

A photograph of a woman with dark hair tied back, wearing a white headscarf and a black vest over a white collared shirt. She is smiling and holding a young child in her arms. The child is wearing a pink and white horizontally striped shirt. They are outdoors in what appears to be a rural or semi-rural setting with other people and trees in the background.

missio

Today. Tomorrow. Together.

Mission Today

Autumn 2020

World Mission Sunday

The National Director writes

Dear friends,

'Here I am, send me!' is the theme of this year's month of mission. These words challenge me again to think about what mission means in 2020. I like to think I am open to God's call, but I also want to ask God, 'What are you actually sending me to do?'

In his message for World Mission Sunday, Pope Francis reminds us that God always loves us first and comes to us and calls us with this same love. God sends us to witness to the saving power of Jesus Christ. This allows God to show through us his love for others, a love that transforms hearts and minds in every place and time.

World Mission Sunday, which will be celebrated on 18 October, is an opportunity to reaffirm how prayer, reflection and donations are ways of responding to God's call to witness to his love, which is our mission.

See missio.org.uk/pray for the Pope's monthly prayer intentions

In these very difficult times and with so much uncertainty about our own future here in England and Wales, we must not lose sight of the needs of the Church in areas of poverty and persecution.

All donations will go towards helping our brothers and sisters in greatest need.

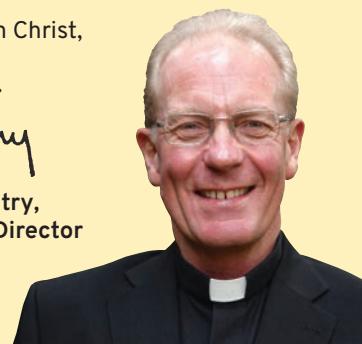
I hope this edition of *Mission Today* will help you to celebrate both God's gift of faith and our mission of sharing it with those near and far.

Thank you so much for your generous support of Missio, a worldwide network at the service of the Holy Father to sustain mission and young churches through prayer and charity.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Father Tony

Fr Anthony Chantry,
Missio National Director



Editorial Board:
Fr Anthony Chantry
Michelle Slater
Nicky Pisa
Stephen Davies

Cover: Brazilian missionary, Sr Nilcéia, responding to God's call in a remote community in Malawi

Explore... donate... reflect at missio.org.uk

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World Mission Sunday: 18 October 2020

Every Catholic community, in every country, sends a powerful message of faith, hope and love on World Mission Sunday

One of only three Papal collections, it is the one Sunday in the year when the entire global Church comes together to support mission. Every single donation from these worldwide Masses goes to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor.

World Mission Sunday is our chance to show love and solidarity to our global Church family. Through our prayers, we support missionaries everywhere in spreading the Good News. And by donating we respond to Christ's call to tell everyone the Good News that God loves them.

All parishes throughout the world celebrate World Mission Sunday because it is vital to the growth of the Church and the spread of the Gospel in predominantly impoverished and remote areas overseas.

The funds raised build much-needed infrastructure, from chapels and schools, to orphanages, clinics and dispensaries. Requested by the local community, the support from Missio transforms lives and creates a hub from which the young Church can flourish and grow: spreading the Good News of the Gospel, ministering to the faithful, and delivering essential services in health and education.



Today. Tomorrow. Together.

We are proud to be the Pope's charity for world mission. Missio works with the Missio family around the world to bring the Church together in compassion and communion. Together, we coordinate World Mission Sunday and provide mission dioceses with the essential support they need to become self-sufficient: local church directly helping local church!

Thank you for helping us support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations around the world. On pages 8-9 you will read about the difference your support made in 2019, and on pages 12-13 you will read about the difference you can make in 2020.

Daily reflections

As we begin this month of October we pray together, sharing in God's love and are motivated to make the world a better place. Prayer is the heart of mission. We have included the references to the original texts that have inspired these reflections. We hope you are encouraged to pray for, and take part in, the mission of Jesus to share God's love throughout the world.

Young girls can go to school in Myanmar, thanks to you



Thursday 1 October

I am sending you out like lambs among wolves but be sure of this: the kingdom of God is very near.

Luke 10:3, 11

Without love, even the most brilliant of deeds count as nothing.

St Thérèse of the Child Jesus, patroness of mission

Friday 2 October

Guide our children, that they may become like Jesus, may imitate him faithfully, and persevere until they attain eternal life.

Prayer to the Holy Guardian Angels



A young man in Cameroon, training to become a priest

Saturday 3 October

With Mary, the Mother of God, we say:
***My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.***

The Magnificat

Sunday 4 October

***The Lord is near. There is no need to worry;
but if there is anything you need, pray for
it, asking God for it with prayer and
thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which
is so much greater than we can understand,
will guard your hearts and your thoughts,
in Christ Jesus.***

Philippians 4:5-7

My Mission Prayer

Here I am, Lord,
send me
to share your love with all people.
May I be empowered
and carried by you
to be courageous and enthusiastic
in bearing faithful witness
to the merciful Father,
to the love of his Son, Jesus Christ,
and to the divine life
in the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever.
Amen



A priest praying with his community,
Papua New Guinea

You can find the Holy Father's monthly
prayer intentions on our website:
missio.org.uk/pray

You can also follow us on social media:



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Daily reflections

As we continue to journey in this month of mission we pray together, sharing in God's love and are motivated to make the world a better place. Prayer is the heart of mission. We have included the references to the original texts that have inspired these reflections. We hope you are encouraged to pray for, and take part in, the mission of Jesus to share God's love throughout the world.



Seminarians in Rwanda make every effort to be self-sufficient

Monday 5 October

Our message to the world is clear: ***Love the Lord your God with all your heart and your neighbour as yourself. Do this and you shall live.***

Luke 10:27-28

Tuesday 6 October

Creation... has to do with God's loving plan in which every creature has its own value and significance.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 76

I thank you for the wonder of my being, for the wonders of all your creation.

Psalm 138 (139)

Wednesday 7 October

When we ask Mary, Mother of God, to pray for us, she embraces her children with the comfort and love of a mother.

Reflection from *Mission Together*, Missio's children's branch



Children learning about our global Church,
Myanmar

Thursday 8 October

Together we seek the Lord knowing that everyone who searches finds and that everyone who knocks will have the door opened.

Luke 11:10

Friday 9 October

Anyone who is not with me is against me; and anyone who does not gather in with me throws away.

Luke 11:23

God has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another. I have my mission.

St John Henry Newman

Saturday 10 October

With Mary, the Mother of God, we say:
The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

The Magnificat

Sunday 11 October

We can do all things in the One who strengthens us. The Lord is the One in whom we hoped for salvation. The Lord has destroyed death and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

Philippians 4



MHM Formation House, Cameroon

2019 World Mission Sunday update

For World Mission Sunday in 2019 we shared Sr Clara's story and her order's work with children, young people and women in India. These inspiring Sisters continue to create hope and a sense of belonging for vulnerable people.



'We always give them the confidence that Jesus loves them' Sr Clara

In the underprivileged parts of Chennai, despair and poverty cause widespread antisocial behaviour – drug and alcohol abuse, and a high dropout rate from

education. Many people are unable to find work. Violence against women and children, child trafficking, child abuse and child labour are rife.

Bringing hope where there is despair

A group of Salesian Sisters are making it their mission to bring help and hope to those suffering. With education, support and protection, the Sisters seek to 'liberate people from poverty born out of generations of discrimination and lack of opportunities'.

Through education and youth programmes, women's training and financial empowerment, clinics, drug prevention schemes, family counselling and more, the Sisters are both channelling and becoming the life-blood of struggling communities.

Sr Nirmala shares:

'Motivated by the vision of Pope Francis – that my life on this earth itself is a mission – we joyously share the life of our poor marginalised children, youth and women, and constantly strive to be part of their lives'.

Thamayanthi

Orphaned from a young age, Thamayanthi was 13 when she was injured by a bomb blast during the civil war in Sri Lanka in 2009. Her right knee was badly infected by a piece of bombshell lodged there: an infection which festered for ten years. Thamayanthi was in constant pain and unable to walk.

The Sisters brought Thamayanthi to one of their orphanages in India to care for her. She has had two operations and treatment to heal the infection. She can walk again – with crutches but without pain.

Donations from Missio England and Wales are enabling the Sisters to provide the care and spiritual support vulnerable children need.

Thanks to you

Thamayanthi is not out of the woods yet; she has tuberculosis and needs further surgery. But with your prayers and donations and the love and care of the Sisters, she and others like her will continue to heal and recover.

Sr Nirmala sends this message to you:

'Thank you Missio England and Wales for your love for the vulnerable children. Through your ongoing financial assistance we help and heal the children in need. God bless'.



Daily reflections

This week we celebrate World Mission Sunday and continue to pray together, sharing in God's love. Prayer is the heart of mission. We have included the references to the original texts that have inspired these reflections. We hope you are encouraged to pray for, and take part in, the mission of Jesus to share God's love throughout the world.



Sr Sonia and Sr Emily at Mass, Malawi

Monday 12 October

When Christ freed us, he meant us to remain free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery to that which is contrary to the Gospel.

Galatians 5:1

Tuesday 13 October

We are called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves.

Pope Francis, *Gaudete et Exsultate*, 14

Wednesday 14 October

For our mission, the Spirit empowers us with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Galatians 5:25



Sr Shanti inspires young children to learn, Malawi

Thursday 15 October

Yours are the eyes through which Christ looks with compassion upon the world. Yours are the hands with which Christ blesses the world.

St Teresa of Ávila

Friday 16 October

Go courageously to God, along the way he has traced out for you, steadfastly embracing the means he offers you.

St Margaret Mary Alacoque

Please look out for more reflections on our social media:

Saturday 17 October

Christianity is not a matter of persuading people of particular ideas, but of inviting them to share in the greatness of Christ.

St Ignatius of Antioch

Sunday 18 October

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

'Here I am, send me!' Isaiah 6:8

God always loves us first, and with that love comes to us and calls us. Our personal vocation comes from the fact that we are sons and daughters of God in the Church, his family, brothers and sisters in the love that Jesus has shown us. He asks us to be personally willing to be sent, because he himself is love, love that is always 'on mission', always reaching out in order to give life.

Holy Father's Message for World Mission Sunday 2020



Here I am, send me!

We are all called to share God's love

GIVE ONLINE
missio.org.uk
Reg. Charity No. 1056451

'Here I am, send me!'

Isaiah 6:8



We are all called to share God's love

Sister Nilcéia has responded to God's call by devoting her life to vulnerable people. More specifically, the practical care and spiritual nourishment of children in Malawi, one of the poorest countries in the world. Originally from Brazil, Sr Nilcéia now runs educational and nutritional programmes for children and teenagers.

Recently, as a result of growing need, Sr Nilcéia created a programme for young mothers and their babies, with the support of Missio donors. She shares:

'The programme I've created for babies and pregnant girls is going well. Peter, our healthcare assistant, measures the babies' development and makes sure they are growing properly. The women receive medicine, sugar and soap. The soap is to wash the baby and the sugar is for the mother because supplying food is difficult because of the pandemic... We Sisters don't have any resource or income; we live through donations and at the moment, donations are very few.'

When we ask Sr Nilcéia about her faith and her dedication to the families in the remote Malawian countryside, she is eager to explain:

'Our small clinic, a red brick building in the dusty landscape, is an oasis of hope. Despite the challenges, we persevere in this work



Mothers and babies waiting to be seen at the Lisanjala Health Clinic, Malawi

because we love God and we love his people. I believe in the goodness of God and we serve as Jesus did. But sometimes, the darkness seems very dark.

'I remember delivering Linda's baby, a little boy called Blessing. Linda was just 15 years old, with mental health problems, and she had been abused and raped by a much older man. Linda's family couldn't help, so she came to live with me and the other Sisters. After he was born, Blessing contracted malaria.'

'After a month or so, Blessing went to live with his grandmother, and we provided milk for him every week. But when he was just 10 months old, Blessing died. He was malnourished. It turned out his grandparents had been giving the milk to another child.'

'I cry when I think of Blessing; he didn't have to die. But this is a broken world. Our only hope is in God, who is with us through the sadness. It was our privilege to love Linda and baby Blessing when it mattered most.'

'The need here in Malawi is great. But the Lord is faithful and we continue to serve. We take courage from knowing you are with us in this mission'.

Your generosity and prayers on World Mission Sunday mean that people like Sr Nilcéia keep loving, serving and sharing God's grace. She is just one example of many selfless missionaries who live and work amongst some of the most vulnerable communities in the world.

Missio empowers the Catholic Church globally, showing the love of Christ to everyone, and especially to those in need. Your donations keep health clinics and schools open, train tomorrow's generation of Priests and Sisters, and create a vibrant Catholic Church for the future.



Sr Nilcéia continues to care for children as best she can despite the pandemic

Please read more about Sr Nilcéia's work on page 16

The Holy Father's message

This is an abridged version of the Holy Father's message for World Mission Sunday 2020. The full text, with references, is available at missio.org.uk/wms

'Here I am, send me'

In this year marked by the COVID-19 pandemic, the missionary journey of the Church continues to be illuminated by the response of the prophet Isaiah: 'Here I am, send me' (6:8).



This invitation challenges both the Church and humanity as a whole. Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realised that we are on the same boat, all of us called to row together, that only together can we do this.

Through pain and death, we experience our human frailty, but at the same time these things remind us of our deep desire for life and liberation from evil. The call to mission, the invitation to step out of ourselves for love of God and neighbour, presents itself as an opportunity for sharing, service and intercessory prayer. The mission that God entrusts to each one of us leads us away from fear and introspection, to a renewed realisation that we find our true selves when we give ourselves to others.

The Father's Missionary

In the sacrifice of the cross, where the mission of Jesus is fully accomplished, God shows us that his love is for each and every one of us. Jesus is the Father's Missionary: his life and ministry reveal his total obedience to the Father's will. In turn, Jesus draws us into his mission of love, and with his own Spirit he makes us his disciples and sends us on a mission to the world and its peoples.

It is Christ who makes the Church go out of herself. In the mission of evangelisation, you move because the Holy Spirit pushes you, and carries you.

In the heart of God

Our personal vocation comes from the fact that we are sons and daughters of God in the Church, his family, brothers and sisters in the love that Jesus has shown us.

All people have a human dignity founded on the divine invitation to be children of God and to become, in the sacrament of Baptism and in the freedom of faith, what they have always been in the heart of God.

The Church continues the mission of Jesus and sends us everywhere so that through our witness and the proclamation of the Gospel, God may continue to manifest his love and transform hearts, societies and cultures.

A personal relationship of love

Mission is a free and conscious response to God's call. Yet we discern this call only when we have a personal relationship of love with Jesus, present in his Church. Are we prepared to welcome the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to listen to the call to mission, in all the everyday events of life?

Far from increasing mistrust and indifference, our current situation should make us even more attentive to how we relate to others. Prayer, in which God touches and moves our hearts, should make us ever more open to our brothers and sisters' need for dignity and freedom, as well as our responsibility to care for all creation.

The impossibility of gathering as a Church to celebrate the Eucharist has led us to share the experience of the many Christian

communities that cannot celebrate Mass every Sunday. In all of this, God's question: 'Whom shall I send?' is addressed once more to us and awaits a generous and convincing response: 'Here I am, send me!' God continues to look for those whom he can send forth into the world and to the nations to bear witness to his love.

World Mission Sunday

On World Mission Sunday we affirm how prayer, reflection and material offerings are opportunities to participate actively in the mission of Jesus in his Church. The charity expressed in the collections during the penultimate Sunday of October support the missionary work carried out in my name by Missio (the Pontifical Mission Societies), in order to meet the needs of peoples and Churches throughout the world, for the salvation of all.

May the Most Blessed Virgin Mary continue to intercede for us and sustain us.

+Franciscus

Your prayers and your donations on World Mission Sunday support our Church family overseas through:



Faith and Outreach Projects

which restore the dignity and hope of vulnerable children and families in need of your care



Supporting Catholic Missionaries

who give their lives to share God's mercy and compassion with those most in need



Building New Churches to be beacons of hope for those seeking a place to pray and to celebrate God's love for us

'Here I am, send me!'

Isaiah 6:8

Continued from page 13



Sister Nilcéia also manages the Lisanjala Health Clinic in Malawi, which supports 18 villages in the local area. Countless people, from all faiths and none, often walk up to three hours to attend the clinic with their illnesses and ailments, most commonly: malaria and malnourishment.

You may remember Sr Sonia (right), who worked in Lisanjala before Sr Nilcéia. Sr Sonia established the clinic where Sr Nilcéia now works. She and her fellow Sisters are surely the hands and feet of Jesus.

'Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world. It is hard to believe, but many

people who live here are unable to think beyond their next meal. Sometimes this next meal is just leaves, grass, bark or roots, which makes them very sick,' explains Sr Nilcéia sadly. 'My healthcare assistant, Peter (opposite page), and I treat around 80 people a day. Through our clinic, countless vulnerable children's lives are saved'.

Peter is a layperson and has been working as a healthcare assistant for 13 years. He shares: 'I love my work. I was born in Zomba and now live in Lisanjala with my wife and four children. I am not Catholic, but I'm very happy working with the Sisters.'



Sr Sonia at Lisanjala, 2014



Sr Nilcéia at Lisanjala, 2020

'I receive a monthly salary of around £70 from the government. It's not enough to feed my family, so I also cultivate crops – maize and ground nuts – and while I'm working at the clinic, my wife is working on the farm'.

The daily struggle of living in one of the remotest areas of Malawi has not dampened Sr Nilcéia's spirit: 'Life brings joy, it brings peace, and it renews my faith, renews my love, my vocation, my oblation, my service to the Church for my community here in Malawi.'

'I want you to know how grateful I am for your support and prayers. Together we are one family, one faith, one Church, and together we share love through good actions.'

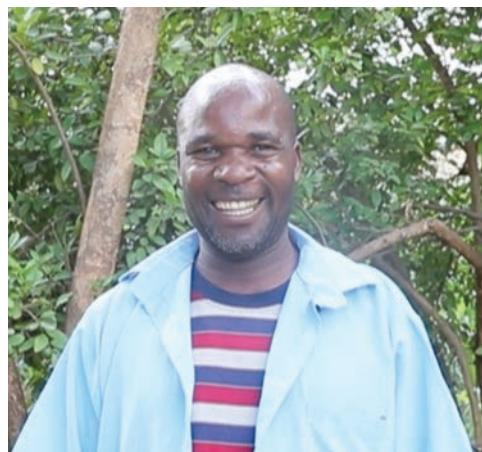
'The centre of all of this is love. And when you do good, then good remains with you... When we give ourselves for others, we will be satisfied in what we are doing, in what we are'.

In his message for World Mission Sunday, the Pope says that we all have a mission and that mission is a free and conscious

response to God's call to share his love with all humanity. The events of the last few months have made it even clearer that we are all connected – we cannot stand alone, and it is only if we work together that we can overcome the challenges we face.

Furthermore, in not being able to gather together, we have known what it is like for many remote Christian communities that cannot celebrate Mass every Sunday. The fragility of life has been all too apparent, but we have also seen that when we stand together in solidarity with one another and share our resources, hope is renewed.

God wants a life of hope and love for all his children. Throughout all of this, God's question: 'Whom shall I send?' is addressed once more to us and awaits a generous and convincing response: 'Here I am, send me!' God continues to look for those whom he can send forth into the world and to the nations to bear witness to his love.



Peter is committed to serving his local community in Malawi

How will you share God's love this World Mission Sunday?

Daily reflections

As we continue to journey in this month of mission we pray together, sharing in God's love and are motivated to make the world a better place. We have included the references to the original texts that have inspired these reflections. We hope you are encouraged to pray for, and take part in, the mission of Jesus to share God's love throughout the world.



Monday 19 October

We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

Ephesians 2:10

Tuesday 20 October

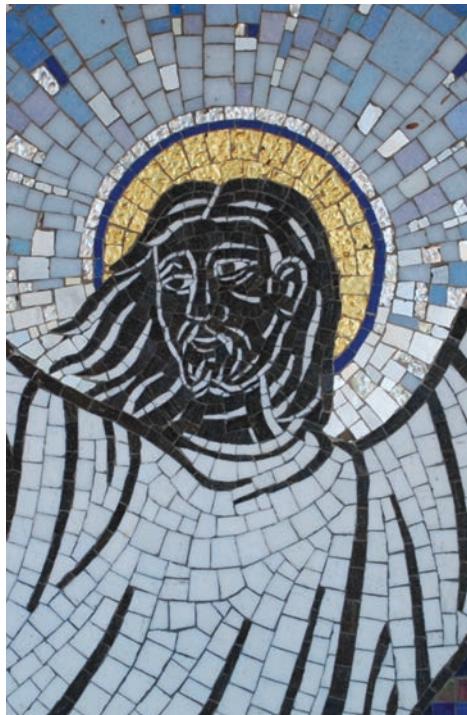
Be dressed for action and ready to open the door as soon as the Lord comes and knocks.

Luke 12:36-37

Wednesday 21 October

You have been made a servant of the Gospel by a gift of grace from God. You have been entrusted with this special grace of proclaiming the infinite treasure of Christ.

Ephesians 3:2-12



Thursday 22 October

There can be no true missionary work without the explicit proclamation of Jesus as Lord.

Pope St John Paul II

Friday 23 October

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Ephesians 4:5-6

Please look out for more reflections on our social media:



Young men studying for the priesthood, Holy Land

Saturday 24 October

With Mary, the Mother of God, we say:
Holy is God's name and his mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear him.

The Magnificat



Healing and reconciliation, Rwanda

Sunday 25 October

It was the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the Gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. You are servants of the real, living God, who sends you out to witness to the commandments of love: to love God and our neighbour.

1 Thessalonians 1 & Matthew 22

Daily reflections

As October comes to a close, we share in God's love and are motivated to make the world a better place. Prayer is the heart of mission. We have included the references to the original texts that have inspired these reflections. We hope you are encouraged to pray for, and take part in, the mission of Jesus to share God's love throughout the world.



Faith formation for children, Peru

Monday 26 October

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light.

Ephesians 5:8

Tuesday 27 October

Our families are true domestic churches. They are the right place for faith to become life, and life to grow in faith.

Pope Francis

Wednesday 28 October

By the intercession of Simon and Jude, we pray that the Church may be strong in her mission of attracting people to believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ.

Collect of the day



Many families strive to live out their faith in Rwanda

Thursday 29 October

We are ambassadors for Christ, since God is appealing through us: on Christ's behalf we beg you, be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Friday 30 October

I thank God whenever I think of you, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it, right up to the present.

Philippians 1:3-6

Saturday 31 October

Holy Mary, Virgin and Mother, help us to bear witness to your son Jesus, that the joy of the Gospel may reach to the ends of earth.

Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*



Mill Hill News

A reflection from Fr Michael Corcoran MHM, General Superior of St Joseph's Missionary Society

Living in a crisis with hope

What we have experienced during the pandemic and what the world is going through this year will be spoken about for generations to come. When people look back on 2020, they will tell the story of how the world had to pause – travel was suspended, people had to isolate themselves from one another and had to learn new ways to study, to communicate, and do business. They will speak of how new opportunities were found for people to gather virtually – not only for lessons, socialising and decision-making – but also for prayer and the praise of God.

I have seen the prayerful and creative use of various online platforms that have brought encouragement, through God's word, to his scattered people during this critical time.

With isolation and lockdown, we have missed the visits and the 'coming together' whether for worship, work, sporting or social occasions. I hope that many of us have had more time to reflect and tune in to God and consider what God may be saying to us.

I am sure that many people have grown closer to God through this crisis. Our forced seclusion and restricted personal freedoms have certainly reminded us that we are not invincible, and we are far from being in control of everything.

We are quite dependent on each other in our global family and on God. Life is



Fr Jacob MHM from India on mission in Cambodia praying with people, post lockdown

precious and fragile; love and family are fundamental to our safety and well-being. Not only is our physical health important, but also our mental, emotional and spiritual health. They all need to be nourished if we are to truly 'keep body and soul together'.

The words that have leapt out at me during this critical time have been 'trust', 'hope', 'life', 'love' and 'truth'. In our relationship with God and with each other, and through prayer, we continue to welcome each new day with freshness.

Serving communities in crisis

The Mill Hill Missionaries are an international fellowship of Catholic missionaries dedicated to announcing the Good News of Jesus Christ to people throughout the world. During the COVID-19 pandemic, thanks to your loving generosity, they have been able to bring help and hope to communities where the pandemic has compounded conflict, poverty and hardship.

Cameroon

With cases of Coronavirus confirmed in the area around Kembong parish, many workers have lost their jobs, and many families are unable to fetch food without putting themselves at risk. With your help, our Mill Hill partners have delivered vital food rations, as well as soap, sanitiser and face masks to families across more than 15 mission stations. Fr Richard MHM shared:

'I bring to you hearts of gratitude for this great gesture of solidarity, when the whole world is locked down because of the COVID-19 pandemic. May the good Lord replenish your store'.



Philippines

Turda Parish spreads across several small islands and each are home to around 600 families. Due to the Coronavirus lockdown, people have lost livelihoods. Now, many families have even more mouths to feed as workers, dismissed from their jobs, are returning back to their family homes. Sadly, the coastguard has banned fishing, removing a vital source of food.

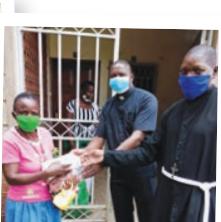
Thanks to you, parish volunteers have delivered rice to hundreds of hungry families. Fr John Paul MHM shared:

'Missio has shown us that God does not fail and that the Church reaches out to her children in times of distress. The people of Turda Parish know that the world has not abandoned them'.

For more Mill Hill news, please visit millhillmissionaries.com

The Holy Father's Emergency Fund update

In April 2020 His Holiness Pope Francis set up an Emergency Fund through Missio, to help missionaries and young and poor churches through the COVID-19 crisis. Thanks to Missio supporters in England and Wales, we have been able to help those in greatest need across the world. Here are some examples:



Kenya

As COVID-19 forced churches to close, many Priests lost their income. They struggled to maintain themselves and reach their parishioners, who also faced extra hardship as the economy shut down.

Thanks to your donations, Priests have received essential supplies and continue to do their best to bring practical and spiritual help to their communities.

Fr Bonaventure in Nairobi shared: '*This is the time to be in the streets, dirtying our hands in support of the vulnerable: an act Missio has helped us achieve. Thank you to all people who have and still support us. Be blessed always. We keep you truly in our prayers'.*

Sri Lanka

With help from the Emergency Fund, Missio has supplied financial support and dry food rations to 173 Catechists, 40 Priests and 20 Religious communities across two dioceses which are particularly struggling. They in turn have spread this help to the people of their parishes and communities.

Fr Philip, a parish Priest, shared:

'Your support is a treasure for me and the community: a great help not only to the Catholics but to all the poor people in the area as they face this crisis. I have offered Masses for you and your community. May the good Lord bless all of you abundantly for the good work you do'.

Build a vibrant Catholic Church for the future

Remember Missio in your Will

For generations, people like you have been sharing their blessings by helping missionaries serve in communities that are poor or in need around the world.



In 2019, legacies left to Missio funded the construction of a new presbytery and community hall in the Diocese of Jammu-Srinagar in northern India. Bishop Ivan Pereira shared: 'Thanks to your support through Missio, the Church continues to play a leading role in education, healthcare and social services in our diocese, reaching out to the poorest in our society... Our work with children, youth, men and women is bearing fruit and your support is making this possible. By your prayers and assistance, you are active participants in the work of the Church in this mission diocese.'



Now, more than ever, we depend on the support and care of Catholics like you to pass on the gift of faith to future generations, and to share the love of God with those in greatest need. Please consider leaving a gift in your Will to Missio.

For more information, please complete the form overleaf and tick the yellow box on the back page.





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Missio

23 Eccleston Square,

London SW1V 1NU

Reg. Charity No. 1056651

Tel: 020 7821 9755 (office hours)

Email: redbox@missio.org.uk

Web: missio.org.uk

Mill Hill Missionaries

Red Box, PO Box 163,

Liverpool L37 1WW

Reg. Charity No. 220690

Tel: 01704 875048 (office hours)

Email:

redbox@apfmillhillappeals.org.uk

Web: millhillmissionaries.com



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