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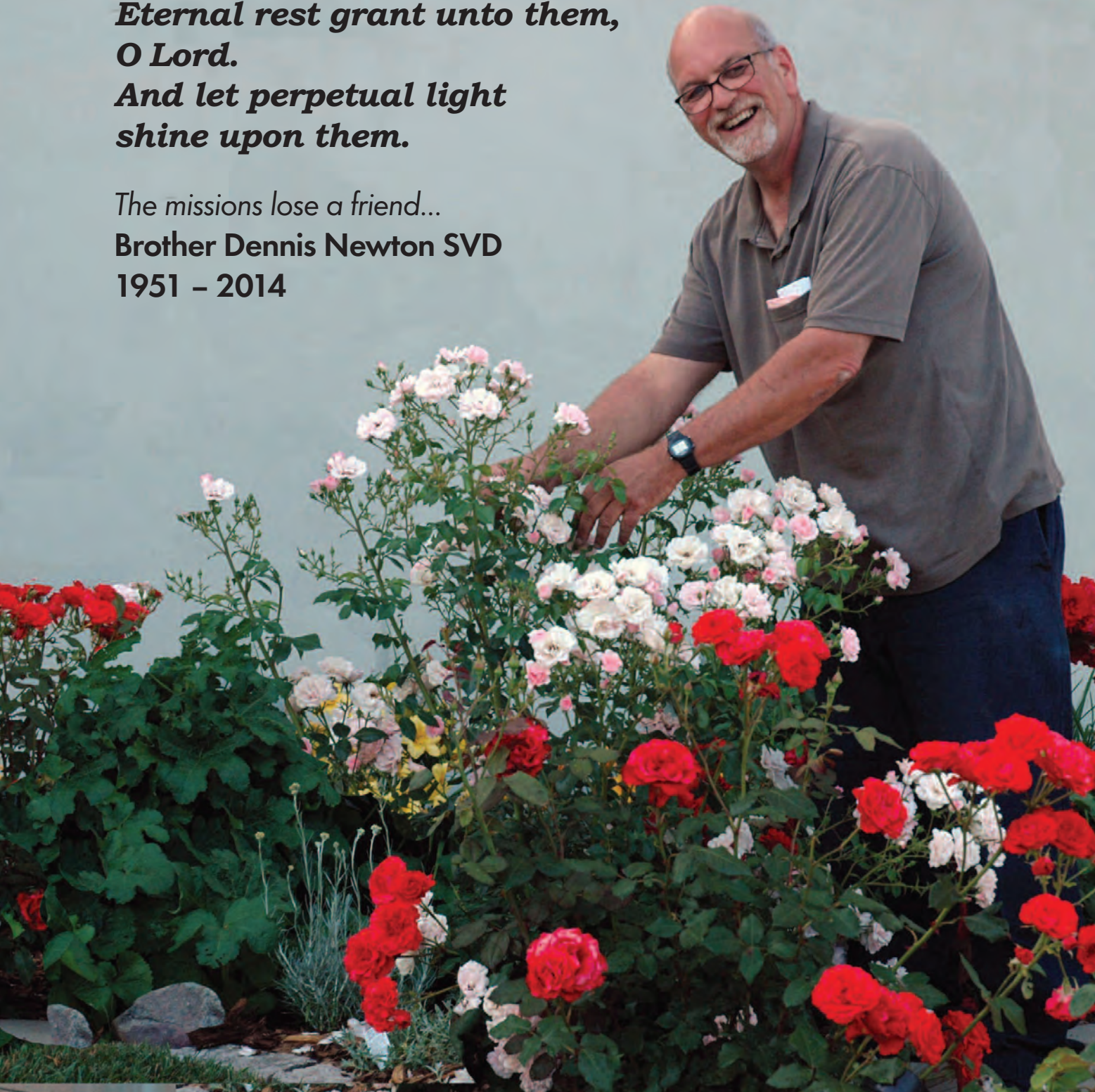
# Divine Word

Missionaries Magazine  
In Memorium

Spring 2014

*Eternal rest grant unto them,  
O Lord.  
And let perpetual light  
shine upon them.*

*The missions lose a friend...*  
**Brother Dennis Newton SVD**  
**1951 – 2014**







**Bro. Dennis Newton SVD  
1951 - 2014**

*Bro. Dennis had just finished putting his final touch on this Spring 2014 magazine. As you know, for the past twelve years Bro. Dennis was at the helm of our magazine. As national mission director, one of his responsibilities was to communicate with our missionaries around the world and gather their stories for publication. An excellent writer himself, his voice could be found in the editing and editorials of each issue. We would like to present this magazine as he had planned, with his signature, as a memorial to his hard work and dedication to **Divine Word Missionaries Magazine** and the many mission projects he helped along the way.*

*-Dan Holman SVD*

## Editorial

### **Above All, the Church of the Poor**

To mark the fiftieth anniversary of Vatican Council II, our superior general, Father Heinz Kulueke SVD, published a lengthy document in which he reflected on the influence of the council on missionary work and encouraged our members to keep the spirit of the council alive.

The document quotes Pope John XXIII's radio message on September 11, 1962, in which he declared that the Church "... wishes to be the Church of all, and especially the Church of the poor." Fr. Kulueke reminded us that as missionaries we are called to be with the poor and the marginalized. He wrote, "The Church of the poor does not merely mean that the Church has its preferential option to serve the poor, but it is also an acknowledgement that the Church is constituted primarily by the poor."

This issue of *Divine Word Missionaries Magazine*, features articles about missionaries who serve people who are not only very poor, but also marginalized by society.

Father Andy Campbell SVD has devoted most of his missionary career to improving the lives of lepers in Accra, Ghana.

Father Roy Thomas SVD is the director of Janvikas Society in Indore, India. Janvikas works with the hundreds of women and children engaged in the dangerous occupation of scavenging and recycling.

Father Chavvakula Lourduraju SVD, pastor of a parish in Hungary, dedicates himself to the Roma, Hungary's Gypsy population, a group which, like lepers, has long been ostracized and persecuted.

Women in many cultures, including our own, have gone through periods of persecution as witches. Recent occurrences of this in Papua New Guinea have alarmed the Catholic bishops, and Father Philip Gibbs SVD is assisting the bishops in implementing an education program to deal with this new phenomenon.

All of these groups of people are, as Fr. Kulueke wrote, "not just the object of pastoral projects of the Church, but primarily a privileged group in Jesus' evangelization."

On behalf of our missionaries around the world, I thank you for your prayers and continued support.

Yours in the Divine Word,

Bro. Dennis Newton SVD  
Mission Director



# Divine Word

A woman wearing a red headscarf and an orange shirt is sitting in the middle of a large pile of cardboard boxes and other waste. She is looking towards the camera. The background is filled with stacks of cardboard boxes and various pieces of trash, including plastic bags and crumpled paper. The overall scene suggests a recycling or waste management facility.

**Missionaries Magazine**

Mission Updates from around the World

Spring 2014





## Divine Word Missionaries • Mission Center

1835 Waukegan Road, Techny Illinois 60082-6099

Dear Friends,

**“ . . . to act justly . . . love tenderly . . . and walk humbly with your God”**

**-Micah 6:8**

These Old Testament words were proclaimed at Brother Dennis Newton's funeral Mass at our Chapel of the Holy Spirit in Techny, Illinois, on Saturday, April 12.

As a colleague and friend for many years, it seemed almost surreal to be praying Dennis home. Only days before, we were sharing our daily rituals of praying, laughing, planning, and thanking you, our generous co-missionaries and friends, for supporting our priests, brothers, and seminarians around the world.

As many of you know from your ongoing correspondence, calls, and visits, Brother Dennis was a doer. He decided long ago that the Gospel of Jesus Christ only made sense to him when the poorest of Christ's poor were cared for with love, compassion, and creativity in Jesus' name. As a religious brother to so many, his vows compelled him each day to ask the question: "Christ, how will I serve you today by serving your poorest of the poor?" His life was a response to that question.

Through his leadership as a Divine Word Missionary, through the many seminarians whom he challenged to embrace a life commitment to the missions, through people whom he engaged in missionary work by reaching out for financial support, and in so many other quiet ways known only to him and God, Dennis acted justly.

After the funeral Mass, we processed from our chapel to the cemetery to commit Dennis's mortal remains to the earth. Two things entered my mind during this walk.

First, as I walked toward the cemetery, I passed Dennis' room at our Mission Center, and I realized that he had a clear view of this cemetery. I wondered if, in his daily prayers, he was always aware that his time here was only a moment in God's eyes. You see, Brother Dennis was stricken in his room on Thursday, April 3, with a blood clot in his lungs that in turn affected his heart functioning. He called Fr. Bob Kelly to be with him as 911 was summoned. Dennis said he had no pain, but simply could not breathe. Brother Dennis never regained consciousness and died peacefully in the hospital on Saturday, April 5, surrounded by family, friends and fellow Divine Word Missionaries.

My second thought was how Dennis always was surrounded by nature. His final resting place is located between two vegetable gardens that he planted and tended. The produce from these gardens was given to a local food pantry to be distributed to the poor. After our very severe winter, this barren ground was waiting for Dennis to work his miracles again this year. He certainly loved tenderly.

During Brother Dennis' wake and funeral Mass and the luncheon afterward, I heard so many stories about his journey of faith over his sixty-two years. It was clear to me was that, in all those years, he walked humbly with his God and invited so many of us to join him on that journey.

Now, as Brother Dennis' interim successor, it becomes my sad yet awesome task to invite you on that journey by asking for your continued support of our missionaries and their service to Christ's poor.

In the weeks and months ahead, I will honor Brother Dennis with you by continuing to proclaim Christ each day and by serving his people.

This Eastertime, may Dennis now rest in the peace of our risen Lord.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Brother Dan Holman SVD  
Interim Mission Director

P. S. If you would like to give a gift in memory of Brother Dennis, it can be sent in his name to Divine Word Missionaries, P.O. Box 6099, Techny, IL 60082, or visit our website at: [www.svdmissions.org](http://www.svdmissions.org)  
Your gift will be used to feed Christ's poor as Brother Dennis did during his life.

May  
the heart  
of Jesus  
live  
in the  
hearts  
of all

# DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES

AN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS AND BROTHERS

## Who Deserves to Be Rich?

*Dennis Newton SVD*

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"If you are ever feeling down and out and you go to see the lepers, you'll come back a different person . . ."

## Bolivia's Father Mom

*Mariusz Mielczarek SVD*

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I left my native Poland for my first assignment as associate pastor of San Santiago in Coripata, Bolivia, where I discovered I would be working in a daycare center for young children. I quickly learned that what they *do not* teach you in a seminary could fill several large toy boxes.

## The Church Confronts Witchcraft in Papua New Guinea

*Philip Gibbs SVD*



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## Help for the Least, the Last, and the Lost

*Roy Thomas SVD*



Sarika's workday typically began at dawn, and after a full day of work collecting plastic, paper, glass, and metal, she might sell the entire lot for the equivalent of three U.S. dollars.

## Sharing Their Joy and Suffering: The Roma Community in Hungary

*Chavvakula Lourduraju SVD*

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I began my ministry among the Roma as a deacon and returned to Korom after my ordination. During this time, I have come to appreciate their deep sense of faith in God. They are a spiritual, loving, and warm people.

Missionaries have always had to deal in some way or other with the belief in spirits, both good and evil. . . but it is only recently that belief in witchcraft has emerged as significant problem.

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## Fond Memories



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The question . . .

**“Who deserves to be rich?”**

is an interesting rhetorical question, but it was also the slightly rebranded title of a popular television game show in Ghana, *Who Wants to be Rich?*

Similar to the American show *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?*, Ghanaian contestants advance through a series of increasingly difficult trivia questions to earn higher and higher amounts of money.

## Who Deserves to Be Rich?

*Dennis Newton SVD*



**During May 2010, the Ghanaian show was specially dubbed *Who Deserves to Be Rich?* Contestants, with the aid of celebrities, had the opportunity to play and earn money to support a project or charity. Divine Word Missionary, Father Andrew Campbell SVD, the founder of the Lepers Aid Committee, climbed to the penultimate level and earned a record-setting twenty-five thousand Ghanaian cedi, equivalent to approximately ten thousand U.S. dollars. Although it did not exactly make him rich, it surely helped his very deserving mission work on behalf of lepers.**

Fr. Andrew founded the Lepers Aid Committee in 1990 to educate the public on leprosy, relieve the suffering of leprosy patients, and help cured lepers integrate back into society. The committee draws its membership from Catholic parishes in Accra and Tema.

With early detection and antibiotic treatment, leprosy can be cured in several months. The World Health Organization estimates that in the past twenty years, more than fourteen million leprosy patients were cured, and the rate of infection dropped by ninety percent. Left untreated, leprosy causes progressive damage to skin, nerves, and limbs.



Above: Fr. Andy poses with some of the students of Tema Secondary School after they presented food and other goods to the cured lepers at their home in Weija near Accra. Fr. Andy has become known nationally for his defense of and support for the people with, or cured of, Hansen's disease (leprosy) in Ghana.

Despite the advances in medical treatment and the relatively low prevalence of the disease in Ghana, even persons who have been cured of leprosy are often feared and mistreated. Many bear scars and physical damage because they did not receive treatment in the early stages of the disease. "People are afraid of lepers, even doctors," says Fr. Campbell. "Send lepers to the hospital and see how they are treated. They are sent to the end of the queue and seen after everybody else."

Fr. Campbell founded Weija Cured Lepers Rehabilitation Center, located about five miles from Accra, to provide a home for the men and women in this group. Shielded from society's stigma, the residents are provided a wholesome environment where they are treated with dignity and respect. Fr. Andy established a number of self-help ventures at the center to provide employment for the residents. In an article published in *The Harp*, a magazine by Divine Word Missionaries in Ireland, Fr. Campbell talks about his work with lepers. "If you are ever feeling down and out and you go to see the lepers, you'll come back a different person. They have so much hope and they are grateful for the little they have materially. I see them as a sign of hope and encouragement—a blessing for our society. They are our treasure because they bring out the good in other people." It is hard to imagine that Fr. Campbell ever has time to feel down; it is doubtful he even has time for sleep.



Above: Fr. Andy (right) with Harp editor, Fr. Liam Dunne SVD (middle)





Right: Fr. Andy at ceremonial groundbreaking.



Fr. Andy has served as a parish priest, caretaker and advocate for lepers, prison chaplain, educator, and chairman of the only children's hospital in Ghana. He has built schools, convents, medical clinics, and chapels. He constructed a dam near the village of Kordiabe to irrigate vegetable plots and designed a fish farm to provide food and jobs. All the while, he brought together people in Ghana, Ireland, and Italy to raise funds and accomplish great things.

Perhaps the best summary of Fr. Campbell's missionary career can be found in a paragraph he wrote about his years in Ghana. Looking back, he wrote:

The challenges, the difficulties, the frustrations, the cement and iron rods, the new buildings, the sermons, the lectures, retreats, hot sun, the joys and pains, the malaria and mosquito bites, the baptisms, and marriages, the long church services. What a life, what a challenge. Forty-one years ago, I stepped from the Aureol ship at the Tema harbor Ghana after a thirteen-day sea trip from Liverpool with my head in my sick bag. When I left Liverpool on 1 October 1971, the umbilical cord was cut and the next stop was Africa, the land of my dreams, the land I dreamt of as a young boy going from village to village on horseback preaching the Gospel.

Fr. Campbell's accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. Former Ghanaian President Jerry J. Rawlings presented him with the Order of the Volta, a national award, and he was honored as the "Foreign Personality of the Decade" during the Millennium Awards in 2005. The ceremony was attended by former United Nations Secretary Kofi Annan and other dignitaries.

As a religious missionary, Fr. Campbell will never be rich, but he is surely richly deserving of admiration. ♦



# Bolivia's Father **MOM**

*Mariusz Mielczarek SVD*

My seminary training was very comprehensive. I studied Scripture, theology, catechetics, pastoral counseling, homiletics, and liturgy. I did supervised ministry in a parish and a hospital. I practiced saying Mass, hearing confessions, and anointing the sick. I was ready. After my ordination, I left my native Poland for my first assignment as associate pastor of San Santiago in Coripata, Bolivia, where I discovered I would be working in a daycare center for young children. I quickly learned that what they *do not* teach you in a seminary could fill several large toy boxes.

Coripata is situated some 5,500 feet above sea level in the very beautiful region of Los Yungas, on the eastern slopes of the Andes Mountains. With a population of about 15,000 people, the parish is roughly half the size of Rhode Island. Most of our parishioners are farmers who grow coffee and vegetables.

Divine Word Missionaries have staffed San Santiago for nearly twenty-five years. One of the first missionaries was Father Francisco Fernandes SVD, who was devoted to helping parishioners through a variety of programs. He learned that most families supported themselves through farming, and they often left their children alone at home while they were in the fields. Seeing the need for a daycare center, he founded "Jose y Maria (Joseph and Mary) Center" in a rented room.

When Fr. Francisco was given a new assignment, Brother Uwe Heisterhoof SVD, a German missionary, took over the center. He moved the center to one of the parish buildings, expanded the hours, and began to serve meals to the children.

I inherited the mantle, or apron, as the case may be, from Brother Uwe. Although I was not well prepared in the seminary for my new responsibilities, I am proud of the service our parish provides to its hard-working families. ♦







# The Church Confronts **Witchcraft** in Papua New Guinea

*Philip Gibbs SVD*




**Men discuss witchcraft issues during a parish workshop to raise awareness.**

**Missionaries have always had to deal in some way or other with culture and the belief in spirits, both good and evil. I have worked in Papua New Guinea over forty years, but it is only recently that belief in witchcraft has emerged as significant problem. As secretary for the Commission for Social Concerns of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, I am assisting the Church in developing an appropriate response.**

Here is one example among many that I have encountered. When a young man died in the hospital, doctors were unable to determine the cause of his death. During his funeral, word spread that after his death, the man made a cell phone call, accusing two women of removing his heart and causing his death. A group of men rounded up the two women and proceeded to torture them with heated iron rods and long knives, demanding to know where they had put his heart and insisting on its return. Obviously, the women were not able to locate his heart or to put it back, so they were brutally assaulted. One woman was murdered. The other woman, whom I will call Maria, was terribly burned, but managed to escape to a hospital in another province, where she was treated for her injuries.





**Fr. Philip Gibbs with a victim of torture recovering after months in hospital. Scarring from burns is visible on her arm.**



In his report, the doctor wrote:

[She] remained in critical condition for the first ten to fourteen days in the hospital. . . . She required three months of intensive care for her wounds. . . . The patient was seven months pregnant at the time of this assault. Her baby died and was delivered on the following day. The baby also suffered from burns even while in the uterus.

Maria is a faithful Catholic and a member of the Legion of Mary, but this seemed of no concern to her accusers. Shortly after she was released from hospital, her husband and I went to visit her. Maria said she looked forward to returning home to be reunited with her husband and children. She stated her plans to have her innocence declared publicly through a court hearing.

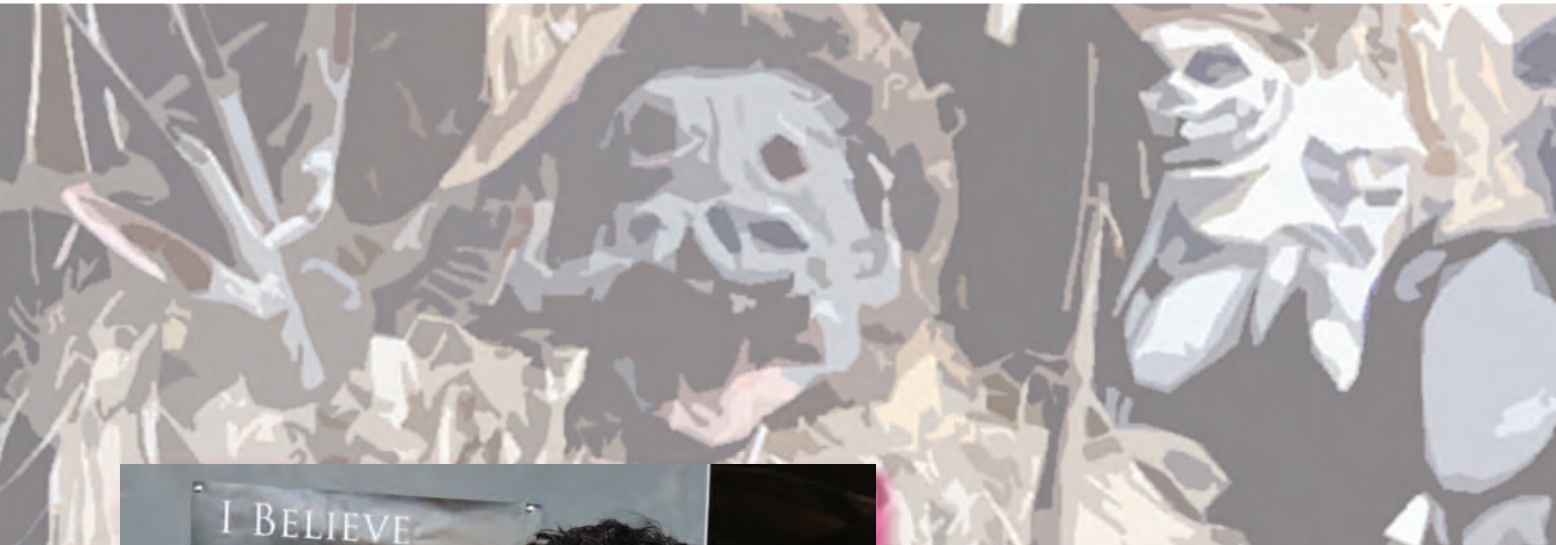
This will be a long, hard road. Taking her accusers to court will mean summoning her husband's cousins. It was their brother who died in the hospital, and they were the ones who instigated her torture. Moreover, many people, including church-going Catholics, believe in witchcraft and are afraid of her return.

I have spent many hours talking with people in Maria's community. They are reluctant to support a person who has been identified as a threat to society. They fear



**An innocent woman who was accused and tortured recovers from her injuries in a hospital.**





**A victim of witchcraft accusations is welcomed by the Christian community.**

that people might get violent again and that she could be killed. Anyone supporting her might also be assaulted or even killed.

The group directly involved in the torture is unchurched, but the surrounding community is predominantly Catholic, and some of them are confused. Although they are Christians, they admit their belief in witchcraft. I have run several workshops in the community and some bring up the Easter ceremonies in which they renew their baptismal promises, pledging to “reject Satan and all his works and empty promises.” For some, this reinforces their belief in how good and evil can be personified; good is personified in Jesus Christ and evil is personified in Satan.

People seek explanations for good and evil, particularly misfortune and death. Why did the tree branch fall when he was beneath it? Why was there a car accident? Why does a person die? Such questions are often phrased using “who” questions. “Who” caused him or her to get sick and die?

In the workshops, we discuss how science can provide alternative explanations for sickness and death. Science may not provide satisfactory explanations to “who” questions, but it can usually provide explanation for “why” questions. For many that is enough.

In order to provide some clarity, the Catholic bishops from the five Highlands dioceses of Papua New Guinea met in May 2013 to discuss the spread of belief in sorcery. The bishops claim that a remedy will be found in strengthening people’s Chris-



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# SEMINARIAN SUPPORT



tian commitment. An excerpt from their statement reads:

We bishops challenge our priests, religious brothers and sisters, catechists, and all church leaders and ministers, and we invite other churches too, to join with us in taking a clear, unambiguous, and strong stand against all talk about sanguma (witchcraft) and all attempts to lay the blame on anyone, especially at the time of sickness and death.

Last November, Maria made a brief visit to her home and attended Sunday Mass at the local parish. After Mass, a community leader addressed the congregation of about five hundred people. A majority of adults in the congregation greeted Maria warmly, although several who had been directly involved in the accusations and assault kept their distance. Later that day, I accompanied Maria and her family to another province, where she currently stays.

It is noteworthy that conversation within the local community has included discussion on a faith level, including statements from the bishops read out in church and circulated afterward. People are faced with the issue of how they, as Christians, might respond to misfortune and untimely death. Discussion on this level is very important since it leads to a direct confrontation with belief in sorcery and witchcraft. Admittedly, many people still struggle with seemingly contradictory viewpoints. But the conversation is ongoing, and I think it is important for protecting women like Maria and bringing about lasting change in people's attitudes and beliefs in the future. ♦

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# HELP FOR THE LEAST, THE LAST, AND THE LOST

*Roy Thomas, SVD*

*In August 2012, Fr. Roy Thomas SVD, the director of Janvikas Society, was awarded the “Excellence Award for National Social Activity” by the Global Achievers Foundation of New Delhi. The award, presented by Mr. Waven William, the high commissioner of the Republic of Seychelles, recognized Fr. Thomas’ work for women, youth, and children in the slums of Indore.*







**Sarika Kaushal, a twenty-three-year-old woman from a slum area in Indore, India, worked as a waste scavenger for more than ten years. Her earnings supported her bedridden mother and three younger siblings. Sarika's workday typically began at dawn, and after a full day of collecting plastic, paper, glass, and metal, she might sell the entire lot for the equivalent of three U.S. dollars. Sarika is just one of thousands of women and children whose lives have been improved by the Janvikas Society.**

Since 2001, Janvikas Society, a social service agency operated by Divine Word Missionaries in India, has assisted thousands of women and children engaged in scavenging. Janvikas provides comprehensive programs in education, community organizing, healthcare, vocational training, and improved environmental practices. The efforts of the Janvikas Society focus on the very poor of Indore, working children, women who scavenge, unemployed youth, and migrants.

An education bridge program helps transition young children who have dropped out of school from the dumpsites to centers where they receive special assistance and tutoring. The goal is to move these children back into mainstream schools.

Janvikas works with women in thirty slum areas to form cooperatives and to develop leadership skills within the group. These self-help groups offer emergency loans, group insurance, and microloans for women who wish to start small businesses. The cooperatives also help







women to increase their earnings by promoting better recycling processes. Education programs focus on health, hygiene, childcare, child labor, drug addiction, alcoholism, and domestic violence.

Waste picking and recycling are hazardous jobs. The women and children are exposed to many health problems and injuries from broken glass, needles, razor blades, and other sharp objects. Common diseases among recyclers are tuberculosis, asthma, and a variety of skin diseases. Janvikas is able to offer low-cost medical insurance, and it sponsors health clinics every week, where women can receive check-ups and medicine.

Janvikas has begun teaching courses in tailoring and embroidery. With the assistance of a qualified teacher, this new program has graduated forty-five women so far. A special program for youth offers courses in spoken English and basic computer skills. Young men can receive training in carpentry and welding.





The cooperatives have increased the earnings of participants by setting up efficient sorting centers. The materials collected by the women are segregated into various categories so the women can command a higher price when they sell them to scrap shops. Machines purchased by the cooperatives can bale materials more quickly, safely, and efficiently, thus increasing their value.

Janvikas is actively engaged in numerous environmental projects. It promotes renewable energy and has distributed over three thousand solar lanterns to rural and tribal areas in Madhya Pradesh. The society also promotes the use of solar water heaters and biogas energy production. In rural areas, Janvikas has introduced organic farming and sustainable agriculture.

It is estimated that more than six thousand families are engaged in scavenging in Indore. We are confident that the Janvikas model improves the lives of the women and children we serve, but we know much remains to be done. ♦



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**“The search for housing, dignified employment, and an education for one’s children are the foundations for integration from which you and all of society will benefit.”**

**– Pope Benedict XVI**



**Sharing Their Joy and  
Their Suffering:  
The Roma Community in Hungary**

*Chavvakula Lourduraju SVD*

“The search for housing, dignified employment, and an education for one’s children are the foundations for integration from which you and all of society will benefit.” That was the message of Pope Benedict XVI to nearly two thousand Roma, or Gypsies, who gathered in Paul VI Hall at the Vatican on June 11, 2011. With Pope Benedict, they were celebrating the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Blessed Ceferino Gimenez Malla, a Roma who was shot while defending a Catholic priest during the Spanish Civil War.

# Blessed Ceferino Gimenez Malla



**Blessed Ceferino Gimenez Malla**  
(1861–1936)

*Blessed Ceferino, also known as “El Pelé,” was born of a Catholic Gypsy family. He lived like a nomad for forty years and then settled in Barbastro, Spain. He married but had no children. Although he was illiterate, he taught the Gypsy and non-Gypsy children the first elements of Christianity and trained them to pray daily.*

*Cerefino made peace among the Kalòs (Spanish nomads) and resolved their disputes with others. He was honest in his work as an animal trader. In 1926, he became a member of the Franciscan Third Order.*

*During the religious persecution at the time of the Spanish Civil War, he defended a priest who was being brought to jail. Cerefino was also arrested and then killed in Barbastro together with many priests, brothers, and lay persons. He died with a rosary in his hands and shouting, “Long live Christ the King!” His body was thrown into a common grave and never found again. Pope John Paul II beatified Cerefino in 1997.*

–source: <http://www.vatican.va/>

In 2010, Divine Word Missionaries began a ministry to the Roma community in Korom, Hungary. Although some sources estimate that five to ten percent of the Hungarian population is Roma, the four villages surrounding the main parish church have a Roma majority.

Pope Benedict’s message to the Roma points to some of the social problems that affect them: poor housing, unemployment, and lack of integration into mainstream Hungarian society. Underlying these problems is the high dropout rate from high school. Although eighty percent of Roma children complete elementary school, only one-third enroll in secondary schools.

Our outreach to the Roma includes an educational program, which teaches basic household management skills, farming,





**Work begins on the Blessed Ceferino Community Center.**



and tailoring to promote self-reliance. We also celebrate the beauty of Roma culture through art, music, and dance programs. Our family apostolate reaches out to Roma families through weekly prayer meetings in Roma family homes.

I began my ministry among the Roma as a deacon and returned to Korom after my ordination. During this time, I have come to appreciate their deep sense of faith in God. They are a spiritual, loving, and warm people.

Divine Word Missionaries sponsors summer camps for children in Budapest. Children from all sectors of the Hungarian population are welcomed, but we reserve twenty-five percent of the placements for Roma children. Besides the typical summer camp activities, we also incorporate Bible reflection into the sessions.

Together with the government and lay partners, our missionary community



**“Study their history,  
their psychology,  
their language,  
share their joy and  
their suffering . . .  
that you can help  
them achieve their  
calling in the Church  
and in the world.”**

**– Pope John Paul II**



cosponsors three schools for Roma children. After-school programs provide tutoring and promote the development of cultural talents.

In order to further our programs, plans are in the works to open the Blessed Ceferino Community Center. The community center will repurpose a former guesthouse on the parish grounds. Much work (and money) will be needed to restore the worn-out roof and ceiling, construct partition walls, and update the restroom facilities.

Although our Divine Word Missionary ministry among the Roma community is only a few years old, we take guidance from the 1989 address of Pope John Paul II to those who provide pastoral care for Gypsies. He wrote, “Study their history, their psychology, their language, share their joy and their suffering . . . that you can help them achieve their calling in the Church and in the world.” ♦



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Your gift will fund our programs that foster  
self-reliance and enable the Roma people to succeed.**



# Fond Memories



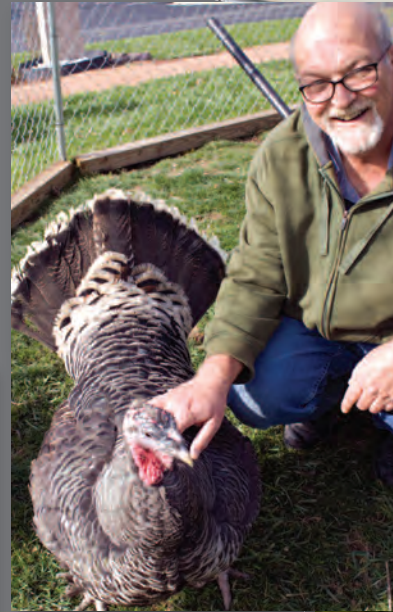
St. Francis comes to Techny



Pumpkin carving



Bro. Dennis and mission friend



Farm friend!



Kitchen party



Mission Center events



Pet Blessing



# MEET THE AUTHORS

**Philip Gibbs SVD** is a Divine Word Missionary priest from New Zealand. Since 1973, he has served in various capacities as parish priest, director of a pastoral center, seminary teacher, and researcher at the Melanesian Institute for Caritas Australia. He is currently the secretary of the Office of Social Concerns for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Papua New Guinea. Father Gibbs has a postgraduate diploma in anthropology and a doctoral degree in theology.

**Chavvakula Lourduraju SVD** is from Rayavaram, India. He professed first vows as Divine Word Missionary in 2003 and was ordained a priest in 2012. He received his mission assignment to Hungary and currently serves as associate pastor of the parish church in Korom and as the justice and peace coordinator for the Hungary Province of Divine Word Missionaries.

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Divine Word Missionaries Mission Center

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