

## Advent reflections

Many of us joined together for online reflections in Advent and Lent, hearing from missionaries and reflecting on the upcoming Sunday gospel.



We will be offering weekly reflections again in Advent, reflecting on how Advent is celebrated around the world.

They will be on Fridays at 10.30am each week, starting on 26 November. Each reflection lasts about 20 minutes.

You are welcome to stay on the Zoom call to talk with us and fellow Local Secretaries. They will also be live-streamed at **YouTube.com/MissioUK** where they can be watched again afterwards. Please let fellow Red Box holders and parishioners know. To get the link to join via Zoom, please email [redbox@missio.org.uk](mailto:redbox@missio.org.uk).

## Fr Michael MHM in Malaysia

Don't forget that we're still getting regular updates from Fr Michael, a Mill Hill Missionary ministering in Malaysia. Read and share his updates at [missio.org.uk/frmichael](http://missio.org.uk/frmichael)

## Paying in money at the Post Office

To pay in cash at the Post Office, you now need a paying-in slip which includes a barcode. If your paying-in book does not have a barcode on each page, and you use the Post Office to pay in Red Box money, please email [redbox@missio.org.uk](mailto:redbox@missio.org.uk) or call **020 7821 9755**.



# Missionaries Together

## Local Secretaries Southern Newsletter

Winter 2021



Dear Friends,

Thank you all for your efforts over the past year, including helping to celebrate World Mission Sunday. It has been wonderful to see how you have helped our parish communities come together in support of those most in need. The prayers and donations offered in your communities make a real difference.

It has been great to meet some of you at the Diocesan Mission Masses and at our online meetings and Mission Animations. We hope that there will be many more opportunities in the coming months, such as our Advent reflections, for us to gather together and support each other. See inside for more details.

Many of you have spoken about re-connecting with our Red Box holders. There are a few suggestions overleaf of ways to reach out to our Missio community in the parish.

Thank you again for your continued hard work and support.

Dave Wheat

## Your Regional Community Fundraisers

**Dave Wheat:** [dave@missio.org.uk](mailto:dave@missio.org.uk) Phone: 07593 544622

Arundel & Brighton, Birmingham, Brentwood, Cardiff, Clifton, East Anglia, Menevia, Northampton, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Southwark and Westminster.

**Theresa Codd:** [theresa@missio.org.uk](mailto:theresa@missio.org.uk) Phone: 07593 544625

Hallam, Hexham & Newcastle, Lancaster, Leeds, Liverpool, Middlesbrough, Nottingham, Salford, Shrewsbury & Wrexham.

## Blessed Pauline Jaricot

We are delighted to announce that Pauline Jaricot, the founder of the Association for the Propagation of the Faith, will become Blessed Pauline Jaricot on 22 May 2022. The Beatification will take place in Lyon, where she lived. Her original idea of praying and giving a little to enable missionaries to share God's love with all people is one which we continue today through the Red Box.

Next year is a wonderful opportunity to find out more about Pauline Jaricot and be inspired by her. The *Mission Today Calendar* includes some information on her each month. And the Spring edition of *Mission Today* will include lots more about this humble, determined lay woman.

More on Blessed Pauline Jaricot at [missio.org.uk/Pauline](https://missio.org.uk/Pauline)



## Re-connecting with your Red Box holders

Many parishes are slowly and carefully gathering together. This presents an opportunity for us to re-connect with the many Red Box holders and online donors in our parishes. You may wish to consider some of the following ideas from fellow Local Secretaries:

- **Red Box Amnesty.** Ask people to bring in their Box for emptying over a few weekends, and check the details you have for them.
- **Prayer.** Invite your Red Box holders and the wider parish community to come together for a time of Mission prayer and sharing during Advent. You can watch our Advent reflections as a group and join the Missio community in prayer and reflection.
- **Remembrance.** Gather for a meal / refreshments to remember and celebrate members of your parish Red Box community who have gone to their heavenly reward. Share stories of your friends and relatives who supported the missions in their lifetime.

## End of Year Mailing 2021

As usual, in November you will receive your 'End of Year Forms' in the post. Whether you've been able to collect some money this year or not, the forms help ensure our records are up to date, that we can claim any Gift Aid we're entitled to, and that we correctly attribute the generous funds, given to support missionaries around the world, as having come from your parish community. If you have any questions about the forms, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

## Contactless Giving

We are trialling contactless giving in some parishes as an additional way that people can give. If you are interested in helping to trial the contactless devices, please get in touch.

It is one of the areas which came out of the Local Secretary Consultation, which is still ongoing, with working groups looking at specific areas of the Red Box: cashless giving, the role of the Local Secretary, resources, and training. We will continue to share information from the consultation. You can find some initial findings on the LS page of the Missio website: [missio.org.uk/LS](https://missio.org.uk/LS)

## Local Secretary Online Training

There are only two chances left in 2021 to join our online training and formation sessions. They are an opportunity to meet other Local Secretaries, discuss Mission, share your thoughts and pick up new ideas. Each session lasts no more than 90 minutes. The sessions are particularly relevant for new Local Secretaries but are open to all. Please choose whichever one date suits you best (it is the same session, run twice) and email [redbox@missio.org.uk](mailto:redbox@missio.org.uk) to register. Next year we hope to hold some training 'in person'.

**Thursday, 11 November at 6.30pm or Friday, 12 November at 10.30am**