerin was recognized as a saint by Pope Benedict XVI in a canonization ceremony at St Peter's Square in Rome. ♦

**Source:** [www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org);

[www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org); [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)



## Bible Quiz - 30

Compiled by Mahesh Lobo

Study <sup>the</sup> Bible  
with us



This Quiz is based on Psalms 107 - 119. We have used the RSV edition for formulating the questions, but you may use any Catholic edition of the Bible. There are 20 questions. The answer to each question must necessarily cite the Scripture reference. Please do not write out the questions; just write the question number, your answer and the Scripture reference (For format, see the answers to Quiz No. 29 below)

All our readers/members of a family, young and old, are welcome to participate in the quiz individually. Please write your full name, complete postal address and telephone (landline / mobile) number.

You can post/courier your entries to the Editor, Proclaim, Pontifical Mission Organization, 10 Ulsoor Road, Bangalore 560042, or email them to < pmorgbindia@gmail.com>. All entries must reach us by *30 September 2016*.

Five correct entries will be rewarded with one-year subscription of *Proclaim*. If there are more than 5 correct entries, the winners will be selected by lot.

01. Because of the wickedness of the inhabitants, the Lord turns fruitful land into salty waste; what will he make the springs of water?
02. The Psalmist wants the Lord to appoint a wicked man against his adversary as his accuser. What is the assigned job of the accuser?
03. According to the Psalmist, with what must the accuser be clothed?
04. After whose order, is one a priest forever?
05. What is the beginning of wisdom, according to the Psalmist?
06. God's blessings are very many, different to different people. To whom does He give a home and make her the joyous mother of children?
07. If the heavens are the Lord's heavens, to whom has He given the earth?
08. What will the Psalmist lift up to the Lord and call on the His name in order to render thanks for all His bounty?
09. How did the enemies of the Psalmist who surrounded him like bees blaze?
10. What will happen to the Psalmist who has fixed his eyes on all the Commandments of the Lord?
11. In order not to sin against the Lord, what must the Psalmist do?
12. What will the Psalmist do if the Lord makes him understand the way of His precepts?
13. What is the stand of the Psalmist even if godless men deride him utterly?

14. Even if the cords of the wicked ensnare the Psalmist, what will he not forget?
15. What must the Lord do with the godless because they have subverted the Psalmist with guile?
16. What would have happened to the Psalmist if he had not taken delight in the Law of the Lord?
17. The Lord's words are sweet to taste, says the Psalmist. What is its taste in his mouth?
18. What is happening to the Psalmist when he sees men who do not keep the Law of the Lord?
19. If the sum of the Lord's word is truth, what will happen to His righteous ordinance?
20. Why should the hand of the Lord be ready to help the psalmist?

### **Answers to Bible Quiz 29**

(All the references are from the book of Psalms.)

(01) like a carcass, 89:10; (02) punish their transgression with the rod and their iniquity with scourges, 89:32; (03) threescore and ten or even by reason of strength fourscore, 90:10; (04) to bear you up in their hands lest you dash your foot against a stone, 91:12; (05) they are doomed to destruction for ever, 92:7; (06) his soul would soon have dwelt in the land of silence, 94:17; (07) they should not enter my rest, 95:11; (08) righteousness and justice, 97:2; (09) floods clap their hands and hills sing for joy, 98:8; (10) in the pillar of cloud, 99:7; (11) who practices deceit and utters lies, 101:7; (12) like an evening shadow and wither away like grass, 102:11; (13) as the heavens are high above the earth, 103:11; (14) they die and return to their dust, 104:29; (15) the earth trembles and the mountains smoke, 104:32; (16) Joseph, 105:17; (17) he turned their waters into blood, 105:29; (18) to lead the Israelites through the deep as through a desert, 106:9; (19) it went ill with Moses on their account, 106:32; (20) Phinehas, 106:30

### **Winners of Quiz 29**

Ashley Jose; Jerald D, Vishakapattanam; Jose Mary K, Mangalore; Pallavi G S, Bhopal;  
Sabina D'Souza, Mumbai.

#### **Vatican raises hopes for tribal nun sainthood**

Ranchi (UCAN) --- Mother Mary Bernadette Prasad Kispotta, founder of the Congregation of The Daughters of St Anne, Ranchi, has become the first tribal woman to be declared Servant of God, paving the way to start the lengthy process for a possible sainthood.

After the Vatican issued, in July, a nihil obstat or 'nothing stands in the way' certificate for a thorough probe into the life of Mother Mary Bernadette, Cardinal Telesphore P. Toppo, Archbishop of Ranchi, on 7 Aug issued a decree naming her a Servant of God.

"It is a rare honour for a tribal woman to be declared a Servant of God. Today, she became the first tribal nun in India to start her journey towards a possible sainthood. It is all God's mercy," Cardinal Toppo said.

Born on June 16, 1878, Mother Mary Bernadette Prasad Kispotta, along with three other Sisters --- Cecilia, Veronica and Mary --- founded the Congregation of the Daughters of St Anne on 26 July 1897.

All her life as a nun, Mother Mary Bernadette worked extensively for education and travelled across forested hinterland without roads to reach and teach villagers. During the turn of the 20th century and the early decades, when cholera struck large parts of Chhotanagpur, Sister Mary and Sister Veronica died in the epidemic.

Undeterred by tragedies and dangers, Mother Mary Bernadette and her congregation went on with their work in the region and started branching out across India.

On 16 April 1961, Mother Mary Bernadette breathed her last at St Anne's Convent, Ranchi, from TB. ♦

# Bible Crossword - 4

## Places visited by St Paul

**Compiled by Mahesh Lobo**

You are free to use this page or a photocopy of it. Further, you can scan your answered Crossword page and send it by email, or just write down the correct answers against the numbers 'Across' and 'Down' in capital letters. You can then either email or send it to us by post.

If there is more than one correct answer, the winner will be chosen by lot. The winner will get a copy of the RSV Bible with colour pictures.

1	2								3		4
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			12			13					
14									15		16
	17										
18											19

### ACROSS

1. In order to arrive at Thessalonica, Paul had to pass through this place (10 letters)
7. Since the Spirit of Jesus did not allow Paul and his companions to go to Bithynia, they went down to this place. (5 letters)
8. After preaching the Word of God in Perga, Paul and his companions came to this place and from here they proceeded to Antioch. (7 letters)
9. After bidding farewell to the elders of Ephesus, Paul and companions set sail to Cos and passing Rhodes, they reached this place. (6 letters)
10. As Paul was waiting for Silas and Timothy in this city, he saw that the city was full of idols. (6 letters)
14. At this place, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, just a soldier guarding him. (4 letters)
17. Visiting all the parts of Macedonia and encouraging them, Paul and his companions came to this country. (6 letters)

18. When Gallio was proconsul of this place, the Jews made a united attack against Paul and brought him before the tribunal.

19. Writing to Romans, Paul expresses his desire to visit them in passing when he plans to go to this country.

### **DOWN**

1. The soldiers according to their instructions brought Paul to this place by night and then returned to the barracks. (10 letters)

2. The ship that was taking Paul to Rome arrived at this place having sailed across the sea which is off Cilicia and Pamphylia. (4 letters)

3. Paul and his companions had John Mark to assist them at this place (7 letters)

4. After his conversion, Paul went to this place before returning to the place where he received his sight.

5. Having received his sight, Paul spent several days in this place preaching in the synagogues. (8 letters)

6. After the shipwreck all those who were in the ship were able to safely reach this island.

11. When the Hellenists were seeking to kill Paul, he was taken to Caesarea and then sent off to this place. (6 letters)

12. Having taken security from Jason, the authorities allowed Paul and Silas to go. By night they were brought to this place. (6 letters)

13. When an attempt was made both by Jews and Gentiles to molest and stone Paul and his companions, they fled to this city.

15. The ship having Paul on board landed at this place in order to unload its cargo. (4 letters)

16. The companions of Paul set sail for this place, intending to take him aboard here as he had intended to by land up to this place. (5 letters)

### **Answers to Bible Crossword - 3**

### **ACROSS**

1. FESTUS 2. HEROD 4. PUBLIUS 8. GALLIO 9. NICODEMUS 12. MARY 14. ALEXANDER  
16. TERTULLUS 18. MANAEN 19. ANNAS 20. BARABBAS

### **DOWN**

1. FELIX 3. SIMON 5. BERNICE 6. PRISCILLA 7. SCEVA 10. AGABUS 11. PILATE 13. ANDREW  
15. JUDAS 17. SALOME

### **Winner of Bible Crossword - 3**

Christina C, Bhadravati

### **Abp Raphael Cheenath is no more**

Mumbai (UCAN)--- Archbishop Raphael Cheenath, who led Cuttack-Bhubaneswar archdiocese when the worst persecution hit the region, passed away on 14 Aug in a Mumbai hospital. He was 82.

Archbishop Cheenath gave leadership to the Church in Odisha when the anti-Christian wave swept the eastern Indian state.

During the violence some 60,000 had to flee to the forests to save their lives when Hindu fanatics attacked some 6,000 houses, burning down many of them. More than 100 people were killed, and many women, including Catholic nuns, were gang-raped.

Archbishop Cheenath “died a winner” since the Supreme Court of India on 2 Aug 2016 granted his petition for enhanced relief to the victims of the violence against the Christian community of Kandhamal ♦

## A gangster's journey to sainthood

The following is true. And even though it may have happened 700 years ago, people then were like people now. When it comes to our wants, needs and emotions, nothing has changed. And when it comes to family love, especially when it comes to family love coupled with prayer, unbreakable bonds are still forged.

Arnold Armengol was a member of the Spanish hierarchy. His son, Peter, despite being given the finest education and upbringing, rejected it all and left home. He quickly fell into the secular trap of self-centeredness, self-gratification, and outright depravity. He joined a band of criminals that preyed on people traveling into the mountains. Peter was so good at this work he eventually became the gang leader.

Two years after Peter left home, his dad was asked by King Jaime of Aragon to lead him on a journey to Montpellier so he might meet with the king of France.

King Jaime had heard of the brigands that preyed on mountain travelers and knew Arnold could keep them safe.

As Arnold Armengol led the king's entourage through the mountain passes, they were attacked by a band of highwaymen, and made a

counterattack. With his sword drawn, Arnold headed directly for the leader of the pack. As they were about to engage, though, the brigand fell to his knees. He had recognized his father and with tears streaming down his face, prostrated himself at his feet. Surrendering his sword, he begged his father for forgiveness. The constant prayers of Peter's father for his boy were about to be answered in an amazing way.

Peter Armengol, repentant and seeking mercy, was filled with shame. Standing before thking with his dad at his side, he appealed to James I for a second chance. Shortly after receiving an official pardon, Peter entered a Mercedarian monastery in Barcelona, becoming known as Friar Peter.

The mission of the Mercedarians (The Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mercy), founded by St Peter Nolasco, was to ransom



Catholics taken hostage. Friar Peter excelled at this task and, over a period of eight years, managed to negotiate the freedom of many hostages from the Saracens. (The Mercedarians take a fourth vow. Besides poverty, chastity and obedience, they also

vow to always be ready to exchange their own lives to free a hostage).



Friar Peter then headed to Africa with Friar William Florentino. His goal was to ransom Christians from the Moors. On arrival in a place called Bugia, he heard about 18 Christian children being held hostage – threatened with death if they did not renounce Christianity. Friar Peter offered himself in exchange. The captors agreed but warned Peter that if the ransom was not paid on time he would suffer brutal torture and death.

The arrival of the agreed ransom and Friar Peter's release were scheduled for a certain day. The ransom never arrived. Peter was immediately put to torture and endured this for days on end. The Moors, weary of his resilience, accused him of blaspheming Mohammad and sentenced him to death.

Friar Peter was hanged from a tree. His body was left there for the birds of prey to feed upon. Six days later Friar William arrived with the ransom. The Moors refused it and told the friar that Peter had already been dead for six days and his

rotted corpse could be found hanging from the tree. Distraught, William went to recover the body of his brother Mercedarian.

As William approached the execution site, however, he noticed that Peter's body seemed to be intact. In fact, there was a fragrance of flowers in the air. William slowly approached the body of Peter. The man who was supposedly dead for six days began to speak. He explained how the Blessed Virgin had come to him and was holding him up with her precious hands so his body would not hang on the rope.

Peter Armengol, when recalling the miracle of his hanging, told his Mercedarian brothers that the happiest days of his life were those six days that he hung from the gallows supported by the Blessed Virgin Mary. Peter's neck, broken from the hanging, remained in a twisted position for the rest of his life and he always had a sickly complexion. Seven documented miracles were attributed to him while he was still alive.

Peter Armengol was canonized a saint on April 8, 1687, by Pope Innocent XI. It is good to remember that, as Saint Monica's “mother's prayers” helped to save Augustine, Arnold Aremengol's “father's prayers” saved Peter.

Parents, never stop praying for your kids ♦

**Source: Larry Peterson, Aleteia-Daily News Letter,  
16 June 2016**

A two-day meeting of Pontifical Mission Organisation was organized at the Social Development Centre, Ranchi, from 6th to 7th August 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to apprise the Diocesan Directors of Pontifical Mission Organization of Jharkhand Region and their associates, about activities of the PMO and other related issues.

Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Ranchi Most Rev Telesphore Bilung, who inaugurated the meeting, invited every one present to carry forward the legacy of the Apostle of Chotanagpur, Fr Livens, with great zeal and enthusiasm. He urged the audience to inculcate in the children love and zeal for missionary work, and towards that purpose, to make elaborate arrangements to celebrate the Missionary Childhood Day and Krusveer Day in parishes and institutions in a meaningful way. He also advised them to get the parents involved in the activities of their children and thus take forward the missionary movement started in Chotanagpur by our forefathers.



Fr Faustine Lobo, national director of the Pontifical Mission Organization (PMO - INDIA), who spent two days explaining in detail the purpose, aims and objectives of Pontifical Mission Societies was present on the dais during the inauguration. Fr Edwin Coelho, the Jharkhand Regional Director of Pontifical Mission Organization, welcomed the Bishop, Fr. Faustine, and the participants for the meeting. At the end of the meeting, the diocesan directors of PMO along with their associates made detailed programmes to rejuvenate the Missionary Childhood Associations and their activities in their dioceses. ♦

Fr Faustine Lobo, National Director of Pontifical Mission Organization (PMO), INDIA, spent time at the St Mark's School, Toklo, Jamshedpur Diocese, West Singhbhum District, Jharkand, on the 5th of August 2016, trying to understand the working of the school.

This school works as a connecting point to higher education in city Schools for those children who live in and around the thick green/forest areas. The children showed great enthusiasm for learning and education, even though the amenities were basic, including food and uniforms. ♦



Fr Faustine Lobo, National Director of Pontifical Mission Organization (PMO), INDIA, spent time with the children of the Blessed Mother Theresa School, Siadih, Jamshedpur Diocese, Seraikela - Karswan District, Jharkand, on the 5th of August 2016, along with the school-in-charge.

This school educates children from lower-income groups and under-privileged sections of the society, providing them basic amenities, including food and uniforms. ♦

# Contribution 2015

S.NO	PARTICULARS	POPULATION	PF	HC	SPA	Total
1	ADILABAD	12800	200,000.00	36,069.00	40,000.00	276,069.00
2	AGARTALA	31848	600,157.00	152,370.00	96,000.00	848,527.00
3	AGRA	16807	663,216.00	325,000.00	55,000.00	1,043,216.00
4	AHMEDABAD	71228	414,985.00	146,104.00	69,674.00	630,763.00
5	AIZAWL	33353	200,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	400,000.00
6	AJMER	17108	108,870.00	105,000.00	16,200.00	230,070.00
7	ALLAHABAD	12967	830,426.00	175,845.00	32,088.00	1,038,359.00
8	ALLEPPEY/ALAPPUZHA	167185	2,516,948.00	135,128.00	101,907.00	2,753,983.00
9	AMBIKAPUR	91729	60,300.00	313,000.00	55,000.00	428,300.00
10	AMRAVATHI	6435	154,835.00	120,414.00	11,384.00	286,633.00
11	ASANSOL	28301	214,492.00	279,023.00	17,325.00	510,840.00
12	AURANGABAD	14456	175,000.00	175,000.00	50,000.00	400,000.00
13	BAGDOGRA	54614	300,000.00	117,000.00	23,500.00	440,500.00
14	BALASORE	21795	304,972.00	190,608.00	114,364.00	609,944.00
15	BANGALORE	421552	16,293,501.00	1,905,068.00	1,136,267.00	19,334,836.00
16	BAREILLY	6296	410,282.00	161,603.00	27,000.00	598,885.00
17	BARODA	85685	969,500.00	174,991.00	4,500.00	1,148,991.00
18	BARUIPUR	60121	176,542.00	169,950.00	30,000.00	376,492.00
19	BATHERY	25600	33,000.00	10,000.00	25,000.00	68,000.00
20	BELGAUM	22136	1,862,679.00	253,915.00	87,901.00	2,204,495.00
21	BELLARY	30694	95,209.00	155,852.00	30,008.00	281,069.00
22	BELTHANGADY	20047	300,000.00	19,625.00	20,713.00	340,338.00
23	BERHAMPUR	109599	1,928,514.00	417,535.00	377,616.00	2,723,665.00
24	BETTIAH	5843	115,000.00	72,000.00	10,000.00	197,000.00
25	BHADRAVATHI	7601	195,475.00	56,543.00	25,352.00	277,370.00
26	BHAGALPUR	86903	1,865,320.00	413,879.00	411,564.00	2,690,763.00
27	BHOPAL	13456	425,000.00	190,000.00	110,000.00	725,000.00
28	BIJNOOR	3705	80,000.00	10,000.00	5,000.00	95,000.00
29	BOMBAY	523458	7,392,288.00	2,109,785.00	100,000.00	9,602,073.00
30	BONGAIGAON	67077	187,690.00	38,140.00	39,636.00	265,466.00
31	BUXAR	24400	111,561.00	28,919.00	7,986.00	148,466.00
32	CALCUTTA	158650	664734	385,950.00	128,092.00	1,178,776.00
33	CALICUT	41873	4,096,417.00	92,460.00	25,000.00	4,213,877.00
34	CHANDA	14879	115,000.00	70,000.00	61,960.00	246,960.00
35	CHANGANACHERRY	406167	1,500,000.00	100,000.00	150,000.00	1,750,000.00
36	CHICKMAGLUR	38680	1,740,162.00	110,000.00	70,000.00	1,920,162.00
37	CHENGELPUT	149872	2,007,427.00	160,000.00	70,000.00	2,237,427.00
38	COCHIN	192380	1,151,605.00	125,000.00	63,500.00	1,340,105.00
39	COIMBATORE	259503	4,372,005.00	346,073.00	287,090.00	5,005,168.00
40	CUDDAPAH	90581	1,060,018.00	83,000.00	33,820.00	1,176,838.00
41	CUTTACK - BUVANESHWAR	67345	911,540.00	73,445.00	76,800.00	1,061,785.00
42	DALTONGANJ	61384	48,000.00	31,100.00	27,600.00	106,700.00
43	DARJEELING	34308	481,056.00	229,051.00	189,037.00	899,144.00
44	DELHI	76470	997,841.00	418,000.00	172,677.00	1,588,518.00
45	DHARMAPURI	53044	805,000.00	110,000.00	102,000.00	1,017,000.00
46	DIBRUGARH	121265	150,000.00	121,000.00	65,000.00	336,000.00
47	DINDUGAL	174503	800,000.00	75,000.00	50,000.00	925,000.00
48	DIPHU	57279	258,465.00	100,418.00	188,890.00	547,773.00
49	DUMKA	141051	441,057.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	541,057.00
50	ELURU	315157	791,939.00	62,903.00	62,880.00	917,722.00
51	ERNAKULAM - ANGAMALY	571334	1,500,000.00	100,000.00	200,000.00	1,800,000.00
52	FARIDABAD	33032	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	45,000.00
53	GANDHINAGAR	21053	165,156.00	250,768.00	32,385.00	448,309.00
54	GOA & DAMAN	633455	19,148,536.00	2,366,959.00	2,479,754.00	23,995,249.00
55	GORAKHPUR	3232	153,000.00	100,000.00	95,000.00	348,000.00
56	GULBURGA	5954	501,511.00	158,863.00	16,334.00	676,708.00
57	GUMLA	162285	120,000.00	80,600.00	61,700.00	262,300.00
58	GUNTUR	224368	902,593.00	100,000.00	39,270.00	1,041,863.00
59	GURGAON					-
60	GUWAHATI	68237	620,000.00	65,700.00	95,000.00	780,700.00
61	GWALIOR	4171	282,879.00	93,526.00	12,800.00	389,205.00
62	HAZARIBAGH	40046	201,940.00	158,500.00	87,110.00	447,550.00
63	HYDERABAD	102477	1,644,851.00	286,704.00	205,400.00	2,136,955.00

64	IDUKKI	261418	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	30,000.00
65	IMPHAL	90785	706,271.00	224,722.00	139,114.00	1,070,107.00
66	INDORE	35803	1,117,040.00	560,302.00	11,924.00	1,689,266.00
67	IRINJALAKUDA	258200	1,300,000.00	20,000.00	25,000.00	1,345,000.00
68	ITANAGAR	82093	452,000.00	312,000.00	105,000.00	869,000.00
69	JABALPUR	28930	670,000.00	150,000.00	25,000.00	845,000.00
70	JAGDALPUR	7655	120,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	200,000.00
71	JAIPUR	4657	275,000.00	140,000.00	50,000.00	465,000.00
72	JALANDHAR	116968	350,000.00	480,000.00	75,000.00	905,000.00
73	JALPAIGURI	120406	90,000.00	45,000.00	28,000.00	163,000.00
74	JAMMU - SRINAGAR	17196	274,140.00	141,500.00	51,500.00	467,140.00
75	JAMSHEDPUR	48844	486,000.00	247,000.00	15,544.00	748,544.00
76	JASHPUR	194135	140,000.00	250,000.00	60,000.00	450,000.00
77	JHABUA	43013	1,011,425.00	192,967.00	144,489.00	1,348,881.00
78	JHANSI	3988	640,000.00	26,433.00	22,782.00	689,215.00
79	JOWAI	78139	285,570.00	45,000.00	49,500.00	380,070.00
80	KALYAN	62626	125,000.00	14,000.00	17,000.00	156,000.00
81	KANJIRAPALLY	166342	130,000.00	46,000.00	45,000.00	221,000.00
82	KANNUR	31197	1,742,827.00	65,000.00	33,000.00	1,840,827.00
83	KARWAR	53800	5,906,381.00	525,000.00	105,199.00	6,536,580.00
84	KHADKI					-
85	KHAMMAM	122607	210,000.00	55,000.00	25,000.00	290,000.00
86	KHANDWA	31432	250,000.00	80,000.00	40,000.00	370,000.00
87	KHUNTI	91062	44,500.00	28,700.00	27,000.00	100,200.00
88	KOHIMA	58252	869,735.00	281,849.00	53,390.00	1,204,974.00
89	KOTHAMANGALAM	219732	30,000.00	10,000.00		40,000.00
90	KOTTAPURAM	95947	1,350,000.00	160,000.00	165,000.00	1,675,000.00
91	KOTTAR	264200	1,706,224.00	220,078.00	300,000.00	2,226,302.00
92	KOTTAYAM	175300	165,000.00	85,000.00	55,000.00	305,000.00
93	KRISHNAGAR	61653	253,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	453,000.00
94	KUMBAKONAM	214115	2,300,000.00	325,000.00	125,000.00	2,750,000.00
95	KURNOOL	78557	861,755.00	30,752.00	17,005.00	909,512.00
96	KUZHITHURAI	247198	850,000.00	210,000.00	142,900.00	1,202,900.00
97	LUCKNOW	6996	255,638.00	63,979.00	25,686.00	345,303.00
98	MADRAS - MYLAPORE	331881	3,152,907.00	369,887.00	365,120.00	3,887,914.00
99	MADURAI	345300	2,500,000.00	195,000.00	70,000.00	2,765,000.00
100	MANANTHAVADY	167590	30,000.00	20,000.00	40,000.00	90,000.00
101	MANDYA	5000	200,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	250,000.00
102	MANGALORE	172471	11,608,880.00	782,979.00	767,190.00	13,159,049.00
103	MARTHANDOM	63402	85,180.00	25,000.00		110,180.00
104	MAVELIKARA	24618	100,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	140,000.00
105	MEERUT	28696	1,500,000.00	500,000.00	75,000.00	2,075,000.00
106	MIAO	75476	190,615.00	150,854.00	33,000.00	374,469.00
107	MUVATTUPUZHA	12048				-
108	MUZAFARPUR	5212	72,000.00	29,200.00		101,200.00
109	MYSORE	63218	4,352,044.00	207,598.00	108,779.00	4,668,421.00
110	NAGPUR	24462	825,000.00	450,000.00	25,000.00	1,300,000.00
111	NALGONDA	71023	175,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	195,000.00
112	NASHIK	90762	306,197.00	105,000.00	10,000.00	421,197.00
113	NELLORE	84705	300,000.00	100,000.00	45,000.00	445,000.00
114	NEYYATTINKARA	131007	398,000.00	143,500.00	134,500.00	676,000.00
115	NONGSTOIN	123912	95,800.00	35,400.00	18,250.00	149,450.00
116	OOTTACAMUND	88447	1,347,971.00	97,168.00	129,271.00	1,574,410.00
117	PALAI	348850	650,000.00	250,000.00	150,000.00	1,050,000.00
118	PALAYAMKOTTAI	135771	2,894,861.00	75,000.00	35,000.00	3,004,861.00
119	PALGHAT / PALAKKAD	69588	176,000.00	42,500.00	46,800.00	265,300.00
120	PATHANAMTHITTA	30935	100,000.00	30,000.00	10,000.00	140,000.00
121	PATNA	65864	800,000.00	60,566.00	28,986.00	889,552.00
122	PONDICHERRY - CUDALLORE	373217	3,458,878.00	358,483.00	41,941.00	3,859,302.00
123	POONA	76258	761,594.00	693,691.00		1,455,285.00
124	PORT BLAIR	35211	998,321.00	55,340.00	3,000.00	1,056,661.00
125	PUNALUR	45203	435,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00	505,000.00
126	PURNEA	25201	124,300.00	55,700.00	10,400.00	190,400.00
127	PUTTUR	2595	9,756.00	8,425.00	6,726.00	24,907.00

128	QUILON	239797	2,600,000.00	65,000.00	200000	2,865,000.00
129	RAIGANJ	95664	300,000.00	80,000.00	35,000.00	415,000.00
130	RAIGARH	63194	161,140.00	256,442.00	30,000.00	447,582.00
131	RAIPUR	55987	750,000.00	255,000.00	155,000.00	1,160,000.00
132	RAJKOT	12733	717,036.00	101,130.00	25,282.00	843,448.00
133	RAMANATHAPURAM	11830	25,000.00	5,000.00	7,000.00	37,000.00
134	RANCHI	150419	357,941.00	431,542.00	416,243.00	1,205,726.00
135	ROURKELA	242126	1,039,500.00	100,000.00	27,000.00	1,166,500.00
136	RAYAGADA	50542				-
137	SAGAR	3345	215,300.00	63,955.00	40,000.00	319,255.00
138	SALEM	89897	1,525,273.00	76,026.00	38,968.00	1,640,267.00
139	SAMBALPUR	48632	209,572.00	16,775.00	22,900.00	249,247.00
140	SATNA	3030	90,000.00	25,000.00	30,000.00	145,000.00
141	SHILLONG	270353	300,000.00	42,800.00	25,250.00	368,050.00
142	SHIMLA - CHANDIGARH	16576	639,233.00	235,913.00	45,031.00	920,177.00
143	SHIMOGA	18959	1,850,000.00	210,000.00	78,873.00	2,138,873.00
144	SIMDEGA	193455	180,000.00	122,000.00	45,000.00	347,000.00
145	SINDHUDURG	21999	346,535.00	165,912.00	26,590.00	539,037.00
146	SIVAGANGAI	207090	625,000.00	125,000.00	50,000.00	800,000.00
147	SRIKAKULAM	66125	474,939.00	11,420.00	10,000.00	496,359.00
148	SULTANPET	30975	520,000.00	25,000.00	15,000.00	560,000.00
149	TELLICHERRY	317925	600,000.00	100,000.00	200,000.00	900,000.00
150	TEZPUR	198972	1,079,000.00	456,500.00	207,500.00	1,743,000.00
151	THAMARASSERY	162930	300,000.00	120,000.00	75,000.00	495,000.00
152	THANJAVUR	220524	959,629.00	142,814.00	143,502.00	1,245,945.00
153	THUCKALAY	27788	165,000.00	12,000.00	22,000.00	199,000.00
154	THIRUCHIRAPALLI	172053	3,122,808.00	290,000.00	45,000.00	3,457,808.00
155	THIRUVALA	37499	58,000.00	15,000.00	10,000.00	83,000.00
156	TRICHUR	555562	1,800,000.00	30,000.00	200,000.00	2,030,000.00
157	TRIVANDRUM (LATIN)	253036	3,000,000.00	750,000.00	650,000.00	4,400,000.00
158	TRIVANDRUM (MALANKARA)	250477	425,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	545,000.00
159	TURA	234621	590,000.00	275,000.00	120,000.00	985,000.00
160	TUTICORIN	426169	4,200,000.00	425,000.00	40,000.00	4,665,000.00
161	UDAIPUR	24615	1,045,000.00	41,000.00	17,000.00	1,103,000.00
162	UDUPI	65634	5,543,495.00	423,237.00	305,483.00	6,272,215.00
163	UJJAIN	3310	100,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	150,000.00
164	VARANASI	17711	347,217.00	834,670.00	17,500.00	1,199,387.00
165	VASAI	119876	5,554,427.00	1,048,274.00	267,161.00	6,869,862.00
166	VELLORE	156550	1,302,000.00	386,360.00	117,925.00	1,806,285.00
167	VERAPOLY	310326	6,766,656.00	225,000.00	212,000.00	7,203,656.00
168	VIJAYAPURAM	90369	2,210,500.00	130,650.00	65,750.00	2,406,900.00
169	VIJAYAWADA	260638	868,690.00	184,380.00	68,850.00	1,121,920.00
170	VISHAKAPATNAM	234404	1,762,563.00	127,248.00	30,000.00	1,919,811.00
171	WARRANGAL	71406	400,000.00	100,000.00	75,000.00	575,000.00
	TOTAL	19015126	204,585,758.00	33,811,007.00	17,115,888.00	255,512,653.00

## Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

### SEPTEMBER

*Universal: Centrality of the Human Person ---* That each may contribute to the common good and to the building of a society that places the human person at the center.

*Evangelization: Mission to Evangelize ---* That by participating in the Sacraments and meditating on Scripture, Christians may become more aware of their mission to evangelize.

### OCTOBER

*Universal: Journalists ---* That journalists, in carrying out their work, may always be motivated by respect for truth and a strong sense of ethics.

*Evangelization: World Mission Day ---* That World Mission Day may renew within all Christian communities the joy of the Gospel and the responsibility to announce it.

**"My soul magnifies the Lord, and  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!" - Luke 1:47**



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

# Come! Make Mission a MOVEMENT!



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:***

<p>Founder – Venerable Pauline Marie Jaricot</p>  <p><b>(1) Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith</b> creates missionary awareness among the laity and establishes a Programme for regular aid to Mission territories</p>	<p>Founder - Miss Jeanne Bigard</p>  <p><b>(2) Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle</b> awakens adults and youth to the problem of training of local clergy, men and women religious, and catechists in Mission Churches</p>
<p>Founder - Bishop Charles de Forbin - Janson</p>  <p><b>(3) Pontifical Society of the Holy Childhood</b> promotes missionary zeal among children so as to lead them to a sharing of spiritual and material resources with other children</p>	<p>Founder - Blessed Paolo Manna</p>  <p><b>(4) Pontifical Missionary Union of Priests and Religious</b> animates missionary commitment in Priests, men and women Religious, candidates to the priestly and religious life, as well as others engaged in the pastoral ministry of the Church.</p>

If undelivered,  
return to

PONTIFICAL MISSION ORGANIZATION,  
PO Box 4216, #10, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cross, Ulsoor Road,  
Bengaluru – 560042,  
Karnataka,  
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TO:

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