

**Come, help us make 2017 a
YEAR OF BLESSINGS!**



Join the Pontifical Mission Movement!



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

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PROCLAIM

A magazine for Missionary Animation



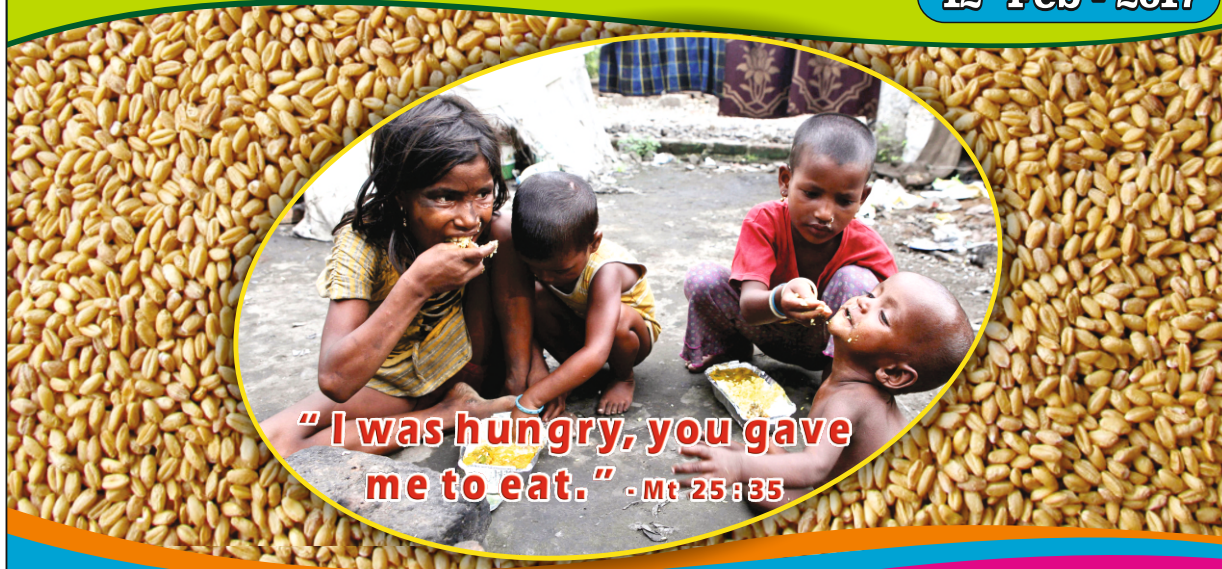
May we be ONE!

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

Missionary Childhood Day

Our children are "LITTLE MISSIONARIES"

12 Feb - 2017



"I was hungry, you gave me to eat." - Mt 25:35

"I have come to give the GOOD NEWS to the poor..."

- Luke 4:18



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The Society of Missionary Childhood



This is my little contribution towards children who are in need, throughout the world...

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Making Jesus present to people around us

Recently, along with Deacon Martin and Ms Sylvie Moron from Missio – Switzerland, I had the privilege of visiting the dioceses of Gulbarga and Bellary. Though it is not my first visit to these dioceses, this time I was lucky to meet the most vulnerable persons in society --- the poor children of remote villages, persons living with HIV/AIDS, widows, distressed women, children with mental disability. The children's homes and hostels, the rehabilitation centers, the developmental activities, the educational and medical apostolates with their human touch are proclaiming the Good News by loving the unfortunate people who are longing for love.



What better way of evangelizing is possible than becoming one with the person suffering. The message of Christmas is Kenosis – God becoming man. The love of God for the suffering humanity is such that he comes down with the Good News and loves those who have only “bad news”!. He has set an example and has invited us to do the same. This is what I could experience in the remote villages of these dioceses. The bishops, the priests, the Religious and catechists leaving their hometown are living their life for alleviating the sufferings of millions of people by loving them.

Evangelization is best when it is 'one to one', 'person to person' and sharing the joys and sorrows of the people. If we are able to share the same food, the same thatched hut, with the poor, spend time to educate their children, be of help when they are sick and invalid, comfort them in their sorrow, that is evangelization. Actions speak louder than words. When we do what we preach, it makes the beholder believe what we say.

In his Apostolic Letter 'Evangelii Gaudium' No.24 Pope Francis calls the Church “the community of missionary disciples who take the first step, who are involved and supportive, who bear fruit and rejoice.” According to him the members of the Church are 'missionary disciples'. They are disciples who are on a mission imitating the master in his mission. The one who is not on the mission is not the disciple of Jesus. Being disciples on mission they will bear fruit in loving and caring. They are 'involved' - active and supportive - helping those who are weak. Pope Francis continues, “ So we can move forward, boldly take the initiative, go out to others, seek those who have fallen away, stand at the crossroads and welcome the outcast.” Hence, the Christian can never be indoors. Open the doors and meet people and announce the Good News. They should be involved in the joys and sufferings of the people.

The involvement, the Pope explains, is 'kneeling down and washing the feet'. The master has washed the feet of his disciples to give us an example. 'Washing the feet' is the symbolism of 'serving'. A Christian must be at the service of all. Service of the poor, the sick, the prisoners, the maimed, the dumb, the most neglected. Only through this action of ours can the love of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit be communicated to the world. This serving the others will reduce their suffering, bringing joy and happiness to their lives. Thus they can experience the Good News through our generous serving. Through the disciples of Jesus, Jesus is made present to them.

Wishing all of you a most beautiful New Year that brings cheer to your life and through you to many others around you.

Fr Faustine L Lobo
National Director, PMO-India