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Archdiocese of New Orleans

ONE FAMILY IN MISSION

*“Go therefore and make
disciples of all nations.”*
(Mt. 28:19)



Pontifical Mission Societies

Archdiocese of New Orleans

PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES

The Holy See has established four Pontifical Mission Aid Societies, which form one institution with four branches:

- Propagation of the Faith
- Holy Childhood Association
- St. Peter Apostle
- Missionary Union

The principle aim of the Pontifical Missionary Societies, according to their statutes is “the promotion of a universal missionary spirit in the hearts of the People of God.” Their common task is to keep before us the essential truth that

*“the Church is missionary
by her very nature.”*
(Ad Gentes 2)

Under the direction of the Congregation for the Evangelization of People and the Bishops, the Pontifical Mission Societies exist now in more than 120 countries. Each society seeks to promote prayer and sacrifice for the world-wide mission of Jesus.

Over 1,100 dioceses in Asia, Africa, Oceania and Latin America, receive assistance from the general fund~ distributed globally on the basis of need.

*“Unless the mission is
oriented by charity,
unless it springs from a
profound act of divine
love, it risks being
reduced to mere
philanthropic and
social activity.”*

Pope Benedict XVI,
Mission Sunday Message 2006

*“Our own time demands a
resurgence of the Church’s
missionary activity.”*

(Redemptoris Missio, 30)

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH TEENS AND ADULTS

Purpose:

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith embraces all the People of God to promote a greater awareness of their part in continuing the universal mission of evangelization. World Mission Sunday is a major annual event in the life of the Church, celebrated as the feast of catholicity and universal solidarity; it is observed around the world on the next-to-last Sunday of October.

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS

Our local Office for Propagation of the Faith oversees several programs and projects of mission animation for both individuals and parish families.

- Membership and Mission Magazine
- World Mission Sunday
- Seasonal Mission Appeals
- Missionary Co-Cooperation Plan
- Mission Calendars
- Monthly Calendars
- Missionary Priests Mass Offerings
- Blessed Damien Society

THE HOLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION (HCA) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

Purpose:

HCA proposes “to awaken progressively a missionary awareness in children inviting them to share spiritual and material resources with children in regions and churches that are less well-off.” One of the mottos of HCA continues to be “children helping children”. Since its beginning, HCA has contributed to the growth of missionary vocations.

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS

Catechesis in mission education takes on many forms to capture the hearts and imaginations of youth in parochial schools and parish religious education programs.

- National Membership
- *It's Our World* newsletter
- Children's Mission Day
- National Day of Prayer
- Lenten Mission Assemblies
- *What's Up With the Missions?* Newsletter
- Audio Visual Library
- Parochial School and CCD presentations
- Annual Theme
- Service and Fund Raising Projects
- Contests

THE MISSIONARY UNION OF PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS

Purpose:

The Missionary Union exists to stimulate growth in mission awareness among priests, permanent deacons, men and women religious, candidates to the priesthood and religious life, and other persons engaged in pastoral and educational ministry in the Catholic Church. In fact, the success of the efforts of the other three mission societies is linked to the vitality of the Missionary Union because it is through their leadership that the missionary spirit - a spirit of prayer and generous sacrifice - is developed and nurtured.

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS

Within the Archdiocese, conscious effort is directed to nurturing a spirit of missionary zeal among those who serve the local Church in pastoral and catechetical ministry. Mission education strives to bring forth the missionary dimension of every Christian vocation.

- Retreats
- Classes, Seminars and Workshops
- Literature and Audio Visuals
- Mission Advisory Board
- Mission Immersion Programs

IMMERSION OPPORTUNITIES:

SOTUTA TRACE: A faith-based journey coupled with manual labor within the Mayan culture in Sotuta, in the Yucatan peninsula.

CHRIST THE HEALER: A cross-cultural opportunity to foster the healing of Christ through medical assistance to the mission diocese of Granada, Nicaragua.

CHRIST THE BUILDER: In building both relationships and structures, this faith-community serves the needy in Mexico and Central America.

ACOMPAÑO: Notre Dame Seminary requires all seminarians to participate in a cross-cultural mission experience to become more acquainted with the missionary activity of the Church.

BRIDGE BUILDERS: A cross cultural immersion experience for youth ministers, catechists, mission coordinators and educators to become more acquainted with the missionary activity of the global church.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. PETER APOSTLE

Purpose:

The Society of St. Peter Apostle awakens Christians to the problem of training native personnel in the mission churches. It seeks to inform the faithful and to solicit spiritual and material support for the formation of candidates for the priesthood and religious life.

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS

The summer mailing appeal of Propagation of the Faith is designated for the work of St. Peter Apostle.

Missionaries of St. Therese offer spiritual and financial assistance to the missionary work of the Church through:

- the Society of St. Peter Apostle
- aids needy parishes in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, to promote evangelization.

