

Supporting our brothers and sisters in



ETHIOPIA



You shall be my witnesses

Acts 1:8



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the QR code

World Mission Sunday

23 October 2022

Mission
Month
October
2022

Lord,
give me a heart
that is open and warm,
from which your love can flow
to those around me.

Give me a spirit
that embraces the whole world,
the earth and all its peoples.

Let me live in each moment
today,
conscious of your call
to give the Good News,
to be part of a Church
which brings
justice, peace and hope
especially to those who are most in need.

Let my every word and gesture
contribute to
healing,
restoring
and uniting
all your children everywhere.

Missio Scotland prayer



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is now as easy as 1,2,3!**



missio
Scotland



Your generosity enables Missio to act on behalf of the Catholics in Scotland to support Church communities in the parts of the world which are designated as mission countries - in Africa, Asia, South America, Oceania and the Caribbean. This year we hope to fund projects in many places but in this issue of our Mission Month magazine we thought to highlight two projects for the Church in Ethiopia.

Although Catholics only make up 1% of the population of Ethiopia, the Catholic Church provides 80% of social services in the country. This work is carried out by women and men religious and Ethiopian lay people. That statistic in itself is a powerful witness to the Gospel and demonstrates that the Catholics in Ethiopia are part of a Church which is 'outward looking'.

The Pontifical Mission Societies are the Pope's official means by which richer parts of the Church help the parts which are new or small or poor through prayers, donations and the sending of priests, sisters and lay missionaries. It has been carrying out this work for the past 200 years. The founder and inspiration for all this was a young French woman, Pauline Marie Jaricot, who was beatified on the 22nd May this year. Pauline lived her entire life in Lyon, France but had a heart which reached out to the whole world through her support for missionaries. She bore witness to the solidarity which makes the Church one family.

On this World Mission Sunday, Pope Francis reminds us that we are all called to be witnesses of Christ by our example and by our support of the worldwide Church. We hope you enjoy the magazine.

Fr. Vincent Lockhart
National Director of Missio Scotland



Message from the Most Reverend William Nolan Archbishop of Glasgow

Dear sisters and brothers,

when I learned that Pope Francis had appointed me as the new Archbishop of Glasgow, I felt somewhat overwhelmed at the prospect. However, I soon became aware of the prayers and support of everyone throughout the Archdiocese. That reality of supporting one another lies at the heart of what the Church is and World Mission Sunday witnesses to that in a very public and global way.

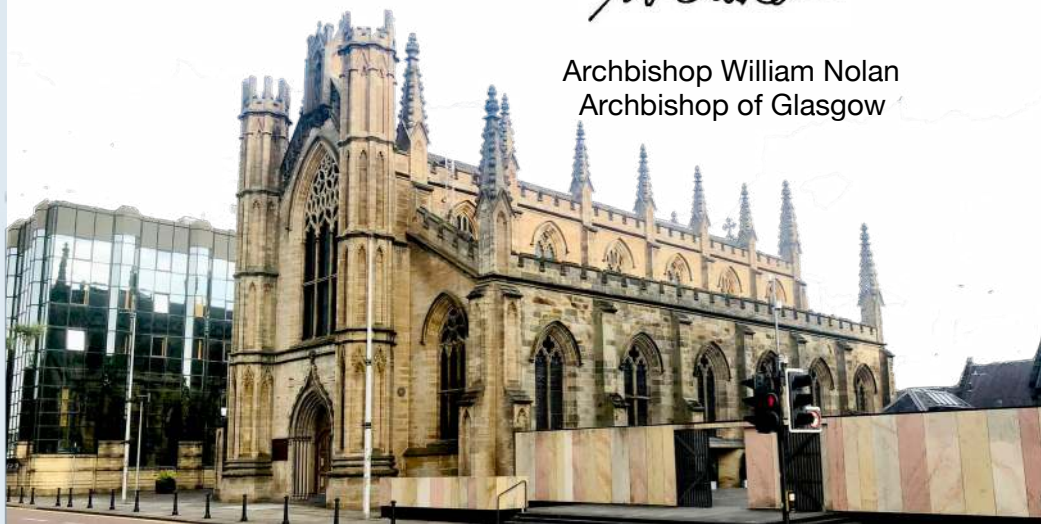
World Mission Sunday has taken place in Scotland every October for the past 100 years and has been organised by the Pontifical Mission Societies. Over that time many women and men left our shores to witness to the Gospel all over the world. Through our donations and prayers on Mission Sunday, thousands of Scottish missionaries were supported in their work of bringing the Good News by caring for the poor and sick, bringing development through education and establishing the Church. Scottish missionaries still carry out that work in many places today but they are fewer in number. Now the Church communities they helped to grow abroad are sending priests and sisters to us. The donations we give and the prayers we offer on Mission Sunday will not only help missionaries but also our sisters and brothers in those countries where the Church is growing and blossoming.

The Bishops and the Catholic community in Scotland congratulate the Pontifical Mission Societies, nowadays known as Missio Scotland, on the 200th anniversary of the foundation of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, one of its branches, and the 100th anniversary of becoming the Pope's official charity for mission.

I would ask you to please be generous on Mission Sunday.

May God bless you and our parish communities.

Archbishop William Nolan
Archbishop of Glasgow



The Holy Father's message



This is an abridged version of the Holy Father's message for World Mission Sunday 2022. The full text, with references, is available at missioscotland.com

'You shall be my witnesses'

Acts 1:8

The theme for World Mission Sunday this year is based on the words spoken by the Risen Jesus to his disciples just before his Ascension into heaven: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

'You shall be my witnesses'

This is the heart of Jesus' teaching to the disciples regarding their mission in the world. The disciples are to be witnesses of Jesus, in every place and situation, thanks to the grace of the Holy Spirit that they will receive. Christ was the first to be sent, as a 'missionary' of the Father (Jn 20:21), and as such, he is the Father's 'faithful witness' (cf. Rev 1:5).

In a similar way, every Christian is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ. The Church's only mission, as the community of Christ's disciples, is to bring the Gospel to the entire world by bearing witness to Christ. Each baptised person is called to

mission, in the Church and by the mandate of the Church: consequently, mission is carried out together, not individually, in communion with the ecclesial community.

Missionaries of Christ are not sent to communicate themselves, to demonstrate their powers of persuasion or their managerial skills. Instead, they have the supreme honour of presenting Christ in words and actions, proclaiming to everyone the Good News of his salvation, with joy and boldness, as the first apostles did.

In evangelisation, the example of a Christian life and the proclamation of Christ are inseparable. This kind of complete, consistent, and joyful witness to Christ will surely be a force of attraction also for the growth of the Church in the third millennium. I urge everyone to have the courage, frankness and *parrhesía* (ability to speak the truth) of the first Christians, to bear witness to Christ in word and deed in every area of life.

'To the ends of the earth'

The words 'to the ends of the earth' challenge us all to go beyond our geographical boundaries and comfort zones into situations and places where missionary witnesses of Christ have not arrived, to bring the Good News of his love. The Church must constantly keep looking outwards and testify to all people, whatever their circumstances, the love of Christ. Here I would like to remember and express my gratitude to all those missionaries who have given their lives to share Christ's love with all the brothers and sisters they encounter.

Strengthened and guided by the Spirit

When the risen Christ commissioned the disciples to be his witnesses, he also promised them the grace needed for this great responsibility. We see in Acts 1:8, that it was precisely following the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples that the first act of witnessing to the crucified and risen Christ took place. Whereas they had previously been weak, fearful and closed in on themselves, the Holy Spirit gave them the strength, courage and wisdom to bear witness to Christ before all people.

It is precisely when we feel tired, unmotivated or confused that we should remember to turn to the Holy Spirit in prayer. Prayer plays a fundamental role in our missionary life, for it allows us to be refreshed and strengthened by the Spirit, the inexhaustible divine source of renewed energy and joy in sharing Christ's life with others. It is the Holy Spirit who gives us the right word, at the right time, and in the right way.

The same Spirit which guides the universal Church, also inspires ordinary men and women to undertake extraordinary missions. And so it was that exactly two hundred years ago, a young French woman, Blessed Pauline Jaricot, founded the Association for the Propagation of the Faith (Missio's APF). She established a network of prayer and fundraising for missionaries, so that the faithful could actively participate in God's mission 'to the ends of the earth'.

This brilliant idea gave rise to the annual celebration of World Mission Sunday. The funds collected by parishes worldwide are sent to the universal solidarity fund which the Pope administers to support the mission of the Church throughout the world.

This same Spirit guided and inspired the founders of the other three societies which now make up Missio (the Pontifical Mission Societies). I encourage you to rejoice with them, in this special year, for the evangelising work they enable the Church to carry out globally and locally. My hope is that local Churches will increasingly look to Missio as a tangible means of fostering a missionary spirit

among the people of God.

Dear brothers and sisters, I continue to dream of a completely missionary Church, and a new era of missionary activity among Christian communities. I repeat Moses' great desire for the people of God on their journey: 'Would that all the Lord's people were prophets!' (Num 11:29). Indeed, would that all of us in the Church were what we already are by virtue of our baptism: prophets, witnesses, missionaries of the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to the ends of the earth! Mary, Queen of the Missions, pray for us!

Francis

World Mission Sunday 23 October 2022

Solidarity in faith, hope and love

What is World Mission Sunday?

It is one of the three annual Papal collections when the global Church comes together to support our Catholic brothers and sisters who are in need of our help. Every collection and donation on this day supports churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor.

Where and why does it take place?

World Mission Sunday Masses take place in every single Catholic parish throughout the world. Through our prayers and financial support two things happen. Firstly, it helps struggling Catholic communities survive and flourish and secondly, it strengthens the bond which unites the whole Church so that we can truly say we are a family.

What happens to my donations?

World Mission Sunday is organised by Missio in all the countries where the Church exists and your donations build much-needed infrastructure, from chapels and schools to orphanages, clinics and dispensaries. Missio is proud to be the Pope's charity for world mission and works with the global Missio network to help the local churches be self-sufficient.

**local church
helping
local church**





A living connection

between

**St Teresa's Parish
in Dumfries**

and the

**Franciscan
Missionaries
of Our Lady
in Ethiopia**

Beatrice Gardner and Derek Cochrane are parishioners of St Teresa's in Dumfries and two long-standing members of the Ababa Project, the parish group that supports life-giving and life-saving work in Ethiopia via the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady.

The Ababa Project is one of those which Missio Scotland is financing in the country this year. An essential part of the project is the link with these inspiring lay missionaries here in Scotland and their partners in Ethiopia.



"I have had the honour of taking part in two mission trips, firstly in 2012 as part of the large group led by Fr Jim Hayes and in 2013 with Beatrice and Rebecca.

There was nothing that could prepare you even though Fr Jim was on hand with personal and spiritual advice before, during and after. The first mission trip was relatively short - for 10 days. In 2013, we were in Ethiopia for three weeks, so we were able to spend more time in each of the locations and get more involved. However, I would say it still wasn't long enough to allow us to fully appreciate the work of the sisters, so we are still learning. I am pleased that I have been able to visit Ethiopia. These have been the most exciting experiences of my life."

Derek Cochrane

"The home for the retired and elderly sisters is a particular favourite of mine. They had nowhere to go until this new place was built. Originally the sisters were mostly Irish or from UK and France with a few Ethiopian women. When they retired, they would go home and be cared for there. Now they are all Ethiopians, so they had to find a place to let them grow old with care and dignity. The building is a great example of what they can manage, I'm sure they are magicians. How they can stretch a pound!"

"I am very hopeful that the assistance from Missio Scotland can help ease the struggle for some of the poor in Ethiopia. Their support will assist the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady as they work to spread the Faith and Love of God to these poor peoples."

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Beatrice Gardner



You can read more about Derek and Beatrice's experience by visiting our website

SPEAK ABOUT ASIA...

...where six million children receive an education from Religious Sisters in more than 15,000 Church-run primary schools.



The Ababa Project

The Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady in Ethiopia

by Gerard Gough



IN OCTOBER 1984, BBC newsreader Michael Buerk's powerful report on the famine in Ethiopia shone a light on the tragic situation taking place in the oldest independent country on the African continent. This poignant piece of journalism touched the hearts of many people in Scotland—and indeed throughout the world—and the country's Catholics, both individuals and parish groups, were inspired to provide whatever support they could to those in need.

In the Church, we often speak about putting our Faith into action and it is something that Missio Scotland—and our partners in the Pontifical Mission Societies—can honestly say that we do 365 days a year. However, we couldn't do it without the support of Scotland's Catholics—who are, in effect, lay missionaries—and the missionary priests and sisters worldwide who are charged with identifying a need for certain projects, helping to get them off the ground and maintaining them once they are up and running.

This year, Missio Scotland's fundraising focus falls on Ethiopia. This is due in no small part to the example set by the lay missionaries from St Teresa's in Dumfries whose parishioners were among those greatly moved by the famine in the 1980s and who set up a lifelong link with the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady in what would be known as The Ababa Project.

"Like the rest of the world, we were so moved by the sight of hungry, suffering people that we wanted to help," Beatrice Gardner, one of the co-ordinators of the Ababa Project, said. "At that time, in Langholm, the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady had a nursing home and the initial contact was made there through the sisters' Ethiopian connection. They put us in touch with the wonderful Sr Colette Ellis, an Irish sister who had spent more than 30 years in Ethiopia, teaching English and nursing the sisters there and working with the poorest of the poor."

From that point, the parish began to run a number of fundraisers and began to learn more and more about some of the hardships faced by the Ethiopian people from Sr Colette on her visits back to Ireland via Scotland. Fuelled with this knowledge, the St Teresa's parishioners began to diversify their support into women's projects, medical assistance, feeding programmes and teaching training schemes to name a few.

For their part, the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Sisters have been in Ethiopia since 1910. They live prayerful lives in a community dedicated to caring for others, especially those most in need. In this atmosphere of kindness and goodness, they support each other's professional and spiritual needs and draw strength from their shared community. Sisters pursue various career paths in medical, professional and other fields and work in various capacities.

In response to God's call, the sisters' mission is to come together to live the evangelical life in the spirit of St Francis of Assisi. Through their Baptism and their religious consecration as Franciscans, they witness to a life of conversion, through prayer, poverty, and minority wherever they live and serve.

Their charism is rooted in Franciscan Spirituality and what is called their Supreme Rule of Mission and a life of following Christ, with the Gospel as a guide. Like St Francis, they live in an attitude of conversion to God in an apostolic community that aims to be a witness and instrument of union and communion.

Responding to the spirit of God in their lives, they reach out in reverence and compassionate service to every person, especially those most in need, and work to make a significant difference in the world.

Since they arrived in Ethiopia, they have been involved in tremendous social and development activities, in addition to their core mission of pastoral services in the area where their community is located.

At present, the congregation is in mission in different parts of the Archdiocese of Addis Ababa, Soddo and Eparchies, namely, in the

*....witness through
love and dedication
to the poorest
in the world*

Eparchy of Emdibir at different places with a community house where they will work to improve the livelihoods of the community.

Around their community houses, in different places, they are engaged in different social and development activities in addition to the pastoral activities they carry out in collaboration with parishes and chapels.

Based on their charism to share Christ's love to different communities, the sisters are engaged in diversified services like health, education, promotion of women, working with orphaned children, as well as pastoral formation. In Nazareth (Adama) town, the sisters, among other things, are engaged in running a health centre, St Francis Health Centre, a primary school, St Clare's Nursery and Primary School, and St Anthony's Inclusive Nursery School.

The relationship between the sisters and St Teresa's has grown so much over the years that when current parish priest, Fr Jim Hayes came to the parish in 2010, he embraced the mission project so wholeheartedly that he expanded it to include a



visit from a team of parishioners in 2012.

"Two of the team members, Kellie and David, are doctors, and they helped out in the clinics they visited," Beatrice said. "David proposed to Kellie in Buccama and they have since married and have a daughter. The team travelled around the country and visited the projects in Addis Ababa, Metcha, Nazareth, Metahara, and Buccama, observing and learning, as well as getting to know the sisters and the people. We are very proud that three of our young people made the trip too, all at that time 5th and 6th year pupils—Rebecca, Nicole and John. They were a great asset to the trip and all gained a great deal from the experiences.

"We quickly realised, after visiting, that the sisters themselves had much more idea what to do with the aid we could send, so it was decided to let

them use the money for what was most needed. For example, whilst they were there, a young mum died in childbirth due to the lack of a trained midwife. This was a hard lesson learned so we paid for a midwife to be trained very soon after."

Over the years, St Teresa's has supported many different projects in Ethiopia, but one of the most successful to date is the one that was set up at the same time that they gave their mission project its official name in 2012.

The parish patroness—and Patroness of Missionaries—is St Thérèse of Lisieux, known as the 'Little Flower.' The Ababa is the flower that links both communities and the parish decided to make this connection more evident in their project title. The work and the people are the same both at home and in Ethiopia—all of them working together offering all their endeavours to the Lord, like a little flower, for His glory and for the good of the poor people the sisters care for.

The TEACH (Teresa Educating A Child) programme, which was set up in the same year, invites parishioners to sponsor children from the neediest backgrounds to attend school. The cost of sponsorship is £20 per child, per month, which helps to pay for the teacher's wages, materials, uniforms, a hygiene pack and a daily meal.

"In its first year, we sponsored 54 children," Derek Cochrane, another of the Ababa's Project's co-ordinator's, said. "The TEACH year runs from September and in 2022 we are sponsoring 117 children. This is the 10th year of the project and its popularity has grown steadily over the years. Fr Jim refers to it as 'the jewel in the parish's crown.'"

It's fitting that this example of Faith in action from the parishioners of St Teresa's, in conjunction with the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady, has an educational focus as it has inspired Missio Scotland to make our own contribution to help support education in Ethiopia using the Ababa Project channels. ■



Building Faith

Helping a parish community complete their church in Ethiopia

by Gerard Gough



As well as funding St. Anthony's Inclusive School, Missio Scotland will also try to support the construction of a new church, St Peter and Paul's, in Homecho in Ethiopia. Catholicism is one of the official religions of Ethiopia and despite Catholics only making up around one per cent of the population, the faith is growing and Catholics are in charge of *around 80 per cent of the country's social programmes*.

By supporting the construction of a church like this, Missio Scotland National Director, Fr Vincent Lockhart, explained that you're not just building a physical edifice, but you are actually strengthening the Church as a whole and creating a sense of communion.

"Missio Scotland, and our partners in the Pontifical Mission Societies, are charged with presenting a vision of the Church as a family, where we are here to support our brothers and sisters in every other part of the Church through prayers and if they need money then we share what we have because what we have is coming from God," he said. "And they share with us their prayers or they send us priests or sisters. So it's that sense of communion."

"One of the things Pope Francis is very much against is an inward looking Church and I think Missio's role in the Church, in, for example, Scotland, is to help the Church to be outward looking to other parts of the world."



Bishop Noel Seyoum Fransua, the Apostolic Vicar of Hosanna and National Director of Missio in Ethiopia, was delighted that projects in his home country are being supported and spoke in greater detail about the construction of the new church.

"I have just read about Missio Scotland's support for the Franciscan Sisters in Adama/Nazareth in funding a new school for the children," the bishop said. "I do appreciate your support for children from needy families."

"I really appreciate your concern in building churches in Ethiopia too where there are many demands and needs. I'd like to share with you the experiences of Apostolic Vicariate of Hosanna. In the last two months I gave the Sacrament of Confirmation in eight parishes to more than 600 people. Right after the celebration of Holy Mass, I had a meeting with the representatives of the parishes and one of their requests was how the Vicariate would help them to build their parish churches.

"I laid down the foundation stone in four parishes and another two had begun construction but although the parishioners and the diocese have tried to build churches, we simply do not have enough to complete them. We inaugurated the first Cathedral of the Vicariate in February 2021, thanks to our partners in Europe and America. The Catholic communities of Hosanna are very dynamic and generous, but due to poverty, high cost of living, war, conflicts and the pandemic, their life situations have worsened. I really appreciate your support in helping us to realise one of the projects in the Vicariate of Hosanna. It is historic.

"I would appreciate it so much if you could visit us here in Ethiopia. I would be so glad to welcome you in the Vicariate and as the National Director of PMS in Ethiopia. I assure you of my prayers and would ask for your prayers for peace and reconciliation in Ethiopia." ■

Ethiopia

Population: 115 million

One of the world's poorest countries

37% of children have stunted growth

51.8% literacy

Current difficulties

Covid 19 recovery. Conflict in Tigray Province.

Worst drought in 40 years.

Worst invasion of locusts in decades.



Ethiopia Projects

which Missio Scotland has funded in 2022



Father Angelo Antonili OFM Cap

Apostolic Vicariate of Robe

Fr Angelo is an Italian Cappucin Friar and has been working as a missionary in Ethiopia for the past 30 years.

In the early 2000s he went to the town of Robe which lies at the foot of the Bale mountains and is one of the poorest parts of Ethiopia. Franciscan Sisters had set up a primary school and a clinic and the Missionary Sisters of Charity of Mother Teresa lived with the nomadic herding communities. Fr Angelo built a small house and chapel to serve the Catholic families in the area. He also built schools and further small clinics for the Franciscan sisters to bring help to the outlying villages. He also started agricultural projects for poor peasant farmers.

In 2012 Pope Benedict created the Apostolic Prefecture of Bale and appointed Fr Angelo as the Apostolic Prefect. The area it covers is vast.

One of the projects dearest to Fr Angelo's heart is the Adaba Family Home which is run by Fr Stefano Ferraetto and which helps the poorest families in the area.

This year Missio Scotland gave \$8,000 to the Apostolic Vicariate of Robe to help support Fr Angelo and his priests and religious sisters. We also gave \$2,500 to help with the running of the Adaba Family Home.



Soddo Apostolic region - Wolayta zone - Western Ethiopia

Diocesan Primary School programme

Many children in the Wolayta area do not get the chance to go to school. The Catholic Church in the area has been building and running schools and this year Missio Scotland gave \$5,000 to build a new school.

Diocesan feeding programme

The programme will provide nourishment to school children and vulnerable old people. Missio Scotland has given \$5,000.

Fiji

Last year one of our Mission Sunday appeals was to help unemployed young people. £23,000 was given and the same will be given again next year.

Sr Mariana, the Missio National Director for Fiji, has opened a little shop in Suva, the capital city of Fiji.

She will sell Rosaries, medals, novena cards and holy pictures which are currently unavailable in Fiji.

The profits will be used to help poor parishes and educate children.

This year Missio Scotland donated \$5,000 to help her start her shop.



**WITNESS ABOUT
LATIN AMERICA...**

...where catechists travel to remote areas to bring the Good News of God's great love to families.



200th
*Anniversary
of the
foundation
of the
Propagation
of the Faith*



Blessed Pauline **JARICOT**

200 years ago Pauline Marie Jaricot, founded the Society for the Propagation of the Faith—one of the four Pontifical Mission Societies. She was Beatified on Sunday, 22 May 2022 in her home city of Lyon.

More than 12,000 people from all over the world attended the Mass which was celebrated in the Lyon Expo by Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle—Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples, with archbishops, bishops and more than 500 priests from five continents.

Among those present were 120 National Directors of the Pontifical Mission Societies who were meeting for the annual General Assembly of the PMS in Lyon. All of them were there to acknowledge the inspiration of a woman who, during a life dedicated to evangelisation, founded a work that was decisive for the growth and development of the Church in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Oceania over the past 200 years ago.

Noting Pauline's extraordinary spiritual and missionary insights, Cardinal Tagle added: "The Holy Spirit opens new paths so that the Word and love of Jesus can reach more people. Pauline Jaricot was inspired by the Holy Spirit with new ideas and initiatives to spread the Gospel and serve the poor."

"Serving Jesus in the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, the imprisoned, leads to eternal beatitude. The peace of Christ gave Pauline Jaricot serenity, patience and courage to face physical difficulties, calumnies and humiliations."

"Blessed Pauline lived her love for Jesus, by being a missionary of the Church, a sister of the poor and an instrument of universal brotherhood," Cardinal Tagle concluded.

The Archbishop of Lyons, Olivier de Germay, described Pauline as 'a contemplative and active woman at the same time.' He also told how she sacrificed everything to support the missions and went from being a wealthy young woman to ending her days in poverty after having spent her life serving the poor and exploited, near and far.

“ Pauline Jaricot

was a woman who loved Jesus Christ, letting Him, the Word of God, live, act and love in her and through her. We see in her a living testimony of the power of love for Jesus, a love that identifies with Jesus. ”

During the celebration, a relic of Pauline's heart was brought to the altar and entrusted into the hands of a teenager, Mayline Tran—who, ten years ago when she was three years old—choked on a mouthful of food and ended up in a coma. Following a prayer chain and a Novena to Pauline Jaricot, the doctors certified the girl's extraordinary recovery. After a rigorous examination by the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, Pope Francis recognised the miracle worked by God through the intercession of Venerable Pauline Jaricot, paving the way for her Beatification.

The Holy Father also paid tribute to Pauline that day in the Vatican during his address to the faithful and pilgrims gathered in St Peter's Square.

"This faithful lay woman lived during the first half of the 1800s," Pope Francis said. "She was a courageous woman, attentive to the changes taking place at the time, and had a universal vision regarding the Church's mission. May her example enkindle in everyone the desire to participate through prayer and charity in the spread of the Gospel throughout the world. A round of applause for the new Blessed!"

"Let our charity be as inventive and effective as hers. Let us learn to generously offer what we are, our talents to God and to our brothers, especially to the poorest, to give our means to support the mission that belongs to all of us in the Church and to bring the Gospel to the world," the Pope said.

Pauline's house is situated next to the Basilica of Fourviere in Lyon. In it there is an exhibition of her life and the spiritual movement she initiated. ■



Blessed Pauline Marie
Jaricot
1799 -1862



7 ways to share in the mission of the Church

Communion of Goods and Communion of Life

All we have is not our own - it has been given to us to use for the Kingdom of God. We can share our material wealth with our Catholic brothers and sisters in other parts of the world where they are in need. We can learn from their experience of being the Church in another country and culture. Donate through Missio Scotland.

Spread the Good News

Often in the media and elsewhere we only hear bad news about the Church. The Church is a wonderful family throughout the world and does amazing things in the lives of its members and for the wider community. Tell others about the good the Church has done and is doing.

Prayer

Prayer is one of the aspects of the Church's life which unites us all at a deep level. We can pray for the Church throughout the world especially where it is being persecuted or suffering. Those in the Church far away pray for us. We should also pray for missionaries every day.

We are the Body of Christ

The Eucharist makes us one body - the Body of Christ. The Church in mission countries desperately needs priests and religious sisters and brothers so that people can have Mass, the sacraments, education and healthcare. We can support seminarians studying for the priesthood and novices through Missio Scotland.

Building churches where Jesus can be among us

Our churches in Scotland are beautiful and help us to pray and be together as a parish. Communities in some parts of the world struggle to have somewhere to gather. By donating to Missio Scotland we can help parishioners in Africa, Asia, South America, the Caribbean and Oceania have a church or chapel where they can be proud to meet and pray.

Knowledge of the worldwide Church and our Mission

In this age of instant information we can learn about and study the Church's work in different parts of the world. We can access news and information by going to www.missioscotland.com, the Missio Scotland Facebook page, Twitter account Instagram or YouTube.

Communication

Like Blessed Pauline Jaricot, we can form a group of friends to get together to pray for the missions, either physically or via social media, by contributing something to help the Church in foreign lands and by sharing our experience of trying to live out the mission of the Church in

Missio Podcasts

Every missionary has stories to tell and some of them are amazing.

Missio Scotland has been getting religious and lay missionaries to speak about their life and their work in countries all over the world.

Listen and subscribe to our podcasts by going to

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Missio Scotland



**WITNESS ABOUT
EUROPE...**

...where parish communities are welcoming
migrants and refugees and giving them hope.



Kieran is keen to show Christ to others

Gerard Gough



The BBC documentary, Priest School, shone a light on the lives of seminarians in the Pontifical Scots College in Rome. The programme, which was universally well received, followed the young men who will form an important part of the future of the Scottish Church. It allowed them to express themselves on camera, show their dedication to the faith and perhaps even dispel some myths about the priesthood along the way. Missio Scotland decided to delve a little deeper with some of them to find out why they're embarking upon this very special, personal mission.

"This is what I long to do, to be a priest and to show Christ to others. Whatever the Lord has in store for me I pray I can accept and give it my all."

These are the beautiful words of Kieran Burt, a seminarian at the Pontifical Scots College in Rome, which make known the dedication to his vocation and the desire to share God's love with his brothers and sisters in Faith—qualities that he was imbued with as a youthful Catholic.

"The Church has always played a big part in my life," Kieran said. "I was always mesmerised by the priests, the vestments, the Liturgy and so on since I was a child and I even remember 'celebrating Mass,' in my room from a very young age. Faith, however, is something different and it started playing a big part in my life when I was 15 and started to pray more and build my relationship with God. So, it has been a huge part of my life. I attended prayer groups, I wanted to be involved with parish events, to help out with groups and I believe this was an urge from God to put faith into action."

This personal growth in faith is something that has been a constant in Kieran's life and even at home in Blantyre he was able to witness this growth in his immediate family through the example of his father returning to his Faith after a period of not attending Mass.

"My dad sort of found his Faith through curiosity, both about the Faith and what it really is I am doing" Kieran remarked. "Slowly, he began to understand that the Church had something more to offer than just a set of rules and rituals."

Indeed, Kieran's dad, and the rest of his family, were wholly supportive of his decision to follow his vocation. He credits his friends, priests, parishioners and teachers as playing a massive part in his journey to the priesthood too. For his part, Kieran had thought about the priesthood since the age of 10, so by the time he finally discerned his vocation, he had an excellent handle on what the term means to him.

"We are all called in Baptism and we all have a journey and a vocation to follow," he said. "We have to strive every day to build up God's Kingdom on earth, as one family in faith. Each of us is called to something. I feel I have been called to be a priest, others to marriage, or religious life, but to a certain job or line of work. It is like a gut feeling."

In following that gut feeling and entering seminary—firstly at the Royal Scots College in Salamanca and then the Pontifical Scots College in Rome—one of the main positives has been developing great friendships within that family of faith, highlighting the universality of the Church.

"Seminary was a big change of life and this came as a surprise," he admitted. "Another surprise was making friends with people who I never imagined I would have. I draw strength from being with others. Friendship is very important in seminary life and by that, I mean friends back home and here in Rome. To be able to relax with others is key in what can be a stressful and busy lifestyle. It's been a blessing to live in Rome. To meet people from all over the world and be closely connected with the universal Church. I have made many good friends here."



**WITNESS ABOUT THE
PACIFIC ISLANDS...**

...where 3,500 religious bring the Lord's mercy and peace to those in need.

While Kieran misses home, has occasional struggles with the language barrier and is keen to engage in more pastoral work, he draws strength from the Eucharist, his devotion to Our Lady and St Joseph and prayers from those back home, and his experience thus far has not only allowed him to undergo important spiritual growth, but also to understand the characteristics that a seminarian must possess.

“At the start of every year we set ourselves goals and at the end we write a self-assessment in response to these goals,” Kieran explained. “This helps us to understand the areas of our life where there is growth and also areas that we need to work on. I certainly feel I am much more mature now, but there is still a lot of work to do. I feel more comfortable in my own skin. I have gone beyond my comfort zone. This, undoubtedly, is going to make me grow.

“A seminarian must be patient, charitable and loving,” he added. “We must be patient with the system and with each other, we are all on a journey together. Fifteen guys who all share the same views and all have leadership abilities living together can be difficult, but if we are patient with each other, we will journey together. We must be charitable, giving of ourselves every day for God. We must show love. We must love others. By doing this we gear ourselves up for being a pastor to a community that will have many different people with different characters and we need to treat everyone with care, respect and love.

“I look forward to becoming a parish priest and all the different ministries involved with it such as: working in hospitals, schools, prisons, visiting the sick and housebound, helping couples prepare for marriage, helping families cope with the grief of losing a loved one and enabling people in the life and light of faith.”

Kieran’s time in seminary has also given him the opportunity to reflect on what mission means, how lay people can live out their mission and the importance of supporting Missio Scotland.

“In the past, when I thought of the word mission—in terms of the Church, that is—I would’ve thought about the missions in Africa and South America,” he said. “However, my idea of mission has changed in the past few years. Scotland could now be considered missionary territory, and so I certainly feel that the mission of the Scottish seminarians in the 21st century is very similar to the mission of the seminarians of the Scots College from 1615 onwards, to come back to Scotland to preach and teach the Good News, that is a mission God has asked us to carry out.

“In the same light, it is also the mission of parents to teach their children the Faith and pass it on to the next generation. We have a mission, we must be soldiers for Christ in that and be courageous in spreading Christ’s light to the downtrodden, the prisoner, the blind and poor. Not just physically blind, imprisoned and poor, but also those who suffer in mind and spirit.”

“People should get involved with their parish, in whatever way they can and give generously to their parish, both with their time and their money,” he added. “There are many groups that people can join or charities that they can support, for example, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul or Missio Scotland. Also, in our everyday lives, we must spread the message of Christ. That doesn’t mean standing on a soapbox preaching, but rather by doing small, good acts with great love and a smile on your face. People will then recognise something different about you and will be intrigued to know your secret. Our secret is Christ and the family of Faith that we belong to, it should make us joyful people, and ultimately, our love for Christ and others will be effective and infectious.

“Missio Scotland is the Pope’s charity. As Catholic Christians we should be supporting and praying for our Pope and his intentions. This involves supporting the Pontifical Mission Societies and Missio Scotland. It highlights that the Church is universal but also personal, we have a mission to help our brothers and sisters throughout the world who are in great need. By supporting Missio Scotland we are supporting our family spread throughout the world.

“Ultimately, we must pray for the work that Missio is doing across the world. This is what Jesus asked us to do, to pray for those who are in need and to do everything we can to support each other. The Church is not restricted to the people in our parishes, diocese or even in Scotland, but we are part of a larger family of Faith and we must help those members of our family that are in need and support those who are willing to carry out that work.” ■



WITNESS ABOUT AFRICA... ...where 19,000 young men are preparing for the priesthood.





www.missioscotland.com/schools

Missionary Saints



The Sacrament of Confirmation is about being guided by the Holy Spirit to take part in the mission of the Church to spread the Good News.

Missio Scotland has a set of resources for children preparing to receive Confirmation: worksheets, a handbook, plays and materials about a number of missionary saints.

May all children
In the world
Share love
Share friendship
In the peace
Of God's love
Now and forever.



Missionary Children

In Scotland, Missio Scotland is the Church's designated charity for Catholic primary schools and pupils raise money via the Missionary Children Society that is essential in supporting the work of our missionaries in helping poor children.

Over the past 125 years the funds and prayers of our Scottish children have fed and clothed children, built schools, provided materials and equipment and given medical care. Here are some of the resources which Missio Scotland provides for our schools.



Missy Moo

the Hielan' Coo, is Missio Scotland's new mascot. Schools are awarded a

mascot when they raise a lot of funds and say a lot of prayers. There are games, activities and prayers on the website.

Missio Scotland Champions

Some of our schoolchildren work particularly hard to raise funds and spread the Good News about what the Church is doing to help others in the world.



Country worksheets

are available on our website's Schools' page with information about countries and what the Church is doing there for children.

Lent & Advent

Worksheets for Advent and Lent are available on our website such as the Christmas Art Competition and Mission Stations of the Cross.

Mile for Mission

Children raise funds for poorer children by walking a sponsored mile.

Missionary Children's Day First Friday of October

The Bishops of Scotland have designated the first Friday of October to be a day when our children can celebrate their connection with children elsewhere in the world.



The Mission Rosary



The Mission Rosary was created by the Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen when he was the National Director for Missio USA. Each decade represents a different continent and children can pray the Rosary, or a part of it, especially during May and October.



Everyone at Missio Scotland would like to thank our schools for their support during the past year and we look forward to visiting you during the rest of the 2022-23 school year.

Missio is the Pope's charity
through which he asks us to share with our
Catholic brothers and sisters in countries
where the Church is new, small or poor.



Ways you can help our Catholic brothers and sisters

The Propagation of the Faith

Continuing Jesus' Mission
to bring the Good News to the poor

The Propagation of the Faith helps each and every one of the Catholic Church's 1100 mission dioceses to provide pastoral care and preach the Gospel effectively; building churches, training catechists, enabling local parishes to support their communities, funding medical clinics run by religious and lay people and giving hope to young people through training and formation.



Society of St. Peter the Apostle

Supporting seminarians and novices

With your help, mission dioceses throughout the world are able to fund the training of the priests, sisters and pastoral workers they so urgently need. You can sponsor the training of a future priest in St. Paul's Seminary, Uganda by donating to the Society of St. Peter the Apostle. In Uganda it costs £550 a year to educate a young man studying to be a priest.



Will and Legacy

Leave a future to others

All of us hope to leave the world a better place than when we came into it. When making your will, please consider leaving something to Missio Scotland so that you will continue to assist our brothers and sisters in poorer countries. For more information we can send you a booklet explaining how to do this.

