

Good News from the MISSIONS OFFICE

Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle

710 9th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

Summer 2011

An Appeal for Peace

To You, Creator of nature and humanity, Author of all truth and beauty, we pray:

Hear our voices, for they are the voices of all prisoners of conscience.

Hear our voices, for they are the voices of the victims of all wars and violence among nations and individuals.

Hear our voices, for they are the voices of all innocent persons who suffer now and will suffer when people put their faith in weapons of war.

Hear our voices, when we beg you to instill into the hearts of all human beings the wisdom of peace, the strength of justice, and the joy of fellowship.

Hear our voices, for in prayer we speak for the multitudes in every country and every period of history who do not want war, and are ready to walk the difficult road of peace.

Hear our voices, and grant your knowledge and strength so that we may always respond to hatred with love, to injustice with total dedication to justice, to need with sharing of self, and to war with peace.

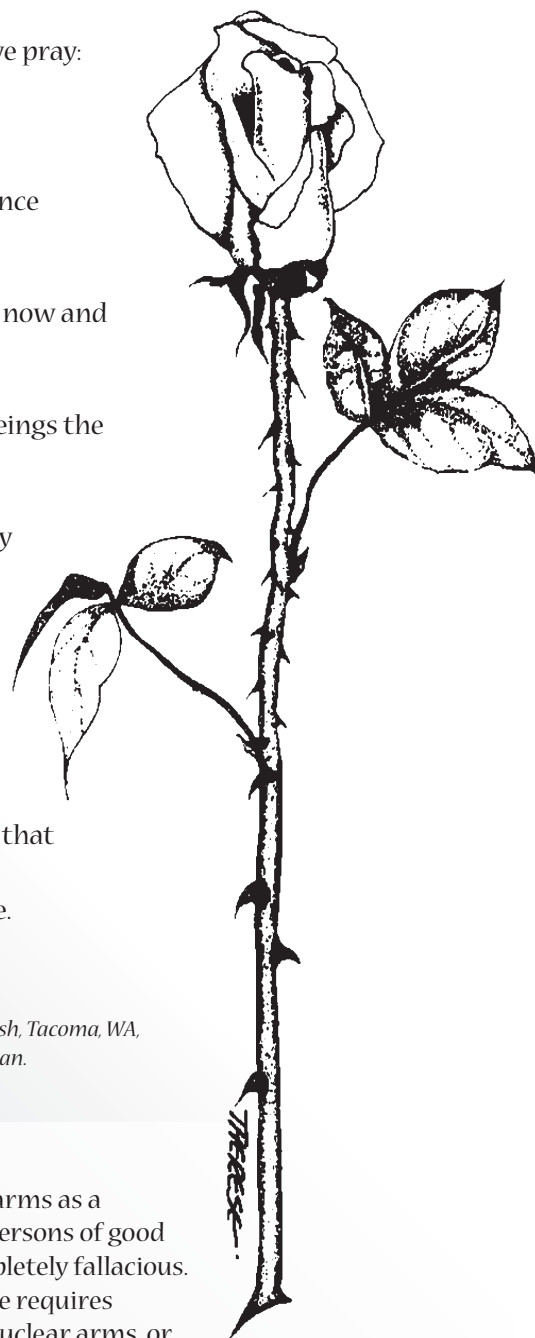
O God of all the peoples of all the ages of humankind, fulfill now the hope that does not disappoint; let this be the time when your Spirit changes human hearts, and you grant to the world your everlasting peace. Amen.

Source: from a prayer of Bl. Pope John Paul II, adapted by Fr. Steve Lantry, S.J., pastor of St. Leo parish, Tacoma, WA, for the Disarm Now Plowshares Five. John Paul II recited his prayer 30 years ago, at Hiroshima, Japan.

For reflection and discussion:

"What can be said, too, about those governments which count on nuclear arms as a means of ensuring the security of their countries? Along with countless persons of good will, one can state that this point of view is not only baneful but also completely fallacious. In a nuclear war there would be no victors, only victims. The truth of peace requires that all — whether those governments which openly or secretly possess nuclear arms, or those planning to acquire them — agree to change their course by clear and firm decisions, and strive for a progressive and concerted nuclear disarmament. The resources which would be saved could then be employed in projects of development capable of benefiting all their people, especially the poor." — Pope Benedict XVI, 2009 World Day of Peace Message, no. 13.

Quote is part of a resource at www.usccb.org/sdwp/international/warandpeaceind.shtml.





First Fridays Fasting for Food Security through May 6, 2012

A request and resource from Justice, Peace and Human Development office at the U.S. bishops' conference: On every first Friday for a year, eat meals that cost only as much as is allotted for a family of your size by the USDA Modified Thrifty Food Plan <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/Fasting-Resource-Intro-May-6.pdf>. The "cutting back" that will likely be required in order to stay "in budget" can be considered a form of fasting. Participating in this fast can help you be open to the Holy Spirit and walk in solidarity with all those for whom access to adequate, nutritious food is difficult. The Facebook page provides more up to date information on this effort: <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=110978892320508>.



Dear Educators:

Our thanks to all you educators in public and parochial schools with whom we partnered this past academic year! What? Summer research is on your plate? Some suggested websites related to our office:

<http://orb.crs.org>

www.hcakids.org

<http://education.crs.org>

<http://columban.org/missioneducation>

www.maryknollmagazine.org/index.php/classroom-program

www.usccb.org/cchd/education.shtml

and its "for public school" site www.povertyusa.org

"No one has yet fully realized the wealth of sympathy, kindness, and generosity hidden in the soul of a child. The effort of every true education should be to unlock that treasure." — Emma Goldman



Free resource for classrooms and religious education programs

Maryknoll magazine will continue to offer its popular classroom program FREE of charge for the 2011-2012 academic year. Supplement your teaching and catechesis - from September through May - with a copy of Maryknoll magazine for each student plus a poster and study guide for the teacher/catechist. To view a sample, learn more, or order, please visit www.maryknoll.org/classroom or contact: classroomorders@maryknoll.org; 1-888-627-9566.



2011-2012 School Year Multi-Media Arts Contest

Put Faith in Action! Uproot Poverty Together. Multi-Media Youth Arts Contest is sponsored by the U.S. bishops' Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Materials for educators are available now on the CCHD website: <http://www.usccb.org/cchd/2012-jphd-multi-media-arts-contest-packet-educators.pdf>. Students learn about the causes of poverty in the U.S. and the Church's response, and then they use art to educate others. We ask you, our colleagues in Catholic schools, youth ministry and religious education, to promote the contest among your youth and students. Young artist packets: <http://www.usccb.org/cchd/2012-jphd-multi-media-arts-contest-packet-youth-artists.pdf>.

HCA

The Holy Childhood Association (HCA) offers young Catholics (grades K-8) an opportunity to grow in faith through mission education, sacrifice and service for others. A Pontifical Mission Society, HCA focuses entirely on "children helping children" throughout the world. The 2011-2012 school-year theme is, "We Must Love Each Other" (1 John 4:7).

The HCA **Resource Guide** was sent to each school and parish last May, and more copies are available from us in the Missions Office. The Guide and order form can also be found online at www.onefamilyinmission.org/hca.html.

"Ta-Ta" from Missions Office staff

After three years of working as an Administrative Assistant in the Missions Office, **Erin Kate Scheopner** has decided to accept an offer to study at the London School of Economics starting in fall 2011 to pursue a master's degree in international history. It is with a heavy heart that she bids farewell and wishes you all the best. She is looking forward to taking the skills learned at the Missions Office and applying them to her studies as she embarks on a new journey. Her last day will be August 19th.

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Distributed to Catholic leadership in the Archdiocese of Seattle and those concerned with the needs of the poor, locally and internationally.

Much of this newsletter, and other resources, can be found at:

www.seattlearchdiocese.org/missions

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Mission Breakthroughs

by Frank Maurovich

[from a special Centennial issue of Maryknoll Magazine, 2011]

The concept of mission is certainly not new. Jesus commissioned his disciples: "Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good News" (Mark 16:16). Taking those words to heart, Fathers James A. Walsh and Thomas F. Price founded the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers in 1911 as part of the U.S. Church's means of carrying out the missionary mandate. Throughout the ensuing 100 years, Jesus' mission has not changed, but his followers' understanding of his message has grown deeper and richer, thanks in large part to Vatican Council II. Among the teachings of the Council are a series of missionary breakthroughs. A breakthrough is the unfolding of a new insight or a better understanding of an old one. Following are some examples.

The Church is missionary by its very nature.

Before Vatican II it was commonplace to think of mission as one of the many important activities of the Church. In the Council, however, "mission" applies not only to the Church's activities but also to the very origin of the Church. The Council's *Decree on the Missionary Activity of the Church* declares, "The Church on earth is by its very nature missionary since, according to the plan of the Father, it has its origin in the mission of the Son and the Holy Spirit." Addressing a Eucharistic Congress, Cardinal Roger Mahony of Los Angeles declared, "The Church does not have a mission; mission has a Church." Mission, therefore, is- or should be- the Church's highest priority.



The local Church has full missionary responsibility.

Before Vatican Council it was thought that the Church at large had responsibility for mission. Today, the Vatican's Secretariat for Non-Christians declares, "Every local church is responsible for the totality of mission." As dioceses and parishes grow in the knowledge that they are called to share their faith, they are increasingly reaching out to share the Good News with others, for example, through "twinning" projects, in which they establish mutual relationships with dioceses and parishes overseas.

Mission is now a two-way street.

The Council broke down the age-old distinction between churches that send missionaries and churches that receive them. This does not mean that mission activity is over, but that teaching and learning occur on both sides. Time and again Maryknoll missionaries have reported rediscovering God's love in the example of the people they came to serve.



Evangelization involves more than proclamation.

Missioners were seen as entering a foreign land and proclaiming the Gospel. Yes, but Pope Paul VI in his encyclical on mission explained that true evangelization also involves witness, dialogue, human development and prayer. Witness refers to the example of the missionary's life, and the pope emphasized witness as a necessary preparation for convincing proclamation. Dialogue means we enter into discussion with people of other faiths, disposed to listen and inform our way of thinking. Human development involves working for peace and justice as a Gospel imperative. Prayer is central to effective evangelization. All five – proclamation, witness, dialogue, development and prayer- are essential, but all five need not be present at the same time. Maryknoll missionaries and Taizé Brothers serving in countries like Bangladesh, where proselytizing is forbidden, have for years been proclaiming the Gospel wordlessly through their compassionate care of the most vulnerable people.



The role of laity in mission has changed from minimal to full participation.

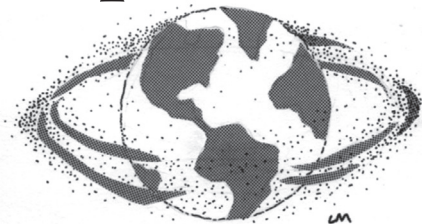
Taking the lead from the Council's definition of the Church as "the People of God," Pope John Paul II declared, "The lay faithful, precisely because they are members of the Church, have the vocation and mission of proclaiming the Gospel. They are prepared for this work by the sacraments of baptism and confirmation and by the gifts of the Holy Spirit." Maryknoll has recognized this reality, with the formalization of the Maryknoll Lay Missioner program in 1975 and the birth of the Maryknoll Affiliates in 1991. Increasingly Maryknoll encourages short-term volunteer opportunities for laity at home and overseas.

Priesthood and mission are now organically bonded.

When mission was regarded as one of the many functions of the Church, it was assumed that only some priests would choose mission as a vocation; the others would do pastoral work in home parishes. That changes, however, when the Council defines the Church as missionary by its very nature. At the Council, Bishop Fulton Sheen said, "The distinction between 'missionary' and 'non-missionary priest' is merely geographical. Every priest and, in fact, every bishop is a missionary." Evidence of this growing awareness can be seen in dioceses where bishops have newly established a mission office to encourage their priests and people to get involved in outreach activities at home and abroad.



The universal availability of salvation has been unequivocally proclaimed.



In its *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church* the Second Vatican Council made it clear that salvation is available not just to Christians but also to Jews and Muslims, and to those who seek the "unknown God," to those who "sincerely seek God," and even to those who do not believe in God but live justly and lovingly. In one of his last addresses, Cardinal Avery Dulles declared, "We may conclude with certitude that God makes it possible for the unevangelized to attain the goal of their searching." This understanding has important implications for interreligious dialogue.

As the Maryknoll Fathers and Brother move into a new century of service, they do so with the realization that they participate with countless others in proclaiming God's eternal, universal love.

Maurovich is a former editor of Maryknoll magazine; www.maryknollmagazine.org. To learn about Maryknoll-sponsored activities and resources in the Archdiocese of Seattle, contact seattle@maryknoll.org or 206.322.8831. For information on Maryknoll Lay Missioners, Affiliates, Sisters, Fathers and Brothers: www.maryknoll.org

M Fathers and Brothers
MARYKNOLL™



Maryknoll 100th anniversary events

Save the dates! Contact Missions Office for information, or Maryknoll house in Seattle at seattle@maryknoll.org or 206.322.8831.

September 25, noon Mass, with reception following, at St. James Cathedral, Seattle
October 2, 2 - 4pm, Symposium on "Mission in a Global Context" co-sponsored by Maryknoll, Missions Office, and Seattle University (where it will be held).

Sudan

A girl carries a water jug in a southern Sudanese community where Catholic Relief Services rebuilt the water system. Clean drinking water cuts down on disease and eases potential conflict over water sources.

Photo by Debbie DeVoe/CRS.



In January 2011, the people of southern Sudan voted overwhelmingly to become the world's newest independent nation. More than 97 percent of those registered voted in a week-long referendum that was — against all predictions — orderly, peaceful and fair.

After decades of suffering and violence, the peaceful referendum was nothing short of a miraculous answer to intense prayer and peacebuilding efforts. Catholic Relief Services was very much a part of the efforts, and will continue to be our witness to the people of this new country.

An official declaration of south Sudan's independence is expected to be made on July 9, 2011. Liturgical, prayer, and educational resources are available at <http://peaceinsudan.crs.org>.

Prayer for Peace in Sudan (post referendum)

Adapted from the official campaign prayer approved by Sudan Catholic Bishops' Conference.

Lord Jesus, you said to us,

"I leave you peace. My peace I give you."

Look upon your sisters and brothers in Sudan, and grace them with your peace in the wake of the referendum.

Send your Spirit to guide them continually.

Give them the wisdom they need to forge a future where all will know your true peace.

You call all of us out of slavery, oppression, and persecution so that we may have life in abundance.

Grant us peace with one another. Give peace among ethnic groups.

Help us to work together for the good of all.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

Laity: live a religious life!

Pope Benedict XVI in May spoke to the participants at an International Congress promoted by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace on the 50th Anniversary of the encyclical Mater et Magistra [on "Christianity and Social Progress"]. The topic was "Justice and Globalization: From Mater et Magistra to Caritas in Veritate."

Some quotes from the address:

"In Mater et Magistra, Roncalli, with his vision of a Church placed at the service of the human family especially through her specific mission of evangelization, conceived of social doctrine — anticipating Blessed Pope John Paul II — as an *essential element* of this mission, because it is 'an integral part of the Christian conception of life.'"

"The *Christifideles* laity, in particular, cannot be solely passive beneficiaries but are the protagonists of the Church's social doctrine at the vital moment of its implementation. They are also valuable collaborators of the pastors in its formulation, thanks to the experience they have acquired in the field and to their own specific skills. For Blessed Pope John XXIII this was particularly true of the Church's social doctrine, of which *Truth* is its light, *Justice* its objective, and *Love* its driving force."



"Bl. John XXIII said that 'Christian education... must... aim at... fostering among the faithful... their duty to carry on the economic and social activities in a Christian manner. Consequently, to be successful, formal instruction must be supplemental by... active cooperation in their own training' (n. 231) put into practice."

Pope Benedict XVI's talk: www.justpax.it/eng/home_eng.html

Bl. Pope John XXIII's encyclical: www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_xxiii/encyclicals/documents/hf_j-xxiii_enc_15051961_mater_en.html

Graphic: © 2003 Liturgy Training Publications, art by Julie Lonneman.



Rice Bowl grants announced for 2011

"...by our mutual love and, in particular, by our concern for those in need we will be recognized as true followers of Christ (cf. Jn 13:35; Mt 25:31-46). This will be the criterion by which the authenticity of our Eucharistic celebrations is judged."

— Blessed Pope John Paul II, *Mane Nobiscum Domine*
(Stay with us, Lord).

Applications in western Washington for Operation Rice Bowl grants have been approved by Archbishop J. Peter Sartain. A record number of applications (188) were received. The grants are made possible through the 25% share of Rice Bowl donations this past Lent, per Catholic Relief Services guidelines. The total Rice Bowl giving this year is projected to be about \$360,000! Beyond the donations, parishes, classrooms and households in this archdiocese once again engaged actively (and very creatively!) in the praying, fasting, and learning aspects of the Rice Bowl Lenten program.

Operation Rice Bowl is the Lenten program in which all of our parishes and many of our schools participate. To learn more about ORB (and CRS) visit <http://orb.crs.org>. Please visit www.seattlearchdiocese.org/missions for a list of the Rice Bowl grants this year, along with information on the application process.

On behalf of all those, locally and internationally, with whom you are in solidarity through this Lenten program.... **thank you!**

The Ozanam 2nd Chance Companion Program

by Tom Wagner

The call for the Ozanam 2nd Chance Companion Program comes from Luke's parable of the Prodigal Son; "Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and now had been found". For most persons released from prison the reality is the opposite of Christ's mandate to celebrate the return of those who have been banished from the community. The formerly incarcerated are often societies most shunned. Further, they are usually ill-equipped; emotionally, socially and spiritually for the new life of freedom.

The King County Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul seeks to work with soon to be released adults who have a desire to become faithful citizens, economically self supporting and loving in their relationships.

To achieve this goal the Ozanam 2nd Chance Companion Program offers selected incarcerated "participants" professional case management support and volunteer companions. Companions offer friendship, accountability and guidance to participants in the final months of incarceration followed by the first months after release. Companions work as individuals or teams of two to help participants achieve the goals of their Re-entry Plan. With the help of companions and case managers participants begin the process of reaching their human potential, the result being a safer community and stronger families.

Companions receive training relevant to working with incarcerated individuals and ongoing support for questions and difficulties that may arise. In offering healthier thinking patterns, pro social relationships and spiritual wisdom, companions have the opportunity serve as disciples to the Gospel call of right relationship. Interested companions can contact Thomas Wagner: Coordinator for Ex Offender Services at (206) 767-9975 ext 1121 or email at thomasw@svdpsseattle.org. You can also check out our web site at www.svdpsseattle.org.



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