**Thanking Red Box holders: Short talk, Spring 2023**

Good morning/afternoon. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and I am the Red Box Local Secretary for our parish.

Missio is the Pope’s charity for World Mission. We ignite God’s love by helping local missionaries to work alongside global communities who are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief.

I am here today to thank you on behalf of Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries for raising £\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in 2022 through the Red Box and direct giving, including Direct Debits and online donations. Thank you for your continued support for our global Church, through prayer and generous giving, despite the challenging times we live in.

On this poster (*hold it up*)/On the poster at the back of church is Fr Leon, a Mill Hill Missionary, with his community in Fundong, Cameroon.

In 2022, you provided essential support to displaced families in the parish of Fundong, which is in the northwest of Cameroon. Sadly, conflict continues in this part of Africa.

Fr Leon’s mission is simple: to encourage children to learn in an environment where they will acquire the confidence and skills to face the world with determination; to strengthen the faith of the community – instilling beliefs and values that the young people will carry with them all of their lives; and to make God known, loved, and served.

An initiative of Fr Leon is the ‘Angels Youth Choir’, which helps to bring young people into the parish community and seeks to prevent them from being involved in the local violence. His aim is to empower them to turn away from the aggression and towards their faith in God. *Pause here*

Through Missio, we are part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries like Fr Leon through prayer and financial assistance. When the devastating earthquake struck Turkey and Syria recently, and Cyclone Freddy hit Malawi, we were in touch with the Missio National Directors in these countries **to listen to them and their communities’ needs, and to provide pastoral and practical support, standing together in solidarity.**

Together, through the Red Box (*hold one up*), we will continue to support communities around the world as they share the Gospel message through their words and actions. *Pause here*

If you don’t already have a Red Box at home, or would like information on other ways to donate, please do talk to me after Mass. Thank you.

**Sample Parish newsletter / website / Facebook announcement**

***Please copy and paste this text into an email, newsletter announcement, WhatsApp message, or onto social media. You can download a copy of the Thank You poster to also share on social media or WhatsApp at missio.org.uk/LS***

**Red Box 2022: Thank You!**

In 2022, <PARISH> raised £\_\_\_\_ through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you! Our missionary community here at <PARISH> is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries through prayer and financial assistance. Your support of projects such as the Fundong Mission station in Cameroon has enabled Fr Leon, a Mill Hill Missionary, to help children learn in a safe environment and instil values that empower them to turn away from conflict and towards faith in God. Visit missio.org.uk to find out more about how your support changes lives for the better.