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Choosing to do good...

This magazine regularly contains dispatches from our missionaries serving in far-flung corners of the world.

We are pleased to announce Divine Word Missionaries are now active in 84 countries around the world!

Our two latest mission countries could not be more different. One, Myanmar, is tropical, Asian and has one of the widest income gaps on earth. The other, Norway, is glacial, European and boasts one of the world's highest standards of living (the highest, according to some surveys).

Father Jacob Kavunkal SVD is Myanmar's first Divine Word Missionary. Fr. Jacob arrived in Yangon (formerly Rangoon) on March 8; he will be joined by three confreres in May.

Myanmar, formerly known as Burma, is located between the Bay of Bengal and Thailand. Divine Word Missionaries were invited by Cardinal Charles Bo, the archbishop of Yangon, to carry out our order's Biblical Apostolate. Fr. Jacob has already completed several Biblical retreats.

You may be surprised to learn that we are now active in such a prosperous nation as Norway, but serving the needs of migrant communities has become a priority for our European provinces. We were invited by the Diocese of Oslo to minister to Polish immigrants in the Norwegian capital. Logically, the Norway mission falls under the auspices of the Poland Province.

Two Polish-speaking priests, Father Piotr Sledz SVD and Father Anthony Erragudi SVD, arrived in Oslo on Aug. 29, 2017. In addition to tending to the pastoral needs of the Polish communities, they have also been celebrating Mass in English. Their work has been so successful that the bishop of Oslo has requested more Divine Word Missionaries to serve in his multicultural diocese.

Our ability to grow into new mission countries is due in no small part to the generosity of our friends and benefactors. As you continue to support us, we will continue to fulfill the needs of migrant or impoverished communities worldwide. And you will be able to read updates from Myanmar, Norway and future mission countries in upcoming pages of this magazine.

Yours in the Divine Word,

Bro. Daniel Holman SVD
Mission Director

Contact me any time, my email address is:
director@svdmissions.org



**Integrity, Academic Excellence,
 Community Engagement and Social
 Responsibility... Divine Word University,
 Papua New Guinea**

Philip Gibbs SVD

Sagrado Corazón de Jesús

Chinh Phan SVD



It took this community about two years to raise \$1,000 to build the simple roof structure you see.

Though this roof has stood for more than a year—through scorching heat and pounding rain—the community fears they will never finish construction.

**Divine Word Missionaries
 and the
 Story of Fatima**

Minh Dinh SVD



**12 Father Dennis Callan SVD
 God's Plan**

Jeffrey Westhoff

While serving in South Korea, Fr. Dennis Callan SVD resisted an assignment that, through an unexpected chain of events, would ultimately save his life.

16 The Power of Food
Anthony Amisshah SVD



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Integrity,
Academic Excellence,
Community Engagement
& Social
Responsibility...

Divine Word University,
Papua New Guinea

Written by Philip Gibbs SVD



Divine Word University in Papua New Guinea has had close links with Divine Word Missionaries from the United States for 60 years. In 1958 Archbishop Adolf Noser SVD and Father Paul McVinney SVD began plans to carry out our order's traditional involvement in higher education.

However, the colonial government had just opened the University of Papua New Guinea and did not want to fund another tertiary institution at that time. Instead, Divine Word Missionaries decided to found a secondary school, and Divine Word Secondary opened in February 1968 with 101 students. Gradually the enrollment reached 500 and the school developed an excellent reputation, being always in the top 10 percent of schools in the country.

As early as 1970 the Catholic high school began accepting students sponsored by four Divine Word bishops in different parts of the country. However, the local Madang provincial government opposed the enrollment of students from outside the province. Divine Word Missionaries felt that this restriction was contrary to its educational philosophy of unity, and so in 1978 it opted to set up a tertiary school called Divine Word Institute open to students from anywhere in the nation.



Divine Word University students



More American Divine Word Missionaries joined Archbishop Noser and Fr. McVinney in this venture. Father Vince Theobald SVD, who had a master's degree in education from Harvard University, began the initial clearing of the site, an old rubber plantation. Father Ken Feehan SVD was the first headmaster at the high school. Several Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters joined them, including Sister Josepha Schiester SSpS, Sister Inez Strobl SSpS and Sister Mary Linda Krems SSpS.

The institute achieved university status in 1996 and today it has five faculties: Arts and Social Sciences; Business and Informatics; Education; Medicine and Health Sciences; and Theology. The university has five campuses with a total in 2017 of 4,459 students: 2,240 male students and 2,219 female.

Divine Word University alumni have a reputation for reliability and adherence to ethical values. This comes from one of the principal aims of the programs: student transformation. University staff endeavours to teach not only subject matter, but also core values such as integrity, academic excellence, community engagement and social responsibility.

Each year the university holds a missioning ceremony for students about to graduate. That ceremony recalls the university's aim of transformation, with the students expected to go into the workplace living out the Christian values they learned during their time of study. As Vice President of Research and Postgraduate Studies, I presented each graduating student with a missioning cross during the recent celebration. I reminded them, "The cross you receive is a sign that you are chosen to witness to the goodness that the cross represents. Taking it with you is saying to you today, 'Go and fulfill your life purpose.'"

Papua New Guinea is renowned for its cultural diversity, and students are encouraged to be proud

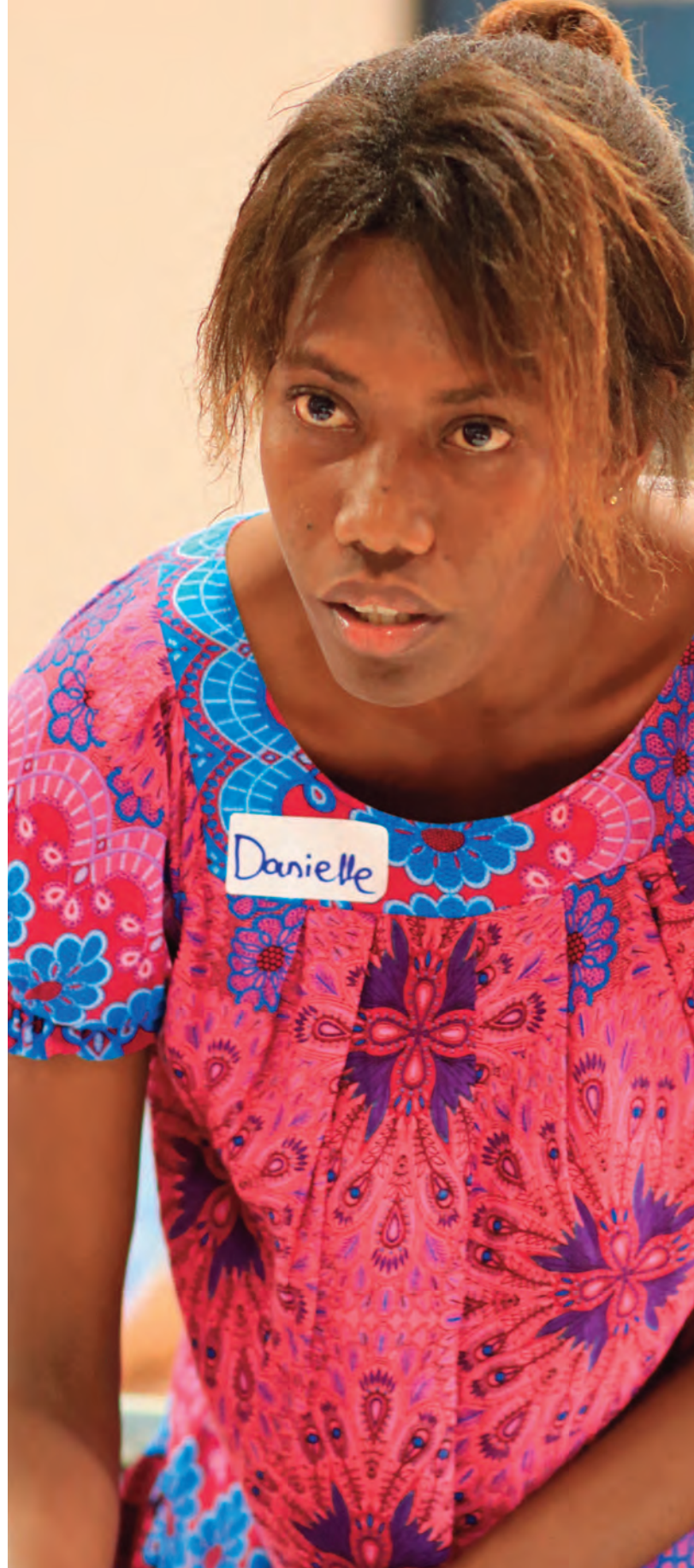
of their cultural inheritance. Each year there is a cultural day where students have the opportunity to showcase their own traditions. With such diverse cultures in Papua New Guinea, this day is a spectacular event.

Student Danielle Tenakanai expects to graduate in March 2018 with a bachelor's degree in social religious studies. She completed a research project on the socioeconomic impacts on the lives of people forced to move after a volcanic eruption. She has been secretary to the Student Representative Council and also found time for pastoral work visiting patients in the gynecological and obstetrics ward at the local hospital. Danielle hopes to continue as a research fellow at the university, assisting in research projects, mentoring undergraduate students and studying for a master's degree in research methodologies.

Papua New Guinea as a developing country has been affected by a recent downturn in commodity prices. Coming up with school fees is a major challenge for students. Regular students have to pay 10,000 kina (\$3,100) per year. This is a huge amount for parents, many of whom are subsistence farmers.

In my department, I want to take on graduate students as research fellows who can participate in research projects while studying for their master's degree. Money is short, so Divine Word Missionaries in Papua New Guinea has started a fund for this called the Mihalic Foundation, named after the renowned American linguist Father Frank Mihalic SVD, who spent many years teaching at Divine Word University.

Funds from the foundation will support the cost of accepting promising scholars, such as Danielle, to develop their academic skills and cultivate their ability to serve the larger Papua New Guinea community through their research and through passing on their knowledge to younger students joining the university.



Danielle Tenakanai

Get to Know...

Father Frank Mihalic SVD



Renowned American linguist Father Frank Mihalic SVD

Father Frank Mihalic SVD was head of the Communication Arts Department at Divine Word University from 1982 until his retirement in 1997. Originally sent to Papua New Guinea in 1948, Fr. Mihalic wrote the first English lexicon of Toks Pisin, a form of Melanesian Pidgin English that is one of the country's three official languages. The Pennsylvania native would write many more Pidgin dictionaries and grammar books, as well as a history of Divine Word Missionaries in Papua New Guinea. In 1970 he developed the nation's first Toks Pisin newspaper despite having no previous journalism experience. The paper, Wantok, is still being published.

"One of the things we are going to have to settle before we even start printing is the smokeability of the paper we are using. That will help to sell papers. People here have the custom of rolling their home-grown tobacco into cigarettes with newsprint. They don't like the usual thin tissue paper for roll-your-owns. It burns too fast. They like newsprint—but not every kind—it must burn a certain way and produce a white ash. So we are experimenting among our staff with various samples from the paper manufacturers. We want to make sure that we have the best smoking paper in the country. Then we can advertise it that way. And well have to print a warning on the front page stating: PLEASE READ THIS PAPER BEFORE YOU SMOKE IT. Maybe someday we'll get into the Guinness Book of Records as the most smoked newspaper in the world."

Fr. Frank instinctively understood marketing



Fr. Frank began his newspaper with no focus, no printing equipment and no media experience. He gained all three within a year. Bishop Arkfeld agreed to print the new newspaper on the Wirui Press. The offices were set up in Wewak. Fr. Frank trained the staff for the first issue himself, and he focused on getting the paper in the hands of nationals. At the time he explained: "Wantok is a typical Pidgin word which literally means someone speaking the same language. The word also implies being a friend, a chum, a confidant. We want the paper to be all those things to its readers."

In 1981, Fr. Frank Mihalic was awarded the Order of the British Empire for "services rendered to Pidgin." He also received an honorary doctorate of linguistics from the University of Papua New Guinea. Fr. Mihalic retired to the Divine Word Missionaries residence in Riverside, California, where he died in 2001.



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Sagrado Corazón de Jesús

Written by Chinh Phan SVD

My formation and Cross-Cultural Training years took place in Paraguay. After my ordination in 2008, I was sent back to Paraguay for my first assignment.

Currently I serve as pastor at St. Peter parish, located in the center of the city of San Pedro del Paraná. With me is a young Indonesian Divine Word priest who serves as a vicar. We have been in this parish since Feb. 17, 2017, and have encountered many challenges—mostly because we are only two priests ministering to a parish that covers a huge geographical area.

The parish has 86 communities, each with a chapel. Due to villagers moving and leaving only a few families behind, four of the chapels are now inactive. The remaining families have asked us to celebrate Mass once a year on the feast of their patron saint. Of the active chapels, about 37 have Mass monthly and the rest have Mass every two months. The farthest chapel is about 50 kilometers from the parish.

The chapel shown in these pictures is called Sagrado Corazón de Jesús (Sacred Heart of Jesus), located in a remote area about 25 kilometers from the parish. Sagrado Corazón de Jesús is the faith home to more than 50



families. It took this community about two years to raise \$1,000 to build the simple roof structure you see. The community gathers under this 8-by-6-meter “roof chapel” every Sunday to celebrate the Word and for catechism. Mass is celebrated one Sunday every two months. Last year eight children received First Communion and 15 adolescents received Confirmation beneath this roof.

Though this roof has stood for more than a year—through scorching heat and pounding rain—the community fears they will never finish construction. There are no financial resources available—no hope to get help from the federal government or the local municipality. Trying to raise this money within the community seems hopeless because, honestly, they have little money. At their current rate of fundraising, putting walls beneath this roof could take this community at least eight more years.

Having seen the tremendous needs of the people in this community, I pray for those who have generous hearts to send help so that this faithful group can finish building their house of God where prayer, worship and learning can happen no matter the weather.



Divine Word Missionaries and the Story of Fatima

By Minh Dinh SVD

The small city of Fatima in Portugal became internationally famous a little over 100 years ago when the Virgin Mary appeared to shepherd children in the nearby countryside. In 2017, the city that ordinarily has a population of 11,600 welcomed about 8 million pilgrims from all over the world to celebrate the centenary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima.

During his papal visit, Pope Francis joined the people as a pilgrim to pray and as a pontiff to canonize two new saints, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, who were the little shepherds that witnessed the apparitions of Our Lady. Activities and celebrations in the sanctuary of Fatima were broadcast to the faithful all over the world day and night.

In contrast to Fatima's busy activities and pilgrim crowds, there is another story that needs to be told: the story of Divine Word Missionaries and the devoted figure that played a very important role in the history of Fatima.

In 1949, Divine Word Missionaries were sent from Brazil to establish our first community in Portugal. More than 60 years later, we have eight communities that spread across Portugal, north to south, with each ministry being quite diverse. We work with the local church providing pastoral, biblical, youth and vocation programs where needed.

Bishop Franz Hoowaarts SVD, leader of the Diocese of Tsaochowfu in China, blessed the first cornerstone of the new Divine Word Seminary in



Fatima in 1953. This marked the beginning of our permanent presence in this holy city. Since then, Divine Word Missionaries have played an active role in serving the local church and responding to the spiritual needs of the thousands of pilgrims who flock to Fatima each year.

A true highlight of Divine Word Missionaries' presence in Fatima is our own Father Luís Kondor SVD. His contribution to the story of Fatima as the first Postulator for the Cause of Canonization of the Little Shepherds of Fatima—Francisco and Jacinta—is an important piece of history.

On the north side of the sanctuary pilgrims view a bronze sculpture that honors Fr. Kondor's link to Sts. Francisco and Jacinta. Born in Hungary, Fr. Kondor spent most of his religious life in Portugal. This explains the Hungarian flag placed placed at the feet of his statue, something that always draws curious glances from visitors.

When St. John Paul II beatified Francisco and Jacinta, he called them “candles which God lit to illumine humanity in its dark and anxious hours.” In his homily of their canonization, Pope Francis stressed that these two candles were surrounded by “the mantle of light that Our Lady has spread over the four corners of the earth.” The symbol of light encountered in the prologue of John's Gospel is the major inspiration to Divine Word Missionaries' charism and spirituality. Fr. Kondor's lifework reflects the role of John the Baptist who came “to testify to the light, so that all might believe through Him” (Jn 1:7). Fr. Kondor devoted himself to making the children's canonization happen, so that the examples of these two little saints could shine brilliantly on the paths of many that lead them to God. Fr. Kondor even wrote a children's book about the Little Shepherds of Fatima, Francisco and Jacinta, and it is still in print today.

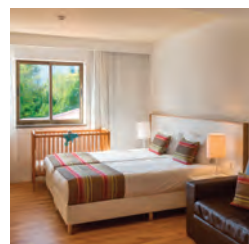
High season in Fatima is May to October; during this time you will share the sights with hundreds of thousands of pilgrims. The rest of the year Fatima is more peaceful, and you may find time to learn more about Fr. Kondor. Visit the plaza that bears his name; visit the cemetery of the parish church of Fatima where the two little saints, Francisco and Jacinta, were first buried before their remains were transferred to the sanctuary; and where Fr. Kondor is laid to rest.



Visit Fatima and help support Divine Word Missionaries.

Father Joseph Otto Popp SVD was born in Germany in 1909 he arrived in Portugal in 1959 to become the seminary's regional headmaster. He brought enough experience to realize the need to create income for the Church's missionary activity. He founded a league of benefactors, called Friends of Fatima, who agreed to give support to the seminary in Portugal. But he also realized it was necessary to build economic sustainability without relying on gifts from benefactors. It was with this goal that, in 1960, he acquired Iria Pension, where Steyler Fatima Hotel and *Paramentaria Verbo Divino* (Divine Word Missionaries Religious Gift Shop) now exist.

Stay at our four-star Steyler Fatima Hotel or visit the gift shop and you directly support Divine Word Missionaries. All profit from our religious gift shop and hotel support the formation of Divine Word Missionaries in Portugal along with many projects around the world.



<http://www.steylerfatimahotel.pt/>

FATHER DENNIS CALLAN SVD GOD'S PLAN

Written by Jeffrey Westhoff



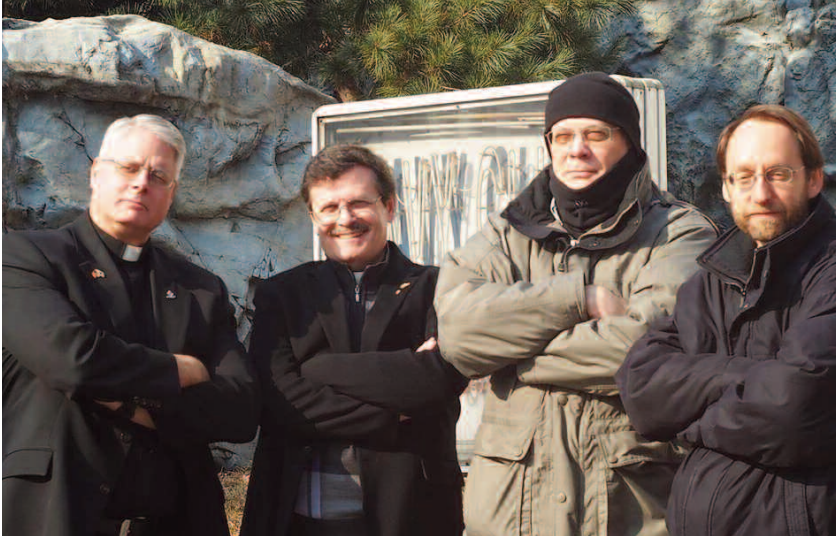
While serving in South Korea, Father Dennis Callan SVD resisted an assignment that, through an unexpected chain of events, would ultimately save his life.

EARLY Early in 2011, Fr. Dennis began to receive calls from Korean priests asking if he would sign on as a contract priest at Camp Humphreys, a U.S. Army base in Pyeongtaek. Fr. Dennis demurred, hesitant to accept the position. As Regional Superior for Divine Word Missionaries in South Korea, Fr. Dennis had more than enough to keep him busy. Finally, he received a call from the Bishop for the Korean Military Ordinariate, Francis Xavier Yu OFM, who said the American base truly needed an English-speaking priest and asked Fr. Dennis to reconsider.

“I figured I had no excuse for this fellow,” Fr. Dennis recalled. He told himself, “Obviously, God wants me to do this.” How bad could it be? As the contract priest he would fill in when the regular chaplain is away.

During his years of work at Camp Humphreys, Fr. Dennis became friends with Heidi Moore, the parish coordinator at the base, and her husband, Christopher, an Army career officer active in the Knights of Columbus. Several years later, these two friends would make a decision that would save Fr. Dennis’ life.

Fr. Dennis began his work at Camp Humphries in 2011; he met the Moores in 2013, when they were stationed in South Korea. At the time, these events seemed totally random. “Looking back on those two events alone, it shows me that God was preparing me for my future.”



On the military base with chaplain and visiting vets

Military Knights of Columbus post-retreat with Bishop Francis Xavier Yu OFM



The same year he met the Moores, Fr. Dennis was diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver. He knew that he had liver problems—he was previously told he had fatty liver disease, which he attributed to his American diet. Although he occasionally felt tired, it didn't worry him. Not until he was diagnosed with cirrhosis did he learn his autoimmune system had been attacking the extra fat in his liver, escalating his condition.

Fr. Dennis went in for regular checkups and thought he was doing well with his cirrhosis until November 2015 when he needed a tooth pulled. His doctors discovered his blood wasn't coagulating properly, so a simple tooth extraction became a two-day hospital stay. Alarmed by this development, Fr. Dennis requested a transfer to the United States to seek better medical care. His superiors in Rome approved his request and in 2016 Fr. Dennis arrived in Techny, allowing him access to major hospitals in nearby Chicago.

It was determined that Fr. Dennis' condition was much worse than he thought. The hepatologist, a liver specialist he consulted, told him he was very lucky to have survived the flight from Seoul to Chicago. The Doctors advised he would need a liver transplant "eventually," but first he needed to undergo several procedures to correct other problems stemming from his cirrhosis, including a hernia and osteoporosis.

The procedures were painful, and through the rest of 2016 Fr. Dennis' health declined rapidly. "I was beginning to feel extremely tired and weak." He needed a walker, and before long he could no longer drive. "I was pretty bad off."

In December 2016, the hepatologist began the paperwork for a liver transplant. Fr. Dennis declined a spot on a waiting list for a deceased donor. As a priest he didn't believe it was right to take an organ that could save someone else. He decided to seek a live donor instead. He wrote about his need—a live liver donor—in his Christmas letter to family and friends.



THE TRANSPLANT SURGERY

Fr. Dennis and Christopher Moore two days after surgery

To volunteer as a liver donor is no small thing. Even though the portion of the liver removed will grow back, the open surgery is a major procedure and carries many risks. A donor must be in excellent health and can expect to spend several days in the hospital recovering.

Fr. Dennis' nephew Patrick Callan rose to the occasion and volunteered, but unfortunately tests revealed he was not a match. "That put me back at square one," Fr. Dennis said.

Several days later Heidi Moore—now living in Arizona with her husband and their two sons—sent Fr. Dennis a message through Facebook asking how things had worked out with his nephew. He told her the unhappy outcome, and a few minutes later she replied that either she or her husband would be his living donor.

The Moores flew to Chicago in May 2017. Tests proved Christopher was a perfect match, and he would donate 60 percent of his liver to Fr. Dennis—a life saving gift. Transplant surgery was scheduled for July. A month before the surgery Fr. Dennis visited his hepatologist. The doctor asked Fr. Dennis how long he thought he might live without the transplant. Fr. Dennis replied, "Six months." The doctor concurred he was probably right.

"I knew I was dying," Fr. Dennis recalled. "Even the recognition of dying, gave me a deeper understanding of what God's love is all about."

The doctor said the scheduled transplant surgery was perfect timing. Fr. Dennis corrected him: "It's God's perfect timing."

The transplant surgery was performed July 12, 2017, at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago. All went unbelievably well and Christopher was able to leave the hospital within a few days. Scheduled for three weeks of hospital recovery, Fr. Dennis returned to Techy after just nine days. Fr. Dennis wrote in his 2017 Christmas letter, "Our quick recoveries surprised the medical team and

AS PUNISHMENT, SHE HANDED HIM A STACK OF DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES MAGAZINES...

When young Dennis Callan was in the fourth grade, he spent time at his grandmother's house in Philadelphia. One day he broke a Chinese vase that she cherished. As punishment, she handed him a stack of Divine Word Missionaries magazines and told him to start reading, hoping examples of Christian sacrifice might rub off on him.

THEY DID. *They did.*

still to this day they call it miraculous.” Fr. Dennis said. “God had things planned out before I knew I was sick and before I knew I needed a transplant. I consider myself in that regard truly blessed that things worked out the way they did.”

Fr. Dennis is fully recovered today, but because of his transplant surgery he cannot return to overseas missions. His follow-up care includes weekly blood tests, a strict regimen he must abide by. His return to the United States has made him reassess what this means for his vocation.

“I still consider myself a missionary,” he said. “Because of my experience with my illness, it brings a new dimension to my ministry. I hope I can relate the confidence I have in God’s mercy and care, and bring that aspect out in my own ministry.”

Except for a brief stay at Divine Word College in Epworth, Iowa, Fr. Dennis remained at Techny for nearly a year after his surgery. He found time to volunteer as a chaplain at a hospice care facility not far from Techny. He also helped at Chinese and Korean parishes in the Chicago area. “The Chinese and Koreans here are not used to hearing Americans speak their language so fluently,” he said.

Shortly after Easter, Fr. Dennis was permanently assigned to Divine Word Residence in Bordentown, New Jersey—just across the Delaware River from where he grew up in Levittown, Pennsylvania. He plans to spend time with family and hopes to be involved in Divine Word formation work as well as outreach to Chinese and Korean Catholic communities. He also looks forward to sharing how his illness deepened his relationship with God.

“The one thing that stands out in my mind is God’s loving care,” Fr. Dennis said. “Divine Providence—we don’t always understand it, but it shows to me that God is looking out for each and every one of us and we just don’t comprehend it.”

“Reading about the work of missionaries overseas—I don’t know, it struck something in me,” Fr. Dennis recalled. “It struck a chord.”

The young Dennis filled out an information card and mailed it in, saying he was interested in becoming a Divine Word Missionary. He received a response telling him he was too young, but that someone would be in touch in a few years. In the meantime he received a subscription to the magazine.

He didn’t hear from Divine Word Missionaries again until he was in eighth grade. A letter arrived inviting him to take the entrance examination for the minor seminary in Bordentown, New Jersey. The seminary was only 13 miles from his home in Levittown, Pennsylvania. “I went for it,” he said.

Dennis entered the seminary in 1970 and graduated in ’74. He enrolled at Divine Word College in Epworth, Iowa, graduating in 1978. After taking a year off to teach, he entered the novitiate at Techny in 1979 and professed first vows in 1980.

The next year he was assigned to Taiwan. He completed his theology studies there and professed perpetual vows in September 1986. He returned to Levittown to be ordained a priest in his home parish on Aug. 1, 1987.

Fr. Dennis served nearly 20 years in Taiwan before being assigned to South Korea, where he also served for nearly 20 years. “Just being able to meet a different aspect of Asia, a different church in Asia, it broadened my understanding that each local church is different in and of itself,” Fr. Dennis said. “We share the same faith, but each local church is uniquely different.”



The Power of Food

written by Anthony Amisshah SVD



Anthony Amissah SVD was born in Accra, Ghana. He professed first vows as a Divine Word Missionary in 1991 and was ordained in 1996. Father Anthony has worked in Kenya for more than 18 years. During that time, he served as vocation director and has ministered in various parishes, including Divine Word Parish in Kayole, a suburb in the eastern part of the capital city of Nairobi. He is currently the provincial for Kenya.

Kayole is a suburb of Nairobi, Kenya, and the people who live there are very poor.
The people of Kayole were hungry.

In 2014 Divine Word Parish, located in Kayole, began a weekly feeding program to support the poor and needy, the old and abandoned. Initially, the program distributed basic packets of food to help lift the people of Kayole out of hunger. The program has gradually grown to a weekly and a monthly feeding program for street children and the elderly, all who live lives of desperate poverty.

Divine Word Missionaries came to Kayole in 1990 to offer pastoral and social work. While providing these services, our missionaries identified a dire need for medical services in the Kayole area. This led to the creation of the Divine Word Parish Health Centre.

In 2014, when I was pastor of Divine Word Parish, I turned my attention to the area's very hungry and dejected poor. I wanted to work with them and find a way to give dignity to these people who had lost all hope and were in need of support by society. By offering food, we empower them to know all is not lost.



The Kayole area has a population of about 600,000 people, and a great number of them are poor. Many are unemployed. Kayole is nearly surrounded by slums—Soweto, Matopeni, Spring Valley and Gatwikira—each less than 1 kilometer from Divine Word Parish.

Our program aims to feed the poor every weekend. Food packets are distributed each Saturday at the church compound. One Saturday a month we also prepare a meal for as many as 180 people. The feeding program's goal is to ensure that those we serve will not depend solely on church aid. It is a long-term program to help the beneficiaries learn ways to sustain themselves in years to come.

The ages of the participants in our program range from 6 to 98. Most of the adults in the program are single mothers. Out of the 44 elderly, only two are men. The 140-plus children are hungry and homeless orphans living on the streets.

Many of the people we see have physical illnesses: headaches, upset stomachs, chest



problems, muscle cramps and general weakness. A significant number suffer from chronic ailments such as heart disease and HIV/AIDS. Unfortunately, we do not have the finances to look after all these medical needs, but we do aim to provide healthy and balanced diets.

We have a social worker who conducts home visits for those who have homes. From these visits we have learned that most of these homes barely qualify as shelters. The homes are subsidized houses that are made of cardboard boxes with leaking rooftops and dirt floors, with old and young bedding down on old rags.

In your own hometown, or on the other side of the world, food costs a lot of money. Over the years our feeding program has faced great challenges, often coming up with *just enough* food to feed all who come. We get a great deal of help within our own Catholic community. We collect food for the program each Sunday during Mass. At Mass the priest announces our needs, and the following Sunday our parishioners bring gifts of food during the Offering.



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for one week

\$1,500.

to donate call toll free **800-275-0626**

or visit our website at
www.svdmissions.org

Or use the enclosed envelope
at the center of this magazine.

PLEASE add your name, address
and GIFT CODE to the form.

Between 160 and 180 street children and homeless families will come to eat in the feeding program. In U.S. dollars, the cost of our program ranges between \$1,200 and \$1,500 a week.

The food packets, 180 in total, are distributed every Saturday morning. The participants come from the streets to the church compound. They are safe here and they feel loved and wanted. The packets are distributed by the parish social worker, who knows the people well.

On the Saturday of the communal feeding, the meal is served at midday. The food is prepared by a church volunteer. Some parish youths give up their time to wash the dishes after the meal. Before the meal, these young people go out to the streets to invite those in need to the church compound. All who are hungry are welcome, regardless of their religion. During the meal our parish young people engage with the street children. They talk with them and encourage them to leave the streets and to avoid drugs.

As we care for unemployed mothers, street children and the neglected elderly, our feeding program has become a rescue mission for both the young and the old. Besides offering food to the hungry, the program provides children a safe harbor from living on the streets.

My hope is that in time we can move these children from a life on the street to a place in our primary school where we can help them fit into society once again. Our program also looks after the elderly who have been abandoned by their families and left to die of hunger. Our goal is to lower the mortality rate of these desperate people. All of this is a tall order, but possible with the help of the good people of our parish and YOU the reader!

Help feed the people of Kayole...

Call toll free 800-275-0626

Your Mass offering directly helps support our missionaries in their ministries.

May the Lord accept this sacrifice for the praise and the glory of his name...



Give the precious gift of faith

Divine Word Missionaries gladly celebrate Masses YOU request!

Mass Intentions

Please arrange for these Masses to be celebrated by Divine Word Missionaries.

Accept my Mass offering of:

Individual Mass

\$10

Triduum of Masses

\$30

Novena of Masses

\$90

Gregorian Masses (30)

\$350

Mass Intention:

Living Deceased

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____