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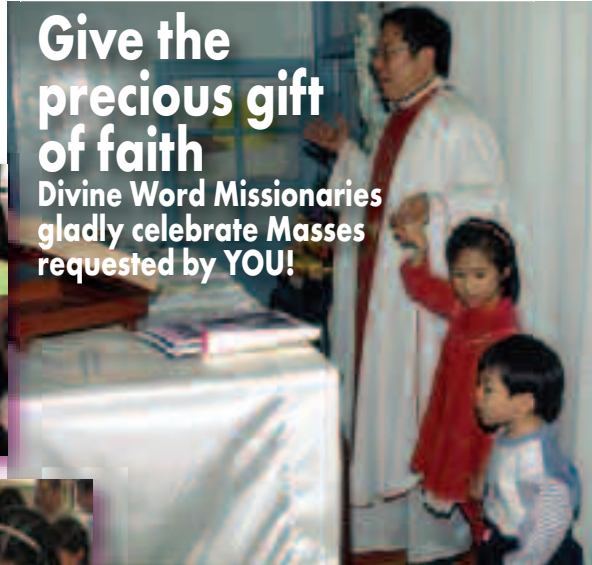
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# Divine Word

**Missionaries Magazine**

Mission Updates from around the World

[www.svdmissions.org](http://www.svdmissions.org)

Spring 2015



## From the Desk of Fr. Richie Vaz SVD

***How lovely is your dwelling place,  
Lord God of hosts! -Ps. 84:1***

May this season of Easter bring you endless blessings, love, and the freshness of spring!

It is a great honor to present to you the precious gift of our rededicated Chapel of the Word. Built in 1997 as a part of the Mission Center at Techny, the Chapel of the Word is a sacred place for prayer, meditation, and reflection. Over the years, thousand of your special intentions have been remembered in this humble chapel.

On April 9, 2015, Father Thomas Ascheman SVD, provincial of the Chicago Province, celebrated Mass in the chapel. After Mass, the Blessed Sacrament was reserved in the chapel for the first time in a tabernacle crafted by Brother Raymond Albers SVD.

The Chapel of the Word is the heart of the Mission Center. This little chapel was designed to express the spirit of Divine Word Missionaries. They proclaim the Word of God around the world, generously supported by your prayers and financial gifts. Bro. Ray's tabernacle reflects the original design of the chapel. It captures the ambience of tranquility and peace in the simple beauty of wood and medal. Thank you, Bro. Ray, for lending your time and talent to our chapel!

When we asked Bro. Ray, a talented tailor, woodworker, painter, and all-around artist, whether he was willing to make the tabernacle, his spontaneous response was yes. He enthusiastically expressed his service: "We live as a Eucharistic community, and as a Divine Word Missionary, I see Christ in any assignment. With an assignment comes trust, and trust gives hope as the basis of faith. Hope sets faith on the journey to do the assignment. You cross over, and behold a new horizon appears. Life is a beautiful journey from one horizon to another, from sunrise to sunset."

On the first Friday of every month, Mass will be celebrated in the Chapel of the Word for the intentions of our donors and friends, living and deceased. Please feel free to send us your intentions.

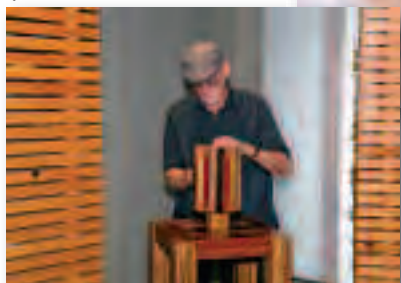
God bless you,



Fr. Richie Vaz SVD  
Mission Director



Read more about Bro. Ray in the Spring 2012 issue of *Divine Word Missionaries Magazine* at: [www.svdmissions.org](http://www.svdmissions.org).



Thank you, Bro. Ray,  
for lending your time  
and talent to our chapel!

# DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES

AN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS AND BROTHERS

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*Michael Obeng-Shang SVD*



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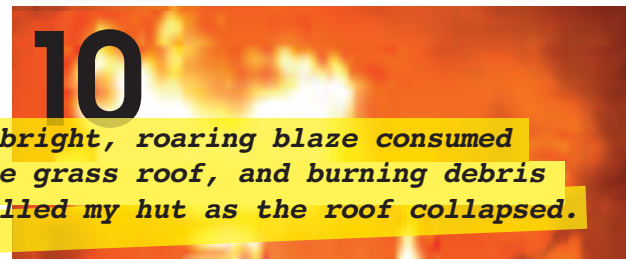
*Ruth Steiner*



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# Encountering Life in Cali

A man in a white suit is riding a bicycle on a city street. He is looking to his right. The background shows a building with a yellow wall and a window.

*Michael Obeng-Shang SVD*

The bright sun warmed my face as I returned from celebrating Mass at one of the parish substations. The sound of the bicycle tires humming over the pavement and the low clicking of the chain lulled me into a reflective mood.

As I pedaled, I thought of my family in Ghana and of my decision to become a Divine Word Missionary. The death of one of my sisters and then of my father were painful times during the early years of my extended formation. I persevered with my studies and training and professed perpetual vows in 2006. Ordination followed in 2007.

When I received my mission assignment to Colombia, I wondered how I would be able to learn and become fluent in Spanish. My friends and family members asked me why I chose Colombia and not another country. To their worries, I replied, "People are living there; I can live there too." And it is true; I have encountered life in Cali, Colombia, and accept the challenges and risks of working here.

In spite of my doubts, I did learn Spanish and arrived in Our Lady of Mercy Parish in 2009. Divine Word Missionaries began to serve the parish in 2002. In addition to the main parish church, there are two substations located in the eleven suburbs of Cali that make up the territory of the parish.

Unemployment and poverty are persistent problems. Violence and drugs are our greatest challenges. Sometimes people are displaced because they have been directly threatened or have moved away from danger. Teenage youth are most affected, but all the people of the city are affected in one way or another. This includes even me. One Sunday afternoon, I was about to enter the parish residence. Suddenly, a boy who was not more than fifteen years old came up behind me and put a pistol to my head. "Give me your money or I will shoot

***Suddenly, a boy who was not more than fifteen years old came up behind me and put a pistol to my head.***

## Handing over the pistol to a law enforcement officer



## Mass at the induction of 200 policemen in Cali



you,” he demanded. He searched my pockets and when his fingers touched my wallet, he lost his concentration. I took advantage of that moment by taking hold of his hand. We struggled, and I finally took away his loaded pistol.

Afterward, I went into our residence and prepared something to eat. When I tried to put food in my mouth, the fork with the food hit my lips and chin, but missed my mouth. I realized that I was still shaking!

About a year later, I learned that the boy had been killed. Violence creates more enemies and revenge creates a vicious circle that never seems to end. Some family members are complicit in protecting their own. Other people are immobilized by fear and frustration. It is a very complicated issue.

There is hope, however, because the majority of people are good. In our parish, people of all ages respond generously by sharing in pastoral works and participating in efforts to improve the well-being of the wider community. I believe that a well-formed laity is a blessing and an asset to a parish.

In 2010, the Archdiocese of Cali renewed its emphasis on evangelization by forming lay missionary groups in the parishes. I am proud to say that the group in Our Lady of Mercy parish has passed the test of time. We began with more than seventy lay missionaries and still have thirty people actively involved. Each Sunday the lay missionaries gather for prayer, reading the Word of God, and shared reflections. Afterward they visit homes to speak about the Word of God and invite the residents to Monday meetings where, together with



**Pastoral visit of Monseñor Dario de Jesus Monsalve Mejía (archbishop of Cali)**



**Mass servers and adult mentors going to visit the elderly**



**Celebration of Mass servers day**



**Monthly meeting of parents**



**Bringing building material donated for construction**

others, people can deepen their faith and commitment to the Christian life with prayer and the Scriptures.

Our Lady receives a warm welcome into many homes during the months of May and October through the Pilgrim Virgin home visitation program. Families gather in various sectors of the parish to pray the rosary and join in the celebration of the Eucharist.

When our young people are preparing to receive First Communion, first reconciliation, and confirmation, we ask their parents to commit themselves to the formation of their children and themselves. The parents meet together once a month with pastoral leaders and resource persons, such as psychologists, to focus on the Catholic faith, personal relationships, the home and family life, and Christian values.

Some of our youth, ages nine to fifteen, are even eager to become catechists so they can share what they have learned with their younger sisters and brothers. We have an annual celebration to recognize and thank our altar servers. During the year, they look forward to assisting at Masses, and frequently, our servers go with adult mentors to visit the elderly in their homes. These activities are times when we can encourage the children and young adults to think about the priesthood or religious life.

## Celebrating my birthday



There are many couples who have not had the opportunity to receive the sacrament of matrimony. I am committed to helping these couples receive the proper validation of their relationship in the Church through that sacrament.

*Buen Samaritano* (Good Samaritan) is the name of the parish social apostolate. The ten people who are part of Buen Samaritano are willing to dedicate part of every Saturday to this special work. They go through the streets of our suburbs with a three-wheeled, bicycle-style cart, knock on doors, and ask for help from the community. Then on Wednesdays, some of the members go to the food bank of the archdiocese to buy grains, vegetables, or whatever the food bank has that day. These items supplement what is received on Saturdays. About eighteen to twenty-five individuals and families come on Wednesday to take home some food items for a token offering. Every two months, a different group of people receives food from Buen Samaritano.

With all these thoughts, my bike ride to the parish residence passed quickly. I had a little time before welcoming our lay missionaries for their Sunday meeting. Together with them and so many other people, I continue to encounter life in Cali. We thank God for his goodness to us!

*We thank God for his goodness to us!*

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You may also discuss with your legal or tax advisor other options in your estate planning, for example using life insurance, retirement plans, and other financial resources to benefit the charities you have supported during your lifetime. If you would like to discuss your estate planning with us, please contact us:

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## Zunana Malala Wants to Have a Say

*Ruth Steiner*

In **Madagascar**, one of the poorest countries in the world, **Divine Word Missionaries** encourage women and men to exercise their civil rights and **make their voices heard** at the next election.

**At the age of thirty-eight**, Zunana Malala is an old woman. She lives in a small hamlet in the middle of the Madagascan rainforest. The emaciated peasant woman is walking on the narrow trails through the hilly jungle to the next larger village.

In Vohilava, she wants to obtain an identity card so she can cast her vote in the next election. Father Czeslaw Sadecki SVD had explained the importance of these civil rights to the catechists. It was a catechist who encouraged her to do this. She even heard the appeal on the radio.

Until now, Zunana has not appeared in the bureaucratic framework of the Republic of Madagascar. The country's elite have no interest in a backwoods person like Malala since there is nothing to be gained from her. She has spent most of her life in the middle of the jungle far away from navigable roads. She has had seven children. All her energy has been taken up with supporting the two boys and five girls. Zunana has, with great effort, wrested land from the forest by slash-and-burn so that she can grow sweet potatoes, cassava, rice, and vegetables. It was all done by hand since there are no machines. When the harvest is poor, they starve.



*Father Czeslaw Sadecki SVD  
and Ruth Steiner*



In December 2008, Andry Rajoelina, with the help of the military, forced his predecessor to withdraw as president of the country. The office was conferred on Rajoelina. Immediately afterward, he promised democratic and free elections. Since then, elections have been postponed, month after month, year after year. When Rajoelina came to power, he was thirty-four years old. He fought against a corrupt system and a president who helped himself unscrupulously at the expense of the country. The youth and a section of the elite aligned themselves with him enthusiastically.

## Five years later little has changed for Zunana

**Malala.** There are still no navigable roads to her village. Electricity exists only for people who live in large cities or can afford a power unit. Her children will only be able to attend secondary school if they are admitted to a boarding school run by Divine Word Missionaries.

**There are signs of hope**, however, perhaps not for her, but for her children. For this reason, she wants to cast her vote at the next election. No one is sure when this great event is to take place, but preparation for it is taking place.



The square in front of the makeshift registration office, which is located in the parish hall, is full of people waiting. Zunana joins the line wearily.

**“Hello, Zunana! Glad to see you here!”** Fr. Czeslaw greets her.

“I’m afraid you’ll have a long wait. The officials were obviously not expecting to have so many people applying for an identity card.” The tall, slim missionary from Poland is pastor in Vohilava. Seven chapels in larger settlements and seventy-two outstations belong to the parish. He regularly sets out on foot to visit the people and travels for a week to ten days.

The residents make a hut available for him to stay in, but it is not like a hotel. Once they gave him the gift of a cushion filled with rice straw. However, when rats came in during night and began to push and pull at the straw, Fr. Czeslaw renounced this luxury. Despite the hardships, what he loves most about his work are these excursions to the people in the remote villages.

Without getting out of breath, he walks up the steep path to another meeting room. The room is packed with men and women listening to the statements of an official. A few scribble notes with pencil stubs on writing pads. Fr. Czeslaw has invited Patricia to explain land rights to the catechists and other interested people. As an official, she is taking a risk by explaining their rights and obligations to them.

Fr. Czeslaw knows that he must make a special acknowledgement of Patricia’s effort, so a chicken from the parish chicken coop changes hands. The wise priest is not the only one who makes use of the crowd in Vohilava to bring his message to the



# I Want to Help the Missions

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\$15     \$20     \$25

to help...

people. Vendors have seen an opportunity and offer fruit and drinks along the sides of the muddy streets. In the middle of the road is a large group of young men focusing on a player. On an upturned crate which serves as a game table, he pushes a cup around with apelike speed and promises money to the person who can guess which cup conceals the dice. "Didn't I see you in Mananjary? And isn't that your friend who's winning?" asks Fr. Czeslaw. Nobody pays attention to him. The hope of winning the big money without working is far too great.

On his way back to the rectory, he passes the parish hall where many people are still waiting for their identity card. "Good evening, Malala," he calls out to the peasant woman who is about to obtain her identity card. She has only to sign her document now. She proudly presses her index finger onto the stamp pad and then onto the form, smiling at the official with her toothless mouth. **Soon she will have a say** when it comes to the welfare of the people of Madagascar.

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## Update on Madagascar

*Elections were held in December 2013. Hery Rajaonarimampianina was elected president of the country. His opponent, Robinson Jean Louis, who lost only narrowly, contested the elections. Notwithstanding, Rajaonarimampianina was sworn in at a ceremony in January 2014.*

*The international sanctions that led to impoverishment and famine in Madagascar since 2009 were lifted. The population is hoping for increased international assistance and an economic upturn now that there has been an election.*

*Divine Word Missionaries have been working in the Diocese of Yei in South Sudan since 2012. They are assigned to Holy Family Parish in Lainya. Fathers Francis Naduviledathu SVD (India), Andrzej Dzida SVD (Poland), Bernard Ilunga SVD (Congo), Praful Kispotta (India), and Brother Vincent Knaofmone (Indonesia) are the members of this pioneering team of missionaries.*

**keep smiling f  
things become**



# A Fire Sparks Friendship

*Andrzej Dzida SVD*

**for the Lord even when hard...**

My heart began to pound as I realized something was wrong. I awoke to the smell of smoke and loud crackling as the thatched roof and wooden supports above my head ignited. Fire! I sprang from my bed and grabbed my passport and a few personal items nearby. Falling sparks singed my neck and head as I ran from my hut.

A bright, roaring blaze consumed the grass roof, and burning debris filled my hut as the roof collapsed. I saw that the huts where Father Praful and Father Bernard had been sleeping were also on fire. The flames that engulfed the roofs of their huts were spreading, but they were getting more of their belongings out than I had. I lost my clothes and personal things, as well as my Mass kit, alb, chasubles, stoles, and other liturgical items.

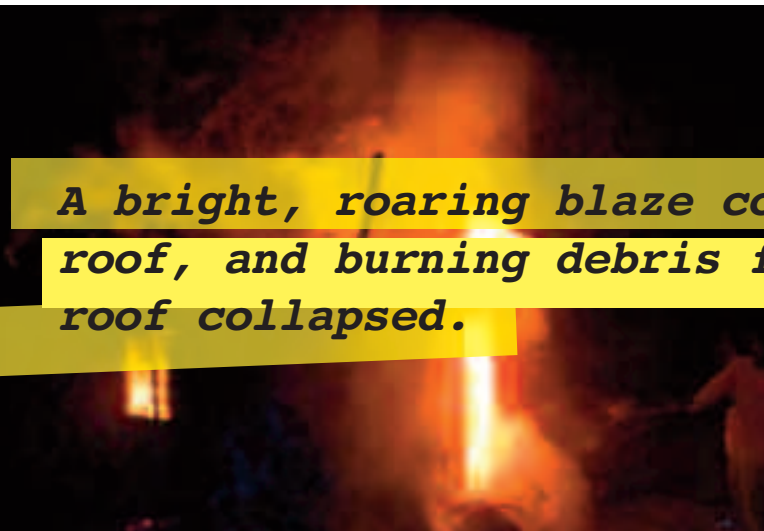
It was Wednesday, March 11, between two and three in the morning. All we could do was watch as the flames turned to smoldering embers in the rubble of our huts. We wondered why this happened late at night and why only the three huts where we slept burned. Father



Francis and Brother Vincent were away at the time, and their huts did not burn. Other structures that we use were not burned either.

As darkness gave way to dawn, we saw the destruction caused by the fires and were just happy to be alive and safe. Neighbors and parishioners came to make sure that we were not harmed and offered their help. Later that day, I went to buy a belt for my only pair of trousers, and a woman insisted on buying it for me. Someone else bought clothes for me at the second-hand market. Parishioners brought us three mattresses and another organization donated sheets. Two catechists of the parish stayed with us during the nights that followed. Fr. Bernard, Fr. Praful, and I are grateful for their kindness and care.

***A bright, roaring blaze consumed the grass roof, and burning debris filled my hut as the roof collapsed.***



The police and local officials have opened an investigation, but we do not know the cause of the fire yet. Nothing like this has ever happened in Lainya. Throughout the ordeal, Bishop Erkolano Lodu Tombe and officials of the Diocese of Yei and the Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit in Yei have given us their support and help. We have received messages of encouragement from Divine Word Missionaries around the world, including our superior general and vice superior general in Rome. Other religious congregations and diocesan priests have expressed words of concern and support also. And I know that countless friends of Divine Word Missionaries are offering prayers for us.



Who could have imagined that one night's flames, loss, and fear would spark new and deeper friendships? We are closer to people near and far, and good has come from a terrible experience. On behalf of our missionary team here in Lainya, thank you for your solidarity with us in South Sudan.

**As darkness  
gave way  
to dawn,  
we saw the  
destruction...**







## Sisters and Brothers to Us

*Modeste Munimi SVD*

In the faces of immigrants, we contemplate the image of Christ who said, "I was a stranger, and you welcomed me" (Matt. 25:35). Immigrants form part of the daily panorama of our communities, cities, and churches. Above all, they are human beings loved by God and created with innate dignity and rights. They have personal stories and come from many countries and cultures. Immigrants leave behind family, relatives, and friends to survive, to look for a better life, or to give a better future to their loved ones left behind.

These newcomers face difficult circumstances as they begin life over again, look for a job, and integrate themselves into a new society different from their homeland. It is not easy for them here in Seville, Spain, but it is possible thanks to the work of many non-governmental organizations, associations, Caritas, and religious congregations. Divine Word Missionaries is one of them.

Two years ago, Father Marcel Kakrabah-Quarshie SVD began to reach out to a group of ten sub-Saharan immigrants in the parish of Our Lady of Carmen in Seville. Today, the group has hundreds of immigrants, mostly from Nigeria and Ghana. From the beginning, they have gathered to celebrate the Holy Eucharist in English. After Mass, they meet in the parish hall, where they have refreshments and share their joys and sorrows.



“It is the only moment of the week that I experience interior peace. I forget the daily sufferings and struggles. The time in the Mass celebrated by Fr. Marcel and later the sharing with the other brothers who live in the same situation like me give me hope again,” confesses one of the immigrants.

Our Lady of Carmen parish offers some services for immigrants. Association Casa de Todos (the House of All) was also established in Seville to provide services to them. The Religious Sisters of the Assumption, the Marists, and Divine Word Missionaries are partners in the initiative.

Association Casa de Todos offers language courses, counseling, job assistance, a food program, and limited economic assistance to immigrants, unemployed people, the homeless, and poor families at risk of social exclusion. Qualified personnel such as teachers, psychologists, social workers, and cooks work together with volunteers from the parish and the wider community. They are united in spirit and action as they welcome and serve their sisters and brothers in Christ with compassion and respect.

(To preserve the privacy of the clients of Association Casa de Todos, only photos of personnel and volunteers are included with this article.)





# The Good Samaritan in Me

*Paul Bongcaras SVD*

My almost everyday ministry to the poor and the marginalized gives me great joy.



I am very moved by the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25–37. For me, the gravely injured man beaten by the robbers is telling me, “Keep reaching out to poor and marginalized peoples.” The children, the elderly, and families living in the streets; those who are in prostitution; the survivors and victims of trafficking; the prisoners, the people living with HIV and AIDS; the slum and dumpsite dwellers; the drug users—they are all the sisters and brothers of Jesus, the Son of God. Thus, I am also called to serve them.

Likewise, I am motivated to pass the final exam of Jesus found in Matt. 25:31–45. The just asked, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?” And his answer came, “Truly, I assure you, as often as you did it to one of my least brothers, you did it for me.”

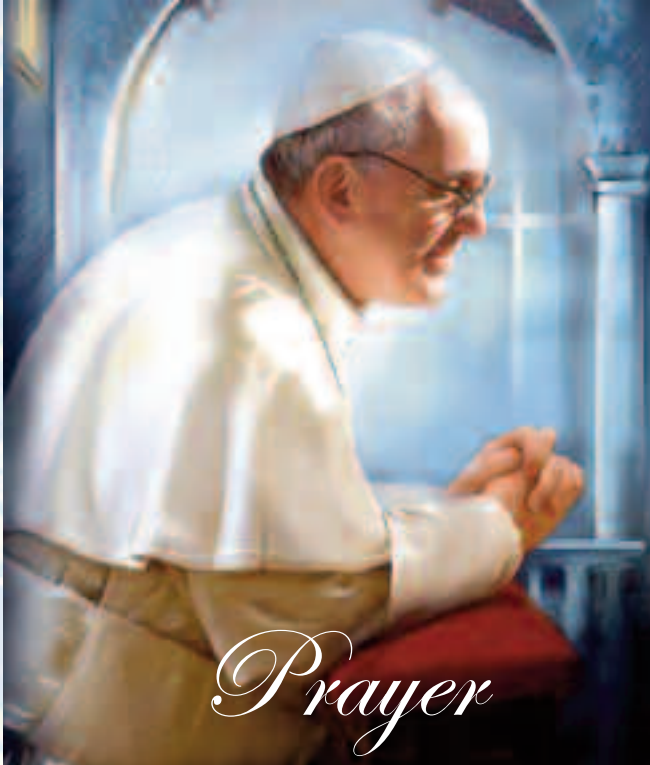
The words of the following people inspire me and keep me doing the things I do:

- “We cannot save the world by Masses alone.”  
–*Saint Arnold Janssen, founder of Divine Word Missionaries*
- “The only language that every person understands is the language of love.”  
–*Saint Joseph Freinademetz SVD, a Divine Word Missionary who served in China*
- *Kung kaya nila, kaya din natin*, “If they can do it, so can we.”  
–*Brother Bernard, one of the first Divine Word Missionary Brothers, had this life principle.*

Thank you for letting me share.



# The Year of Consecrated Life



## Prayer for the Year of Consecrated Life

O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience.

During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of faith and models of inspiration.

Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you.

Continue to enrich your Church by calling forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

*Amen.*

On November 21, 2014, Pope Francis announced a year dedicated to the promotion of consecrated life, and asks the Church's religious sisters, Brothers, and priests to "wake up the world" with their testimony of faith, holiness, and hope. The year began on November 30, 2014, the First Sunday of Advent, and will conclude on the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple on February 2, 2016.

When he opened the Year of Consecrated Life on November 30, 2014, Pope Francis said: "I wanted first of all to propose again to the Church as a whole the beauty and value of this special form of *sequela Christi* (following Christ) represented by all of you who have chosen to leave everything to imitate Christ more closely through the profession of the evangelical counsels [of poverty, chastity, and obedience] . . ."

In his *Apostolic Letter to All Consecrated People* on November 21, 2014, the Holy Father urged the laity to welcome the Year for Consecrated Life as a grace which can make them more aware of the gifts they themselves have received.

Then Pope Francis asked all Christian people "to be increasingly aware of the gift which is the presence of our many consecrated men and women, . . . I ask all of you to draw close to these men and women, to rejoice with them, to share their difficulties and to assist them, to whatever degree possible, in their ministries and works, for the latter are, in the end, those of the entire Church. Let them know the affection and the warmth which the entire Christian people feels for them."

Please pray for the men and women of the religious communities founded by Saint Arnold Janssen: Divine Word Missionaries; the Sister Servants of the Holy Spirit; and the Sister Servants of the Holy Spirit of Perpetual Adoration. (These three communities form what is called the Arnoldus Family.)



## To the Ends of the Earth

### *Antonius Jemaru SVD*

Eighteen deacons from Saint Paul Major Seminary in Ledalero, Indonesia, were ordained Divine Word Missionary priests on October 1, 2014. The ordinations took place in two locations, Ledalero and Atambua. Most Reverend Silvester San of the Diocese of Denpasar ordained twelve young men at Ledalero. Most Reverend Dominikus Saku of the Diocese of Atambua ordained six young men at Atambua.

These newly ordained priests began their education and formation in 2004 and professed their first vows in 2006. They journeyed to Japan, Australia, Portugal, and various provinces of Indonesia for their cross-cultural training in 2010. Afterward, they returned to Ledalero to continue their formation. In 2012, the group professed perpetual vows.

Father Fransiskus Seda SVD, one of the new priests, reflected on their long preparation and said, "...This is a beautiful day for us. This is the moment we had been waiting for with struggle and prayer."

These eighteen new Divine Word Missionary priests are assigned to work around the world. Two will work in Indonesia. The missionary journeys of the other sixteen will take them to the ends of the earth: Portugal, Argentina, Brazil, Angola, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Panama, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Vietnam, Colombia, and East Timor.



## AUTHORS

**Paul Bongcaras SVD** is from Daanbantayan in the Philippines. He entered Divine Word Missionaries as a Brother candidate. He professed first vows in 1970 and perpetual vows in 1978. Bro. Paul was missioned to Papua New Guinea, and then was assigned to the Philippines in the early 1990s. Bro. Paul has a background in educational management. He was instrumental in establishing "Friends of the Poor and the Marginalized," through which he and dedicated volunteers minister to the poorest of the poor.

**Michael Obeng-Shang SVD** was born in Osu, Ghana. He professed first vows as a Divine Word Missionary in 2002 and completed his education and formation in Ghana. He was ordained in 2007 and received his mission assignment to Colombia. Fr. Michael was recently transferred to Divine Word Parish in Medellin after serving in Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Cali.

**Modeste Munimi SVD** is from Impasi, Democratic Republic of Congo. After he was ordained in 2006, Father Modeste received his mission assignment to Spain. He has an academic background in journalism and social communications. Presently, he is the coordinator of communications for Divine Word Missionaries' Province of Spain and is the coordinator of communications at the Society's headquarters in Rome. He serves as chaplain for African immigrants in Madrid, Spain.

**Ruth Steiner** is from Vienna, Austria, and studied at the University of Vienna. She is married and has two daughters. Since 1999, she has worked in public relations and fundraising at Divine Word Missionaries' Mission Office St. Gabriel in Maria Enzersdorf, Austria.

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**Antonius Jemaru SVD** is from Timung, Indonesia. He professed first vows as a Divine Word Missionary in 1993 and was ordained in 2000. He is currently the treasurer of St. Paul Major Seminary in Ledalero, Indonesia, and serves as a student counselor.

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***Father Charles (Charlie) Schneider SVD was ordained at Techny in 1947. He went to his first missionary assignment in Ghana and remained there until his retirement to Techny in 2003.***

The story of Fr. Charlie reflects the message of Pope Francis in this Year of Consecrated Life. Pope Francis encourages consecrated men and women to be the witnesses of communion, of joy, and of the Gospel, and go evermore to the peripheries to proclaim the Good News.

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When our European and American Divine Word Missionaries, like Fr. Charlie, retire from their active years of faithful service, they are provided with quality nursing care in a Divine Word Missionary residence. Thankfully, this level of care is made possible by the financial support of the local Divine Word Missionary community in addition to the benefits received from governmental programs like Social Security and Medicare.

***The challenge today is to provide that same level of health care for our dedicated missionaries from other countries around the world.***

In many countries such as Asia, Africa, and Latin America, our missionaries return to their homelands and live the remainder of their lives without adequate resources to provide for their physical and medical needs. To ensure a satisfactory retirement, health coverage, and quality nursing care to every Divine Word Missionary who leaves his motherland to serve in a foreign land, we have established the "Divine Word Retirement Fund." This fund will help support the retirement communities in countries where the members do not have the health insurance and other basic retirement benefits.

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