

# the MissionLink

Newsletter of the Center for Mission

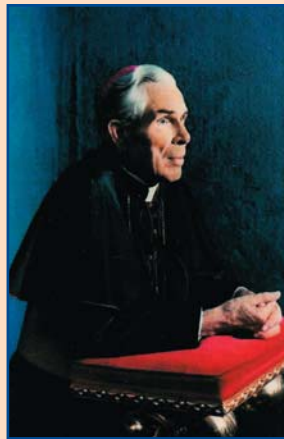
February 2005 IX

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



**LENTEN THOUGHTS:** Oscar Romero wrote, *"The Bible has a very meaningful expression: 'The spirit makes all things new.' We are those who grow old, and we want everything done to our aged standards. The Spirit is never old; the Spirit is always young."* Lent asks us to empty ourselves of the need to control time and change. Lent says to start over again.

## "Loyal Son of the Church" May be Canonized



Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

Thursday, December 9, 2004, a Memorial Mass was celebrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, marking the 25th anniversary of the death of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. Archbishop Sheen was born May 8, 1895, in El Paso, IL and ordained a priest on September 20, 1919. A professor of philosophy at Catholic University of America from 1926 to 1950, he was host of the "Catholic Hour" broadcasts on NBC radio, starting in 1930; he spoke for the first religious service ever broadcast in 1940.

He was host, from 1951 to 1957, of the television program, "Life Is Worth Living," for which he won an Emmy in 1953. He was ordained a bishop in 1951, and given the title archbishop in 1969. He was appointed bishop of Rochester, NY in 1966, *after completing 16 years as national director of the Propagation of the Faith*. Archbishop Sheen died on December 9, 1979. The **World Mission Rosary** was designed by Archbishop Sheen for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. We recall his words, "When the World Mission Rosary is completed, one has embraced all continents, all people in prayer." The Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints approved a petition from the Diocese of Peoria, IL, to open the cause for Archbishop Sheen in September 2002; he is now referred to as "Servant of God." Please remember this "loyal son of the Church" as Pope John Paul II called him, while praying for his cause for canonization.

## 'Solidarity Fund' Established for Tsunami Victims

For Long-term Support of Church in Southeast Asia with Special Emphasis on the Church in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and India.



The Pontifical Mission Societies has established a "Solidarity Fund" for the rebuilding of churches and schools effected by the recent tsunamis and for their long-term support. These Societies, which include the Propagation of the Faith and the Holy Childhood Association, are the basic means of support for the pastoral and evangelizing programs in 1,150 mission dioceses, including those areas recently hit by these natural disasters.

"We encourage the generous hearts of Catholics in the United States as they reach out in prayer and in sacrifice to the men, women and children who suffer even more now in this part of the world," Monsignor Kozar said. "I would also ask prayers for the Church there, and the missionaries, who remain witnesses of the great love and compassion of our Lord, and of His sustaining hope."

- Contributions may be directed to: Pontifical Mission Societies, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10001; please specify: Southeast Asia Solidarity Fund. 1-800- 431-2222
- [www.worldmissions-catholicchurch.org](http://www.worldmissions-catholicchurch.org)

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Center for Mission exists to bridge the Archdiocese to the Global Mission of Jesus Christ through ministries of the Pontifical Mission Societies, Mission Education, Leadership Formation and Global Solidarity.

- Daily Prayer for Missions
- Archbishop Sheen Remembered
- 'Solidarity Fund'
- Catalyzing Global Solidarity
- Lenten Speaker's Bureau
- El Salvador Trip
- Missioner Spotlight: Lay Missioner Maureen Carney Our Lady of Grace Parish - Edina
- "Yes, we are still the Propagation of the Faith Office" !!!
- Mission Club" Brochure
- "BRIDGE BUILDING", by Deacon Mickey Friesen
- Coming Event: Newman-Forum with Sr. Mary White
- Assistance for Tsunamis Victims
- Widows' Mite
- MISSION OPPORTUNITIES!

### DAILY PRAYER FOR THE MISSIONS

God of all creation, You will Your Church to be the sacrament of salvation to all peoples. Make us feel more urgently the call to work for the salvation of our human family until You have made us one people. Inspire us to continue the saving work of Christ everywhere until the end of time.



# GLOBAL SOLIDARITY: Catalyzing Global Solidarity



Mike Haasl  
Global Solidarity Coordinator  
Center for Mission

The video images and the daily reports of ever-increasing tens of thousands of dead and dying as a result of the recent tsunami in the Indian Ocean are incomprehensible to our human spirit. They enter our head, but how can one touch into the real truth of it? How does one get beyond the numbers to even begin to imagine the pain, loss and the suffering of the people? How can we realize in our hearts that the people involved are our own brothers and sisters, our very family, or further, *a part of us*?

These questions get to the heart of the message of the 1997 U.S. Bishops' pastoral letter entitled *Called to Solidarity*. What would it mean for U.S. parishes to take seriously our Catholic faith's call to solidarity? It seems that the immensity and the visibility of the tsunami disaster provide our parishes an opportunity to reflect on that question in a more significant way than before. Can our outpouring of compassion be sustained to respond to and engage with our global family of faith even in times of non-disaster?

For the past two years the Center for Mission has taken specific action to consciously engage parishioners of the archdiocese in global solidarity. One underlying principle is that most people can only deeply experience our oneness through personal relationships and experience, or at the very least personal stories told to us by people that we know. Thus the work of global

solidarity is first and foremost about **making connections** to people of other cultures and nations.

We have encouraged parish partnerships ("parish twinning"/ "sister parishes") to be formed in a way that enhances members of each partner getting to know the whole of the other---their faith, their culture, and their gifts, as well as their needs and struggles. There are already ten parishes of the archdiocese who are newly engaged in the process of developing relationships---about the same number as have been formed in the past *fifteen years*.

Also, in 2004 we provided two short-term immersion experiences for archdiocesan leadership: the first for permanent deacons (Venezuela), the second for social justice leaders (Juarez, Mexico). Two more leadership groups will be added to that list in 2005: seminarians (Juarez) and religious educators (El Salvador). These short-term immersion experiences have been shown to deepen the participants' commitment to global solidarity.

Engaging parishioners in solidarity through face-to-face encounters is such a priority for the Center for Mission that the Board of Directors recently approved a pilot program to offer partial scholarships to leaders in the archdiocese who would like to go on Center-sponsored immersion trips but cannot afford them. For more information about short-term immersion experiences or about how your parish can engage in global solidarity, contact Mike Haasl, 651-291-4504.



## LENTEN SPEAKER'S BUREAU

The Center for Mission would like to assist your school, parish, RCIA group, or clubs in hosting a returned missionary to share personal experiences and stories about life in missionary service around the world. Our Speaker's Bureau consists of over 30 very capable and energized men and women who would appreciate the opportunity to share stories of hope and joy, witnessed amidst the pain and struggles of God's people living in vulnerable countries. Learning through their stories of relationships and love for people of other cultures and religions, will help us understand how we too can each make a difference in our world. Call Kathryn Runman-Zimney, 651-291-4446, to schedule a speaker today.



## "MISSION CLUB" BROCHURE APPROVED!



The Mission Education Advisory Board of the Center for Mission has recently approved a brochure entitled: *Mission Clubs - All You need to know!!* The Holy Childhood Association is featured in this brochure as part of the Mission Club format. HCA is a program which will animate mission, educate and inspire young children, K-8, to understand the need for solidarity with other children and cultures throughout our world. *Call today for your free copy to get started! 651-291-4446. Click on [www.holychildusa.org](http://www.holychildusa.org)*



## ATTENTION: RELIGIOUS EDUCATORS !!

Apply now for an immersion trip that will enhance and enrich your experience of faith formation!

### Come to El Salvador : June 22 - July 2, 2005

This year is the 25th Anniversary of the martyrdom of Archbishop Oscar Romero and the four U.S. Churchwomen. Scholarships available. Applications due by March 1, 2005 Call: Kathryn Runman-Zimney at 651-291-4446, email: [runman-zimneyk@archspm.org](mailto:runman-zimneyk@archspm.org), Or Call: Mike Haasl at 651-291-4504, email: [haaslm@archspm.org](mailto:haaslm@archspm.org)



# MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

**WORDS OF WISDOM:** *"If you believe the incredible, you will end up doing the impossible!"*

- quote from the late Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

## - Coming Events -

- February 15, 2005 - Sr. Mary White, OSB, Newman Forum- presents: **Mission & Spirituality: The Contemplative Dimension - St. Lawrence-Newman Parish - 7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Free Forum - free parking. All are invited.**
- June 22 - July 2, 2005 - Immersion trip to El Salvador with Religious Educators. For application form, contact Kathryn Runman-Zimney, 651-291-4446, or contact Mike Haasl, 651-291-4504.
- October/November, 2005 - Delegation trip to Kitui, Kenya, sister diocese of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.
- In the Future: - Delegation to Nagasaki, JAPAN, Sister city of St. Paul.

REMEMBER THE MISSIONS IN YOUR ESTATE PLANNING and leave a legacy of faith that reaches to the ends of the earth. For more information, contact Deacon Mickey Friesen, 651-291-4445, or email:friesenm@archspm.org.

I am pleased to send this contribution to support the mission work of the church.

I wish to:

- Support world wide mission (Propagation of the Faith)
- Support vocations in mission dioceses (St. Peter the Apostle)
- Have \_\_\_# Mass(es) said for: \_\_\_\_\_-@ \$7/MASS
- Contribute to the Archdiocesan Mission in Venezuela
- Contribute to the Mustard Seed Mission Endowment
- Contribute to the Holy Childhood Association
- Contribute to Catholic Relief Services
- Receive a copy of the Mission Link Newsletter regularly.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_-State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:

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