

Opus Christi Salvatoris Mundi

Missionary Servants of the Poor



We will be “originals” if our face is the mirror of the face of the Risen Christ.

(Pope Francis. Message for the 40th Meeting for Friendship Among Peoples, Rimini, August 16, 2019)



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Important Notice

Don't ever tire of praying for priests, especially in these times in which it seems that all the powers of evil have descended on the earth, preying particularly upon the sacred ministers of the Lord.

Pray that they remain faithful, that they be holy, that they be, in short, nothing more (and nothing less) than what they ought to be: *Alter Christus*.

Accompany the Priests and Deacons of the Missionary Servants of the Poor with your prayers!

Please visit our website: www.msptm.com



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This newsletter will always be free. Some people ask to make a donation to support our work, which is why we include our bank details.

Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Missionary Servants of the Poor

Dear Friends,

Laudetur Iesus Christus!

We are living the liturgical season of Lent which requires us to fast from many things so to be able to contemplate in silence Jesus' astonishing work of Redemption. His infinitely profound Work of Redemption reveals to us something of its mystery in the measure that we are able to devote ourselves to His Sacred Heart.

The poor and the humble have a special access to this Sacred Heart mortally wounded by Love. For many years in all our houses, we celebrate a special Mass the first Friday of the month in which everyone participates.

This devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus which we desire to cultivate is a profoundly ecclesial devotion. Though its origins are very old, (it is fundamental to the spirituality and work of Saint John Eudes) its fullness was revealed in the private revelations to the Visitation nun Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque (1647-1690) and has been blessed frequently by the Popes. In 1856, almost two centuries after the revelations received by Saint Margaret Mary, Blessed Pope Pius IX

established the Feast of the Sacred Heart for the whole Church. A year later, Leo XII consecrated the human race to the Sacred Heart, preparing this most solemn act with his encyclical *Annum sacrum* in 1899.

Among other pontifical documents should be noted the encyclicals *Miserentissimus redemptor* (1928) by Pius XI and *Haurietis aquas* by Pius XII. To Blessed Paul VI we owe another document, perhaps less well known than the others, his apostolic letter *Investigabiles divitias* (1965) in which we find valuable considerations of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and its relation to the mystery of the Eucharist, central to the spirituality of the Movement. Our spirituality rests on three pillars: devotion to the Eucharist, devotion to Mary, and obedience to the Holy Father. Paul VI writes:

We desire that through a more intense participation in the Sacrament of the Altar, the Heart of Jesus be honored, whose greatest gift is the Eucharist. In fact, in the Eucharistic sacrifice our Lord is immolated and received "since he always lives to make intercession for us" (Heb. 7:25),

Whose heart was opened by a soldier's lance, pouring over the human race a torrent of His Precious Blood along with water; furthermore, in this sacrament, which is the culmination and center of the other sacraments, "one may enjoy the spiritual sweetness from His own source and remember the special love that Christ showed in His Passion" (St. Thomas Aquinas, Opusculum 57).

Our Eucharistic devotion is shown not only in a worthy celebration of the Eucharist, but also in our daily hour of Eucharistic Adoration. During exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, after the *Veni Sancte Spiritus*, we pray the prayer that the angel taught to the little shepherds of

Fatima that begins with the words, "My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love you. I ask pardon for all those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love you." This prayer, with which we express our desire to make reparation for the offenses against Jesus' Sacred Heart, is also tied to the devotion of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Pius XI, in his encyclical *Miserentissimus redemptor* (1928), says that the cult of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is especially a spirit of atonement and reparation.

Indeed, after talking about the importance of consecration to the Sacred Heart and of the duties tied to it, the Holy Father wrote in his encyclical that:



Daily Eucharistic Adoration is the center of the life of the Missionary Servants of the Poor.

To these duties, especially to the consecration, so fruitful and confirmed on the feast of Christ the King, it is necessary to add another duty, of which we want to speak more extensively in the present letter, venerable brothers; we refer to the duty of attributing to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus that honest satisfaction called reparation.

If the first and foremost of the consecration is that the love of the creature responds to the love of the Creator, there follows spontaneously another duty: that of making up for the insults made in some way to uncreated Love. We call this reparation.

And if the same reasons oblige us to one or the other, with what more pressing justice

and love are we bound to make reparation and expiation. In justice, to atone for the offense made to God for our faults and for the reintegration of the violated order; in love, in order to suffer with the patient Christ “weighed down with opprobrium” and, according to our poverty, offer Him some consolation. (no. 5)

We ask God that each of us Missionary Servants of the Poor and each of our children, cultivating this beautiful devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus which is “a synthesis of the whole mystery of Redemption” (*Haurietis aquas*, no. 24), may be able to grow more each day in love for the Eucharist and in the spirit of reparation for our sins and those of the whole world.



The Missionary Servants of the Poor Priests bring the Holy Eucharist to the villages of the Andes in Cuzco, Peru.

A Girl's Joy in the Midst of Suffering

Sister Jackelin Paucar Cusihuamán, msp (Peruvian)

When I met Ruth, I knew nothing about her. I only saw her as a little girl who made some efforts to move. I found out more about her when I was given the responsibility of taking her to the National Institute of Health for Children (NIHC) in Lima.

Ruth was abandoned by her mother, a woman abused by her stepfather and thrown out of the house. She was brought to our Saint Teresa of Jesus Home badly malnourished. When she was two months old she began to have bleeding ulcers and bleeding from her nose and was put in the hospital in Cuzco where she received blood transfusions.

Being a delicate and complicated case, she had to be sent to the NIHC in Lima. She was diagnosed with enlarged blood vessels in her stomach and had a procedure to correct it. Later she was placed in the pediatric ICU because of blood loss, bleeding on the brain, bleeding ulcers, and cardiac arrest.

Despite being given up for lost, Ruth continued fighting for her life. The

doctors gave her little chance to live and, when they returned to see her, were surprised that she was still alive.



Ruth with Sister Jackelin, msp.



Ruth, before surgery, receiving the blessing of one of the Missionary Servants of the Poor Priests.

Her condition caused her to bleed again several times requiring continuous blood transfusions resulting in a large part of her life spent in the hospital like a second home.

Ruth also suffered from an enlarged spleen which required monthly blood tests to check her hemoglobin and platelet levels since an enlarged spleen causes anemia and low blood cell count which made her susceptible to other illnesses. Really, Ruth was as fragile as glass and had to be guarded carefully since she couldn't fight for herself at all nor even cry.

When Ruth goes to the NICH she is the happiest girl in the world. Everyone there knows her and greets her and she returns their greetings with a smile that captures everyone's heart. In the physical therapy clinic they help her to have more balance and stability when walking. Despite her microcephaly, she is very intelligent and quickly learns what she is taught in therapy.

When she began to crawl, we were overjoyed because this meant that she could progress despite all her infirmities. As time passed, we saw how God loves the little ones. One is filled with joy seeing such a small and innocent child fighting for her life.

God is so generous to give such sick children into our care so that we learn from them how to suffer for Him and to have the strength each day to tell Him “yes.” These little ones who voluntarily suffer in silence respond to God with very tender and generous gestures transmitting joy amidst their suffering.

Months later, Ruth began to take her first steps and this gave us even more hope. Ruth is a real little miracle of God. But as she grew, Ruth’s health problems increased. When two years old she contracted a serious infection with a high fever that didn’t leave her for two months.

Her hemorrhaging returned but, being the brave fighter that she is, she remained happy and this gave her energy to get well. When evaluated at the hematology lab, she was diagnosed with low blood cell counts for which she received more blood transfusions. She began to bleed again and once again was operated on. Her spleen was discovered to be extremely large and its removal was recommended. What will her life be like without this important organ? This will put an already weak child at an even greater risk of infection. She would have to live practically in a bubble!

We asked the opinion of several doctors and had her evaluated at the NIHC in the San Borja neighborhood of Lima. Their diagnosis was the same and they discovered weak bones in her feet. Her life was in danger. With all the problems she has had, she could hemorrhage and die at any moment. After these examinations in September, Ruth was hospitalized for more tests and observation. After several meetings

with the doctors we were told that Ruth would have to be operated on again. They did an exploratory laparotomy of the abdomen and joined a vein in her abdomen with one in her kidney.

When she came out of the surgery, her whole body was connected to monitors and she could neither move nor eat solids or liquids and had to have blood taken every four hours. Despite being so little, she was capable of asking to pray. Throughout her suffering, what I noticed most was her fervor for prayer. We prayed every day with Ruth and she prayed with such tenderness that God couldn’t refuse her the favor of giving her some more life.

On one occasion a medical student told me that Ruth had become a case study because of all the conditions she had. It is painful knowing this, but, from a divine perspective (according to which “there is no evil from which good doesn’t come”), everything that turns out well for Ruth will serve to help other children and everything that turns out bad for her will also serve to help other children.

Ruth, little by little and with the help of God, has made progress. She is very fervent. When the Sisters are at community prayer, she doesn’t miss even once. She is always present whether she is awake or asleep. And, when she is at another activity, she quickly leaves it to join us in prayer. Once in the chapel, she prays as she is able with gestures or babbling that only she and the Lord understand. Sometimes she remains motionless and smiling, looking at the picture of the Virgin. Every time I see her like that, I feel that she is speaking with the Mother of Heaven.

Whenever Ruth is hospitalized, she has Lourdes water accompanied by the three Hail Marys. This water is her best medicine though she doesn't take it by mouth. Ruth is the daughter of Mary.

Ruth is now five, thanks to the love of the Virgin Mary and the faith that she has in the power of the Lourdes water through the intercession of Mary. That she has lived this long is considered a miracle since during her first months of life the doctors said she would probably not live to see her second birthday.

Each week she goes for tests. Recently, a CT scan of her veins showed that Ruth is completely full of enlarged veins that bleed.

It is truly incredible how a girl with so many health complications acts so normal and happy. The doctors told us that, according to her test results, she should be dead. But God is so great that He is giving her the strength to fight.

Ruth came into this world with a great mission: To participate in the suffering of Christ on the cross. God showed his

Despite the monitors on her after her surgery, Ruth didn't lose her joy for life.



love to the world when He sent His Son to live with us and to suffer in expiation for our sins. That is how He showed us His love. And to continue with this plan of salvation, He asks generous hearts to offer themselves to save this lost world.

Ruth is a child who has given herself, soul and body, to God so that God,

through her, may continue to manifest Himself in a generous, humble and silent way. Like her, there are many girls fighting for their lives. They only need our help to continue living.



Despite the prognosis of the doctors, Ruth turned five years old and is happy, thanks to the love, care, and dedication of the Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters.

CHRONICLE

OF THE MOVEMENT

END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Our Saint Maria Goretti School closed the 2019 school year with several activities centered around Christmas. The girls from the different grades sang songs and Christmas carols, and performed skits and dances about the birth of Jesus Our Savior. At the same time the girls who received the highest grades and the best comportment were recognized.



Students of the Saint Maria Goretti Girls School.

MOTHER HOUSE

The Sisters have also hosted several spiritual retreats, some vocational retreats for girls and others for our collaborators and adult women. All these retreats took place in Cuzco at our mother house of the Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters. It is always a great joy to see the positive response of so many people who want to strengthen their spiritual lives.

A few weeks ago, we celebrated the wedding of three couples in our Holy Mary Mother of the Poor chapel of the Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters. These were parents of some of our students from the Saint Maria Goretti Girls School. They had been

preparing themselves for a whole year for this celebration. Our parish priest, Father Ernesto Cucho, presided.



Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters teaching catechism to the parents of students of our Saint Maria Goretti Girls School

EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONS

In these past weeks the Sisters have done extraordinary missions, that is, missions which cannot be done weekly or monthly but only during key times of the year. The villages that were visited are:

Chillihuani and Tintinco, in the province of Quispicanchi, where the response and participation of the people was very positive despite the intense cold while we were there.

Hacca and Huilcuyo, in the district of Omacha (province of Paruro). In these villages, sixteen children received their First Holy Communion for which they were preparing all year. The excitement of

the children that received the sacrament was contagious. It was an unforgettable day for them.

Tacmara and Huanchuya, in the department of Apurimac. These are village at more than 10,000 feet above sea level and eight hours by car from the city of Cuzco. We did many things and concluded with First Communion for some of the children.



Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters visit the distant villages with great joy and enthusiasm.

The Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters visit the elderly who are the most abandoned and forgotten.



SISTERS' MISSION IN GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

Saint Maria Goretti Oratory and Saint Dominic Savio Oratory

Each Saturday morning, the Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters take care of girls from 6 to 16 years old and on Sunday afternoons boys from 6 to 13 years old. In both oratories we do activities such as catechesis (with particular attention to the Rosary) and conduct various workshops in sewing, baking, music, dance and origami as well as play games.

Ejido Copalita

In this suburb, on Sundays after Mass, the Sisters help the priest with bringing the Eucharist to the sick. During the week they make family visits to give them spiritual support.



The Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters in Guadalajara, Mexico on mission teaching catechism in the oratory and visiting the sick, bringing them Holy Communion.

SISTERS' MISSION IN GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

Hacienda Copala and Lomas de Tesistan

In the neighborhood of Hacienda Copala, thanks to the preparation of the Sisters, several children were able to receive the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation.

In Lomas de Tesistan, because of the transient nature in which these immigrants live, we were finally able, after almost two years of mission, to form a small group of eleven children for First Communion and Confirmation.

In both neighborhoods, the children were very happy to be able to receive Jesus in their hearts.

Treboles and Palermo

At the request of the parish priest, Father Jesús García, the Sisters have started visiting families in these two new subdivisions. These two neighborhoods

have presented difficulties not found in the others. In these new subdivisions one cannot make visits freely from door to door, but each visit must be scheduled in advance and may not be entered without registering first. We thank God for these difficulties which He presents us for the love of souls.



Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters catechizing children in different neighborhoods in Guadalajara, Mexico.

MISSIONARY SISTERS SERVANTS OF THE POOR



*The traditional
veil worn by our
sisters is a sign
of their total
consecration to
Christ, and of
reparation for the
sins of the world.*

(For more information fill in the form on page 16)

How can I help the poor?



- By making yourself an echo of the cry of the poorest, by sharing this newsletter and all of our material (which you can request for free) with your friends and family. You can also organise missionary retreats which our missionaries can lead.
- Offer your sacrifices and prayers, together with faithfulness to the Gospel and the Pope, so that every Missionary Servant of the Poor can be a living witness for Jesus in the midst of the poor.
- Sending us your Mass intentions
- Coordinating a specific project with us or supporting projects that we carry out daily.
- By remembering us in your will and leaving a legacy to the Missionary Servants of the Poor.

You can make online donations at
www.msptm.com

You can also send us a check:
Friends of the Missionary Servants of the Poor
5800 W Monastery Road
Hulbert, Ok 74441



*Thanks to
your help, one
more child can
befed in our
houses of
Cusco, Perú*

Thank you for all that you do



We Invite You to Share our Missionary Work in Peru as...

Young laywomen who wish to give all their love to abandoned children, to stretch out their arms, like Mary, to the Child Jesus Who is present in these children.

Young laymen who wish to give their hearts to Christ, to give their talents and skills, whatever they may be, to the service of the Divine Master, so His work can be realised in all human circumstances.

Priests and seminarians to take the Body and Blood of the Redeemer to the most remote and abandoned sites of the Andean Cordillera, and to announce the message of love and salvation of Christ Crucified and Risen.

Full-time contemplatives, gathered together to live an austere life in a cloistered community, to give glory to God, to intercede for all the members of the Church along with Mary, our mother, and to make reparation for the sins of mankind.

Married couples who wish to open their families to the poorest, as a small domestic church that is transformed into a shelter of love shared with those who suffer.

Young people who are searching and who, during a year of experience in the Third World, are inclined to discern with an open heart, and are willing to listen to what mission the Lord is calling them.

☐ Full-time contemplative:

☐ Seminarian

☐ Priest

☐ Consecrated layman

☐ Consecrated laywoman

☐ Consecrated married couple

☐ Oblate

☐ Associate member or collaborator

Name

Street

City State

Postal Code Country

Telephone Occupation

Age Level of Education

Email

Seminarians, please mail
your request to:

House of Priestly Formation
Holy Mary Mother of the Poor
Carretera Mazarambroz S/N
45110 Ajofrín (Toledo)
Spain
seminario.msp@gmail.com

All others, please send this form to
the following address:

Friends of the Missionary Servants
of the Poor Foundation
5800 West Monastery Road
Hulbert, OK 74441 - USA
616-691-7909
info.ocsm@gmail.com

Lay people

Most important help for missionaries

I, _____
 during all of _____, commit myself to remain united to you in order to give
 thanks to God for this new charism of the Church given to the Missionary Servants
 of the Poor.

My participation will be as follows:

Frequency

Form of offering					
	Daily	Weekly	Fortnightly	Monthly	Other
Holy Mass					
Eucharistic Adoration					
Holy Rosary					

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal code _____

Country _____ Date _____

Laypeople

...to save oneself, one has to love God and neighbor, and this is uncomfortable! It is a "narrow doorway" because it is demanding. Love is always demanding. It requires commitment, indeed, "effort", that is, a determined and persevering willingness to live according to the Gospel. Saint Paul calls it "the good fight of the faith" (1 Tim 6:12). It takes a daily, all-day effort to love God and neighbor.

Pope Francis. Angelus. Rome, August 25, 2019)

This Spiritual Offering may be sent to our address in Cuzco, Peru. There it will be placed at the feet of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the chapel "Holy Mary Mother of the Poor", in the City of the Boys (Andahuaylillas, Cuzco - Peru).

The Liturgy of Love

Fr. Giuseppe Cardamone, msp (Italian)



“We were born to evangelize the poor, giving them the riches of the Church.” This is one of the phrases with which our founder, Father Giovanni Salerno, sums up our charism. Through the gift of the Gospel we want to rescue the poor from the misery in which they live so that, believing, their misery may be transformed into evangelical poverty, enriched by theological hope in the loving Providence of God. This is a beautiful insight of Pope Francis that, in his 2014 *Message for Lent*, he rightly describes our missionary work in reflecting on the words of the Apostle Saint Paul who says, “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich” (2Cor. 8:9).

Latin America is a land where the Church’s preferential option for the poor, amply witnessed in Scripture and which has always been part of her identity, has been poorly interpreted and badly implemented, especially in the years following the Second Vatican Council. During these years, there arose what is called “Liberation Theology” which secularized the message of salvation,

reducing it to a merely material well-being. The Church’s magisterium has since condemned Liberation Theology clarifying the true liberation that Christ brings.

In response to this, our dear founder (a witness to the sad consequences of Liberation Theology) has always insisted on the importance of placing God first in the life of the missionary and on the truth that authentic mission is born of the divine love infused by God in prayer and in the celebration of the sacraments.

It is for this reason that, from the beginning of the Movement, one of the pillars of our missionary life, along with the celebration of Mass and praying the Holy Rosary, is an hour each day of Eucharistic Adoration. There we learn to contemplate and love Christ whom we serve in the poor every day.

In the same line of the famous motto *operi Dei nihil praeponatur* (“nothing comes before the work of God,” meaning the Divine Office), which is a living testimony of the monastic tradition that goes back to St. Benedict of Nursia, Father Giovanni has always insisted on the need of ensuring

a worthy celebration of the liturgy, taking great care with the songs, vestments, altars, chapels, etc.

The liturgical celebration is meant to make present the world of God among us, a new world where love, peace, joy, and the power of the Holy Spirit reigns. Through a well celebrated liturgy we are conscious of making this world accessible to the poor. They, through their profound religious sensibility acquired through suffering, intuit the mystery of the divine beauty and enter joyfully into this divine world given to us in the liturgy. For this reason, Father Giovanni has always insisted on the participation of our children at these liturgies saying, “In the liturgy the poor feel like princes in the service of the great King,” and it is really so.

It is astonishing to see the love, reverence, and attention with which our boys, though poor, serve at the altar. It is marvelous to see the humility and reverence of the crowd of poor that participate in our Masses. It is moving to hear them sing together the *Christus Vincit* or the *Salve Regina*. *The eyes of faith show us in the liturgy* the spectacle of a God Who gives Himself to the poor completely and with great joy, and of the poor who respond by giving themselves to Him with humility and joy.

In this mutual giving of God to the poor and of the poor to God, in the framework of the liturgy, we missionaries are privileged instruments and witnesses. Our duty, as priests and missionaries, is to make the beauty of the love of God and His wisdom resplendent in the liturgy.



The Missionary Servants of the Poor get the strength necessary to bring the love of God to the poor through the Eucharist.

The atmosphere that it creates makes us give thanks to God for the gift of the missionary vocation and strengthens our faith and our vocation.

The poor enter the celebration of the Eucharist, recognize the suffering Christ, and praise the glorious Christ. They enter into the mystery of the Holy Mass and perceive its grandeur. The poor express the gift of themselves to God in the most beautiful way, through silence, a silence that reveals in an almost tangible way the presence of God, a silence of which they are true masters.

Our closeness to the poor helps us to have that wide horizon necessary to understand and live the gift of the liturgy, the horizon of love. The eyes of faith show us in all its solemnity the liturgies celebrated in the huts and in the poor churches of the Andes mountains where shines the gift that God makes of Himself to the poor and the beauty of his love and where the lack of liturgical ornaments is compensated for by the presence of

those most beloved of God. The beauty of these liturgies is comparable to those of the most beautiful celebrations in the majestic cathedrals of Europe.

The celebration of the Eucharist has an essential connection with the poor. The collection taken up during Mass, for example, was begun to take care of the poor. Saint Justin Martyr describes it about the year 150, “Those who have and want to, give freely what they think best; what is collected is given to the presider so he can use it to help the orphans and widows, those in need because of infirmity or other causes, those in prison, foreigners who are passing through: in short, it is used to provide for whomever is in need” (Saint Justin, *Apologia 1*, 65-67).

In addition, from the New Testament we know of the existence of an agape in favor of the poor in connection with the Eucharist. “In her very early days, the holy Church added the agape to the eucharistic supper and thus showed



The Missionary Servants of the Poor Sisters give their whole lives to orphaned, abandoned, and sick children whom they care for because they see Christ in each one of them.

itself to be wholly united around Christ by the bond of charity. So, too, in every era it is recognized by this sign of love, and while it rejoices in the undertakings of others, it claims works of charity as its own inalienable duty and right. For this reason, pity for the needy and the sick and works of charity and mutual aid intended to relieve human needs of every kind are held in highest honor by the Church” (Second Vatican Council. *Apostolicam actuositatem*. Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, no. 8).

The Fathers of the Church understood the heart of the celebration of the Eucharist by directly relating the Body of Christ in the Eucharist with His mysterious presence among the poor. “This altar [the poor] is more awful even than this which we now use, not only than that used of old. Here (in the church) the altar is admirable for the sacrificial offering that is placed on it. The other, that of the merciful man’s, not only on this account, but also because it is He Himself Who is

the sacrificial offering. Again, here the altar is holy because, though it’s made of stone, it becomes holy by receiving on it the Body of Christ; the other altar, the poor, is holy because it itself is the Body of Christ” (St. John Chrysostom, in 2 Cor. Homily 17, 20:3. p. 61, 540).

If the Eucharist is the celebration of our identity, the same Eucharist speaks to us of the role that the poor and suffering humanity play in the Christian life. We mustn’t forget it or we run the risk of distorting our celebrations and offering to God an empty sacrifice. “These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me” (Is 29:13).

Dear friends, you are always welcome to experience the joy of serving the poor in our houses! Help us to encourage missionary vocations among the young people you know to the benefit of all the poor who await the consoling presence of Christ among them.



The people of the Andean villages of Cuzco, Peru participate weekly in the Eucharist celebrated by the Missionary Servants of the Poor Priests.

S.O.S. to Young People



Just like adults, young people walk on two feet. But unlike adults, who keep their feet parallel, you always have one foot in front of the other, ready to set out, to take off.

Pope Francis. (Address at the Interreligious Meeting of Youth. Maputo, Mozambique. September 5, 2019)



With the Missionary Servants of the Poor, you can achieve this ideal – through a life of deep prayer and generous self-giving to so many brothers who suffer all types of marginalisation.

House of Formation “Holy Mary Mother of the Poor”



Yet today the stress and quick pace of a world constantly bombarding us with stimuli can leave no room for that interior silence in which we can perceive Jesus' gaze and hear his call.

Pope Francis. Apostolic Exhortation Christus vivit, no. 277)

“Here I am, Lord, I come to do your will” (Psalm 39)

If you want to be a Missionary, here there is a place for you!

Why not?



House of Formation

Holy Mary Mother of the Poor ctra. a
Mazarambroz, s/n
45110 Ajofrín
(Toledo) Spain
Tel: +34 925 390 066

Email:
seminario.msp@gmail.com

In Praise of Contemplatives

Would you like to join our Contemplative Servants of the Poor who dedicate most of their day to prayer and Eucharistic adoration, and who also dedicate numerous hours to manual Labour in order to help the poor?

You have chosen, or more exactly, Christ has chosen you, to live His Easter Mystery with Him in time and space. May all that you are, everything you do each day, be it the Office recited or sung, the celebration of the Eucharist, the work done in your cell or in community, respect for the cloister and silence, the voluntary or imposed mortification of the rule, be taken on, sanctified, and used by Christ for the world's redemption.



Like Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, you too can offer your contemplative life to God to benefit the neediest.

I,

from the Monastery of:

Address:

City:

Country:

commit myself to live the obedience and poverty of my surrender to God in my monastery for the Movement of the Missionary Servants of the Poor, so that the Kingdom of God may come to the poorest.

Date

Signature

Testimony of Marino Restrepo, Founder of “Pilgrims of Love”

My name is Marino Restrepo. I am a lay Catholic missionary from Colombia and founder of “Pilgrims of Love,” a fraternity of lay missionaries belonging to the Archdiocese of Bogotá. The charism of our mission is charity. Our commitment to the New Evangelization rests on three pillars: the preaching of the Gospel, ecclesial communion, and the commitment to the poor and marginalized.

This missionary journey began twenty-two years ago through a deep experience of conversion on Christmas 1997 after being kidnapped by the FARC guerillas in Colombia. It is a journey that has taken me around the world to 118 countries and through the heart of the Catholic Church, encountering many works of charity and evangelization like that of the Missionary Servants of the Poor which give dignity to the human person and transform the life and hearts of people.

I visited the Missionary Servants of the Poor’ work in Cuzco and shared with them various reflections. I found a great work being done, doubtless through the inspiration of the Lord Who began it and has made it prosper. It was a great experience though there is not enough room to share very much of it with you.

I visited the Saint Tarcisius Home and met the Priests, Brothers, and teenagers

of the Movement and shared with them my reflections on the importance of remaining faithful to the charism, spirituality, and mystical reality of the Founder.

Also there, in the City of Boys in Andahuaylillas, is the Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto Boys School. It being Lent, we prayed the Way of the Cross and shared a reflection with the teachers. This school is completely free. It is very well organized and offers these boys with few resources the chance to study and be trained in a trade which will open to them the door to the world of work.



Marino Restrepo giving a talk to our MSP families in Nazareth Village in Cuzco, Peru.

Near the City of Boys is the Nazareth Village where the Movement's missionary families live. These families are an example of service and give themselves unconditionally to God.

They have left their countries to come with their children to serve the most poor. With these families we shared a reflection about the call to be missionary families in these times in the Church and in the world.

Another day I visited the Sisters at the Saint Teresa of Jesus Home. I saw the personal contact the Sisters have with the children who live with them. The Mother Superior, who showed me around the home, knew everything about each child, she knew them personally and treated each with much love.

A meeting was organized at the Cathedral in Cuzco on the vocation of service. It was very important to share my reflections in this beautiful city of Cuzco.

On the last day, I went to the mission in Punacancha near the city of Cuzco in the mountains where the Sisters are present in a little hamlet of very poor people. We visited some of the people in their little dwellings. The Sisters take care of, visit, and help the elderly and families in this area.

Finally, returning to Lima, I had the great blessing of meeting Father Giovanni Salerno, founder of the Missionary Servants of the Poor. He received me very warmly. We were able to share and pray together in the oratory where he prayed for The Pilgrims of Love and the work of evangelization that we do. I found a wise and humble priest through whom God has done a magnificent work, something that only God can do.

My visit to Cuzco was a spiritually fruitful experience; I found there clearly demonstrated God's love for the most weak and poor. I hope for the blessing of visiting again some day.



The Missionary Servants of the Poor bring the Word of God to the forgotten mountain villages.



Missionary Servants of the Poor Priests and Brothers with the orphaned and abandoned boys they care for in the City of Boys in Andahuaylillas, Cuzco, Peru.

This witness expands the heart and makes us ask ourselves how much we have grown in love. In this life we must learn the lesson of love, in the school of souls of Jesus Christ. Spiritual growth is measured by the love we give, not by

what we receive. So it is that at the end of our life, says Saint John of the Cross, we will be judged on love. The work of the Missionary Servants of the Poor is a work of love.

INTERNATIONAL CAMPS 2020

We invite you to spend some enriching time with us in formation, service, and personal growth.

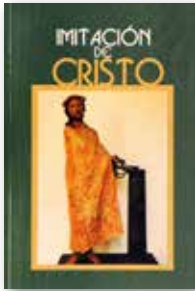
Girls Camp (Ages 18-29) in Cuzco, Peru July 20 – August 8, 2020
(Email: hermanasm.s.p.peru@gmail.com)

Young Men's Camp (Ages 16-25) in Ajofrin, Spain August 1-21, 2020
(Email: seminario.msp@gmail.com)

Family Camp in Arta Terme, Italy August 1-9, 2020
(Email: missionaricuzco@gmail.com)

Sign-up deadline is May 30, 2020.
Please contact us for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

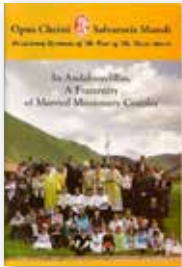


The Imitation of Christ:

New translation of the spiritual rule of the Missionary Servants of the Poor. (available only in Spanish and Italian)

On Mission with God in the Andes:

This book presents Father Giovanni Salerno's anecdotes and personal reflections on his missionary experience in the Andes.

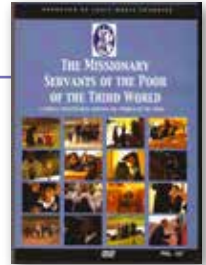


Missionary Couples:

This booklet tells about the Fraternity of Missionary Couples of our movement, who serve the poor as entire families.

Missionary Servants of the Poor:

Catholic missionaries serving the poorest of the poor. A 55minute DVD presenting the charisms of the Movement and its different communities.

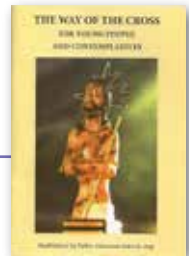


The Confessions of St. Augustine:

Dear young people, Saint Augustine tells you frankly about his life so that you can discover with him how beautiful the gift of your life is. (available only in Spanish and Italian)

The Way of the Cross for Young People and Contemplatives:

Fr Giovanni Salerno meditates on the sorrowful Path looking on the Indios for whom he gave-up his life.



If you are interested in receiving a free copy of any of these materials, please mail your requests to:

Friends of the Missionary Servants of the Poor Foundation
5800 West Monastery Road, Hulbert, OK 74441 - USA
616-691-7909 info.ocsm@gmail.com



Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Fr. Paolo Giandinoto, msp (Italian)

He was born in 540 A.D. in Rome. After finishing his studies in Law, he was named Prefect of Rome by the emperor Justinian II. But his heart aspired to higher things and, after a difficult interior struggle, he began to live like a monk. Gregory was happy in the peace of the cloister but was soon removed by the Pope, who sent him as nuncio to Constantinople. He would ever after look longingly on those four years of monastic life, for its spirituality marked the rest of his life.

In 586, the Tiber flooded its banks sowing destruction everywhere: people drowned, palaces destroyed, hunger and disease was everywhere. One of the victims was Pope Pelagius II, and Gregory was elected to succeed him. He tried to escape the city to avoid taking the office, but he soon realized that the responsibility placed on his shoulders was the will of God and accepted it. During his fruitful pontificate he was a tireless restorer of Catholic discipline. He built monasteries, renewed worship and the liturgy, encouraged chant (later called “Gregorian” chant in his honor), composed hymns, wrote numerous theological works and hundreds of letters. One of his most famous writings is his “Pastoral Rule.” He died on March 12, 604. His feast day is celebrated September 3.

It is important to emphasize St. Gregory’s burning missionary zeal, not only in Rome, but also in Spain, France, Armenia, and all of Italy. But his greatest apostolic achievement was the conversion of the

Anglo-Saxons. It was he who promoted and encouraged the evangelization of England by the monk Augustine, the future Archbishop of Canterbury. He sent Augustine to England with 40 monks and, after baptizing Ethelbert, King of Kent (the future Saint Ethelbert) in 597, Augustine baptized more than 10,000 Saxons.

During the time of Saint Gregory, furthermore, the Visigoths renounced Arianism, a dangerous Christian heresy that didn’t recognize the divine nature of the Son as equal to that of the Father, but considered the Son as an inferior created god, an intermediary between the divine world and the human.

Saint Gregory loved to call himself “The servant of the servants of God,” a title which the Popes have used ever since. It is beautiful to see in the Church that the missionary enthusiasm, which characterized the public life of Jesus, has always affected the evangelizing style of its apostolate. We also see in our times the desire of the latest Pope to continually renew the missionary spirit of the Church. In the figure of Saint Gregory the Great, we Missionary Servants of the Poor find many things to inspire us, like the love of the liturgy and Gregorian chant, zeal to bring the Gospel to everyone in way that will make them know Christ the Savior and, finally, the name and ideal of being “servants,” servants of God, servants of the Church, and servants of the poor

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Opus Christi  **Salvatoris Mundi**
Missionary Servants of the Poor