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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>(1) Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith creates missionary awareness among the laity and establishes a Programme for regular aid to Mission territories</p>	<p>Founder - Miss Jeanne Bigard</p>  <p>(2) Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle 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>(3) Pontifical Society of the Holy Childhood 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>(4) Pontifical Missionary Union of Priests and Religious 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>

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PROCLAIM

A magazine for Missionary Animation



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TO:

**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

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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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Missionary Church – the Witness of Mercy

We are in the 90th 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)