**Thanking Red Box holders: Short talk, Spring 2024**

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 walk 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 2023 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 Ignatius, a Mill Hill Missionary, celebrating Mass with parishioners in a rural community in Uganda.

In 2023, you provided essential support to enable Missionary Priests, just like Fr Ignatius, to go out to some of the most remote areas of their parish to share the Sacraments and the message of the Gospel with their communities. This is the very essence of being a missionary disciple, and something we can all share in. Our Parish here today is connected to our global Catholic community through the celebration of the Eucharist and through prayer. *Pause here*

As you will be aware, in many countries the Church not only provides for the spiritual needs of the local community, but it is also a key player in the provision of services that improve the well-being of the most vulnerable in society.

For example, in the Karamoja region of Uganda, the Mill Hill Missionaries have been working with the community to organise local self-help groups. The aim is to amplify the voices of marginalized groups, particularly women, who historically have been side-lined in decision-making processes. As a result, unique projects have been developed that are tailored to each group’s specific needs and interests.

Through Missio, we are part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries like Fr Ignatius through prayer and financial assistance. 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 share on social media or WhatsApp, at* missio.org.uk/LS

**Red Box 2023: Thank You!**In 2023, <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 overseas through prayer and financial assistance. Your support of Missionary Priests, like Fr Ignatuis MHM working with a rural community in Uganda, enables people to come together to celebrate the Eucharist and to work together to improve the lives of the whole community. Visit missio.org.uk to find out more.