

MISSION UPDATE

United States Catholic Mission Association

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Life at La Salle: It's All Fun and Games (Mostly)

By Pat Blythe,
LaSallian Volunteer 2012-2013

The first 7 months of this service year have been a whirlwind to say the least. From playing sports, hiking, caving, board games, and a gingerbread house building contest, I am confident I've lived up to the title of Recreation Coordinator. I rekindled my love for volunteering the summer before senior year of college and could not have pictured ending up where I am right now.

I've never been described as 'strictly professional' and I soon after arriving at La Salle School I realized the last thing these boys needed was another adult telling them what they can't do. I often relish sharing with people that I plan recreational activities (although I phrase it as 'I get to be the fun guy on campus!').

Not every aspect of La Salle is fun and games, the realizations set in quickly when I arrived that these boys are in need of healing. St. John Baptist De La Salle mentions 'the last, the least, and the lost,' in his writings. Those words hit me immediately and leave me grateful for my own upbringing. These boys are prime examples of that ministry. Finding out the reasons these boys are at La Salle always breaks my heart, but I also view it as the opportunity for them to right the wrongs and for us to walk with them as they become responsible young men. The simplest yet most effective things I can offer them are my left and right ears. Before arriving here, these boys were rarely encouraged to do positive things for themselves, so when I ask them about their day while shooting some hoops, I'm often surprised how easily they tell me how they feel.

The most profound moment by far has been the Confirmation of one of our boys. This boy in particular was one I had grown close with since the day I first arrived, and I know him well. When he was asked by Rich Ward, the campus minister, who his sponsor was going to be, he whipped around and said, 'Hey Mr. B, wanna be my sponsor?' with a certain nonchalance that made me laugh before accepting his offer with sincere gratitude. I know he might not realize the gravity of that request, but one day I like to think he will. We continually grow in our relationship and that added responsibility has made me even more keen on helping this young man heal, change his future, and adopt the mission of St. La Salle.

It's those positive interactions that make this service year worth it. Sure, the ski trips and dodgeball games have been a blast (both for the boys and myself) but it's the fact that they strengthen our relationship that's truly amazing. It's always gratifying to see a timid group in the van en route to an activity, and then have that dynamic completely change after the experience. Providing opportunities they might otherwise never have the chance to partake in gives them memories that go beyond the parking lot of La Salle.



Pat Blythe
(Photo courtesy of LaSallian Volunteers)

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Rev. Jack Nuelle, MS

As the days grow longer, I'm reminded of the importance light.

One of the most striking symbols of Easter is Light, usually signified by the paschal candle. The Holy Saturday liturgy begins with the quasi yin-yang transition from darkness and light. In many parishes enkindling the "new fire" consists of igniting a few small sticks of highly combustible wood, and then making sure the fire snuffed out as soon as the paschal candle is lit. During my years ministering to the people of Malaimbandy, Madagascar, Easter vigil's "new fire" was more consistent. In an area where electricity was practically non-existent, fire was a daily commodity. It produced light to dispel darkness, warmth in cold weather, and heat for cooking daily rice. All of these realities were components of a healthy lifestyle.

In consequence, our "new fire" took on the aspect of a large bonfire which would burn for about three days in the courtyard of the church. On Holy Saturday evening it became a rallying point for inhabitants of the town and surrounding villages. Its light assured us of sufficient clarity to proclaim all the readings for the vigil liturgy. With so many people present who were not Catholics, or not even Christians, it furnished us a splendid venue for evangelizing and, using the sequence of the readings, for explaining the history of salvation leading to Christ the true Light.

There were even para-liturgical side effects to the bonfire. In a culture where families cook over a wood fire to prepare their daily meals and the flame of a candle supplies light to those who otherwise would grope in the dark, taking some of the embers from **the "new fire" into their homes was considered to be a source of blessing** – not to mention a saving on matches!

May the light of Christ shine brightly in your heart and through **your life be reflected onto those whom you encounter.** "No one who lights a lamp conceals it with a vessel or sets it under a bed; rather, he places it on a lampstand so that those who enter may **see the light.**" (Lk 8:16) Alleluia!

NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR USCMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

During the Annual Spring Board Meeting, USCMA elected board members selected its new leadership for the next three years. We thank our previous leadership for their years of service, time, energy and gifts to the USCMA.

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Vice President: Sr. Judy Gomila, MSC
Sec/Treasurer: Ms. Rachel Tomas-Morgan
Member-at-Large: Dr. Andy Thompson
Member-at-Large: Rev. Arturo Aguilar, SSC

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Member-at-Large: Rev. Mike Kerin

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Mr. Stephen Scott

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Executive Director

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Associate Director of Operations

Accountant

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Ms. Teresita Gonzales, Past President

The early spring was marked by great transitions and glimpses of new beginnings. Pope Francis continues to open up a new approach to living our faith immersed in solidarity with those that suffer. His simplicity and humility still impacts the Church and the world. **“Visiting” for him is a cultural tool with some heavy faith implications. Sometimes we don’t always know when or how to be present to others. When was I sick and you visited me?**

During a summer mission in Dominican Republic long ago, a man who lived in a tin house across the street **from where our group was residing exclaimed; “Mira esos Americanos! Que vienen aquí a pasar calor, gastar el tiempo y no resolver nada!” Look at those Americans** who come here to suffer in the heat, waste time and not resolve anything! Oh my, many in our church have debated this very question! What does our visit mean for others? Recently I spent time thinking about mission, efficiency and presence.

In short term mission, this comes up often, especially in light of the large expense of travel. In my recent trip to Haiti, a community in a very remote area did so much to **receive us. When asked why, their answer was: “because your visit brings us hope. No one ever visits us here.” On the journey to Calvary, Christ walked alone,** surrounded mostly by gawkers. We are called to walk with Christ with humble love that by its very presence challenges and disrupts injustice.

This week I read that passage again and again imagining the women that followed Jesus and wept for him as he hung on the cross, and the man who claimed his body for burial. Those people were radically present to Christ, with love that pierced through the gawking and sneers of the cynical. In some ways our missionary purpose is like that of those women, who followed, wept and remained **anonymous to the world. Even when we don’t know exactly what to do or seem to be accomplishing little, our faith filled desire to be present as missionaries, gives testimony of hope amidst the injustice in the world.**

So now, I bid farewell to the Board of Directors of the US Catholic Mission Association. This past month the Board elected a new talented Executive Committee! I am humbled to have had the opportunity to serve the Association, and overjoyed with the talented people that will continue to lead us! Like the women of Calvary, they are courageous and persistent in their service!

In my travels, I still hear that Dominican man’s comment every so often, usually from someone as I walk by: **look at that “Americana” who comes to waste time with us. I now enjoy that tremendously. Yes, pretty much, that’s about right!** Sometimes we get stuff done together, other times we simply spend time in the presence of our God. And it is good.

I look forward to spending time with all of you in St. Louis! There are simply no words to thank you all for how **much you have given me. So it’s good-bye until then!** Wishing abundant blessings for you and all those you spend time with in mission.

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Phone: 202-832-3112 ♦ Fax: 202-832-3688
Visit us online at www.uscatholicmission.org
Please send inquiries and submissions to: uscma@uscatholicmission.org

RESOLUTION UPDATES:

USCMA Resolution 2010: Supporting the International Violence Against Women Act

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) has improved our nation's response to violence. However, not all victims have been protected or reached. VAWA 2013 will close critical gaps in services and justice. VAWA 2013 reauthorized and improved upon lifesaving services for all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking - including Native women, immigrants, LGBT victims, college students and youth, and public housing residents.

VAWA 2013 also authorized appropriate funding to provide for VAWA's vitally important programs and protections, without imposing limitations that undermine effectiveness or victim safety.

Initially passed in 1994, VAWA created the first U.S. federal legislation acknowledging domestic violence and sexual assault as crimes, and provided federal resources to encourage community-coordinated responses to combating violence. Its reauthorization in 2000 improved the foundation established by VAWA 1994 by creating a much-needed legal assistance program for victims and by expanding the definition of crime to include dating violence and stalking. Its subsequent reauthorization in 2005 took a more holistic approach to addressing these crimes and created new programs to meet the emerging needs of communities working to prevent violence. Included in the 2005 reauthorization were new focus areas such as prevention, landmark housing protections for survivors, funding for rape crisis centers, and culturally- and linguistically-specific services.

(Source: <http://www.nnedv.org/policy/issues/vawa.html>)

In 2010, the International-Violence Against Women Act that was passed for support at the Mission Congress. The resolution was supported by AFJN and USCMA. It is important to note when we passed this current law. President Obama signed the legislation on March 7, 2013.

From CELAM to Pope Francis: "Let us always remember the call to mission. Bishop and people"

Bogota (Agenzia Fides) - "We lived through the experience of his choice in an atmosphere of episcopal collegiality. This fact filled us with a deep joy for what it represents for the universal Church, and especially for pilgrimage Churches in Latin America and the Caribbean," said a letter from the Latin American Episcopal Council (CELAM), addressed to the newly elected Pope Francis.

The letter, sent to Fides Agency, went on to say that "In an inter-

view at the end of His term as president of CELAM: The last Conference of Bishops held in Aparecida is the leaven of inspiration, it is an invitation to creativity, it marks the lines of missionary action; it does not end with a document such as the previous conferences, but culminates with a mission. This is very important. "

"We want to assure You, Holy Father, that we fully identify ourselves with your first message: And now, let's start our journey: Bishop and people. Thus, we ask humbly, your apostolic blessing for the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean," the letter concludes.

The letter is signed by the President of CELAM, His Exc. Mgr. Carlos Aguiar Retes, Archbishop of Tlalnepantla, Mexico; by His Exc. Mgr. Dimas Lara Barbosa, Archbishop of Campo Grande, Brazil, Second Vice-President of CELAM; by His Exc. Mgr. Santiago Silva Retamales, Auxiliary Bishop of Valparaíso, Chile, Secretary General of CELAM and by His Exc. Mgr. Carlos María Collazzi, SDB, Bishop of Mercedes, Uruguay, President of the Economic Commission of CELAM.

(CE) (Agenzia Fides 18/03/2013)

Cardinal Filoni: "Pope Francis exhorts us to evangelize with apostolic zeal"

Vatican City (Agenzia Fides) - "The new Pope told us that evangelization presumes apostolic zeal. And one must go out towards those in need, to proclaim the Gospel in the suburbs": is what Cardinal Fernando Filoni said, commenting this morning the choice of the new Pope, in a meeting at the Congregation of "Propaganda Fide", where Fides Agency was present.

"Today we are called to make this our intuition," the Cardinal said. "Even though at times we may be tired, we are called to proclaim the Gospel always, especially with zeal, which means with love."

The new Pope - he continued - "urged us to come out of ourselves, not to yield to the temptation of egocentricity, but to go to the needy, to bring a proclamation of joy and hope to all those organizations marked by material and spiritual poverty. "As Christians engaged in the work of evangelization "we can give our contribution to the Petrine ministry, continuing to lavish our commitment with generosity and love," said Cardinal Filoni.

Then talking about his experience in the Conclave, he remarked: "It was very emotional, as one feels the great responsibility. We Cardinals 'indicated' not elected the new Pope, he was chosen by God. If Mother Teresa prayed to be 'a pencil in the hands of God', **for me this election was a dash in God's plan, it was a unique experience.**" Cardinal Filoni confirmed that the Pope chose the name Francis referring to Francis of Assisi, "although this choice is significant of his deep humility." (PA) (Agenzia Fides 14/03/2013)

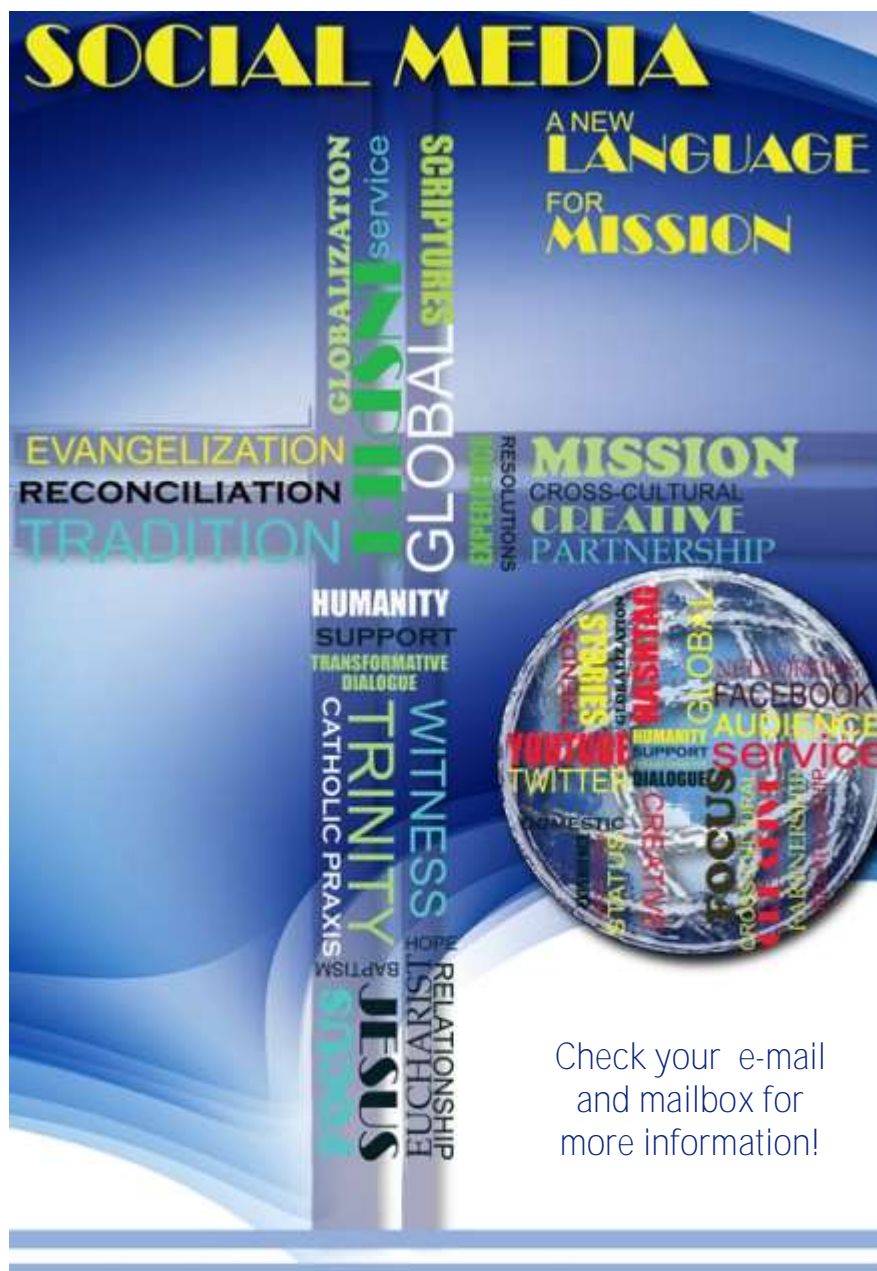
Mission Conference 2013

Social Media:
A New Language for Mission

Social media, by nature, is interactive. As such, it is a new language, a new way of communicating for many missionaries who identified themselves **with the words of Paul, “Christ sent me ... to preach the gospel (1Cor 1:17).** Throughout the years, although it was to be accompanied by living witness, preaching or proclamation was for many missionaries a one-way street. With Vatican II, the Church intensified her reflection on the theology of mission, recognizing dialogue as an intrinsic element to proclamation.

Today social media, via the Internet, is in a language all its own. It has literally opened the **universe to everyone “with a click of a mouse.”** Most young people know its language and use it every day. It is taught in schools. It is used to build relationships. It is essential in business dealings. It can also be a means of evangelization.

For many missionaries – and we know that every baptized person is a missionary called to participate **in Christ’s mission** – who were not brought up in the digital age, this new language can be a daunting challenge. How do we learn it? How do we use it? What are the advantages (pastoral, personal, financial, social, religious, educational, relational, research, etc.) and what are the caveats? How does this affect our interaction with young people who use this language everyday – and multiple times each hour? What doors are now open to us in evangelizing and updating of ministerial resources? What tremendous out-reach possibilities for students in our schools! So many possibilities are open as we look at our life through this language/media. So many church documents have been focusing on social communication and social media. Can our evangelizing ministry be enhanced by its use?



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2012 Missioner Survey Executive Summary

PREFACE

“In our works, our people know that we understand their suffering.” These words of St. Alberto Hurtado of Chile might as well describe the life of many missionaries working all over the world. It definitely resonates the global solidarity that has been awakened by the series of catastrophic events around the world that have claimed the lives of thousands of people, displaced millions, and left millions more to carry the burden of the memory of the tragedies as they rebuild their lives and livelihood. In the midst of all these are thousands of missionaries from all over the world who continue to accompany the people in their journey despite themselves being affected by the same disaster as the people they serve. We honor them and their commitment. We continue to pray for them and the people they serve. While this survey only presents US Catholic missionaries, they are mirrors to **thousands more from all over the world that have heard and responded to the call to participate in God’s mission.**

This year, we are happy to share with you the compilation of the missionary survey results we received last year in response to a questionnaire and a request to update the 2010-2011 statistics. We mailed the survey to over 800 mission-sending organizations and religious communities in January 2012. This number included all the religious houses in the United States included in the Catholic Directory. We received a total of 224 responses (with 62 respondents stated they had no missionaries). One cause for the decrease in the response rate is due to the consolidation of Religious Provinces around the country. The tabulation is inclusive of U.S. citizens, Catholic missionaries only – lay, religious and clergy – serving in mission both within and outside the United States borders. Acknowledging that there are hundreds of thousands of short-term missionaries (less than a year), the survey only includes missionaries who are in mission for a minimum of one year.

GUIDELINES FOR SURVEY OF U.S. CATHOLIC (CROSS-CULTURAL) MISSIONERS SERVING IN THE U.S.

[Note: The following guidelines were included with the request to mission-sending organizations that they name constituencies involved in cross-cultural mission in the U.S.]

The following guidelines are intended to be descriptive, not theological or sociological definitions. We offer them as guidelines for pastoral/missional judgment and not as definitive statements or categories. A cross-cultural missionary may fall into one or many of these descriptions. We at the USCMA realize that these “guidelines” are not exhaustive, but they will help you in “self-defining” those missionary activities in which your organization is engaged.

1. The ministry is with people who have either never heard the Word or had it effectively proclaimed to them or their community i.e., generally not reachable by the common methods or means of ministry in the U.S.
2. The missionary is working in an area where the local church is easily understood as institutionally underdeveloped i.e., it lacks indigenous ecclesial leadership, personnel, and financial resources for effective ministry beyond the pastoral nurture of its own membership.
3. The ministry is genuinely with those on the margins i.e., among people linguistically, culturally, and/or economically outside the stream of the dominant culture.
4. The people with whom this ministry is exercised would see themselves as significantly distinct from the mainline culture (i.e., their distinct identity is clearly perceived by themselves when in the larger cultural context of the United States).
5. It is a ministry of dialogue by which the Christian churches or community is engaged with a community of values different from its own in some core religious or moral manner.

The following 2010 – 2011 tabulation has been compiled by the USCMA from data received from mission-sending organizations and home dioceses (with additional reference to the *Official Catholic Directory*). The data is as reliable as the most diligent effort can make it and as current as the constant changes in personnel will allow.

The lists of data include only U.S. missionaries, meaning those who are or have been United States citizens by birth or naturalization. Those who have taken out citizenship in their country of mission service are still listed here as missionaries from the United States. On the other hand, citizens of other countries serving as members of mission-sending organizations headquartered in the U.S. are not listed. As an example, there are numerous Maryknoll sisters serving abroad, often in countries other than their homeland, who are not U.S. citizens and therefore are not listed here among the Maryknoll sisters serving abroad as U.S. Catholic missionaries. This policy helps to prevent overlapping when the various national mission councils publish their tabulations. It must be remembered, however, that mission-sending organizations which appear to have only very few members in a given mission field may have many more who are not U.S. citizens.

The lists bear the heading *U.S. Catholic Missioners*. This includes all those Catholics who are sponsored by Catholic mission sending organizations, even if they work for projects not sponsored by the Catholic Church. As with the 2008 – 2009 tabulation, the many missionaries ministering in cross-cultural situations in the United States are included. The continuing political and socio-economic changes, trends and circumstances – both in the U.S. and abroad – have enabled a renewed understanding of mission universally.

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TERMS:

- *MISSIONER* is used in its generally accepted sense. It includes not only those engaged in the primary and subsequent stages of evangelization but also those ministering in closely related areas of community service and development.
- *SERVING* stands for service over a period of time. While some organizations provide opportunities for short-term service, only those individuals are included in these statistics who serve for a minimum of one year.
- **ABROAD means “outside” of the 50 contiguous United States. Those working in Alaska and Hawaii are included in the data as missionaries serving within the U.S. As Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are U.S. territories and not U.S. states, their data lies in the category of “abroad” for the statistical purposes of this inventory.**

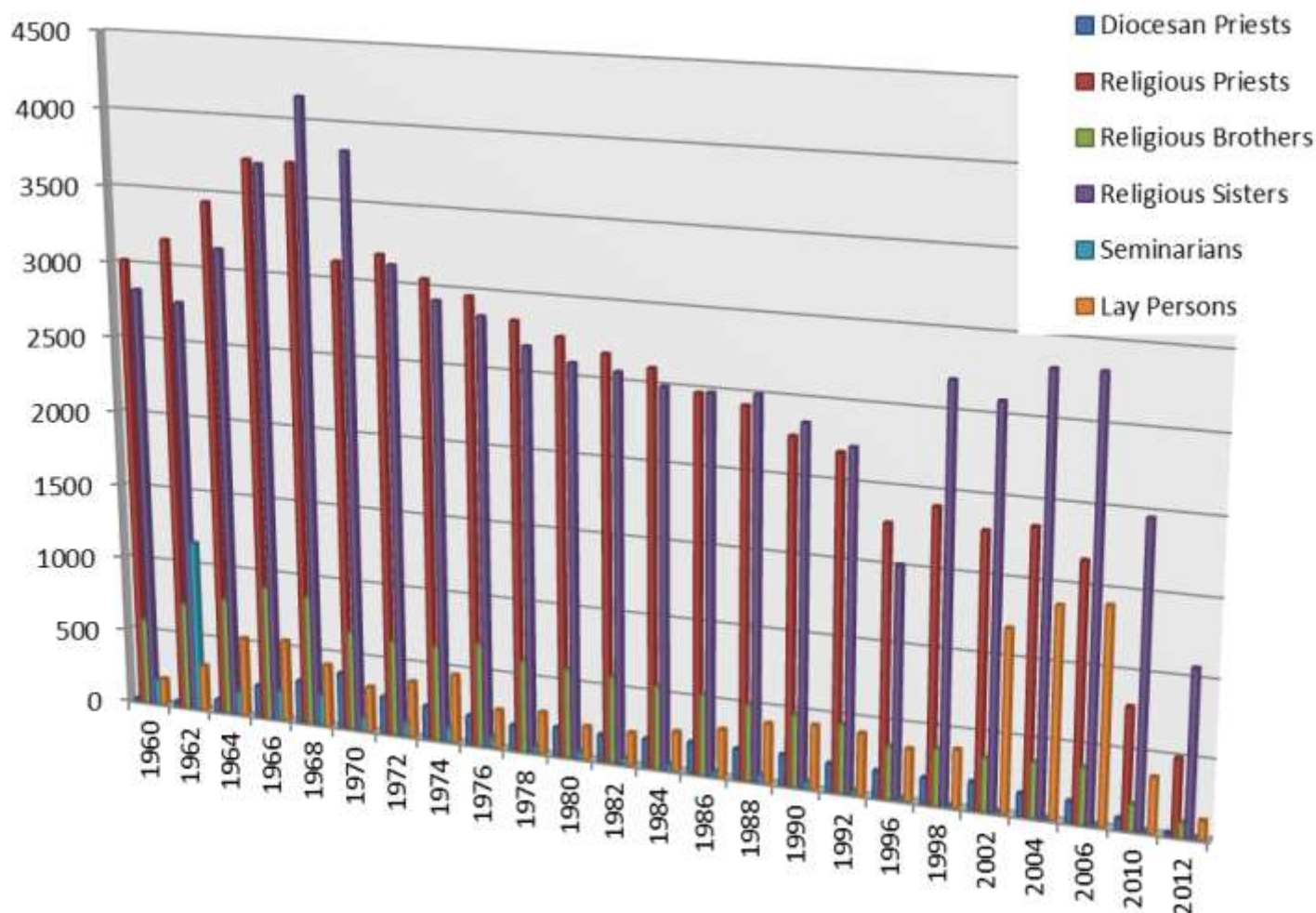
U. S. Missioners by Church Role 1960-2012

Years	Diocesan Priests	Religious Priests	Religious Brothers	Religious Sisters	Seminarians	Lay Persons	Totals
1960	14	3018	578	2827	170	178	6785
1962	31	3172	720	2764	1152	307	8146
1964	80	3438	782	3137	157	532	8126
1966	215	3731	901	3706	201	549	9303
1968	282	3727	869	4150	208	419	9655
1970	373	3117	666	3824	90	303	8373
1972	246	3182	634	3121	97	376	7656
1974	220	3048	639	2916	101	458	7382
1976	193	2961	691	2840	68	257	7010
1978	166	2830	610	2673	43	279	6601
1980	188	2750	592	2592	50	221	6393
1982	178	2668	578	2560	44	217	6245
1984	187	2603	549	2492	40	263	6134
1986	204	2473	532	2481	30	317	6037
1988	200	2420	504	2495	50	394	6063
1990	200	2257	477	2347	42	421	5744
1992	181	2183	449	2222	26	406	5467
1996	173	1770	347	1513	18	343	4164**
1998	167.	1903.	370	2693	11	379	5883°
2001	180	1784	349	2589	15	1191	6108°
2003	147	1840	361	2812	8	1368	6536
2005	136.	1663	366	2819	9	1402	6395
2009	68°	784	171	1962	9	358	3352
2012	17	495	94	1071.	7	122	1806°

Notes:

- ** Alaska and Hawaii are no longer in the category of overseas missionaries.
- ° These numbers include Bishops and Priests.
- These numbers include missionaries serving within and outside the U.S. Borders in Cross Cultural Mission

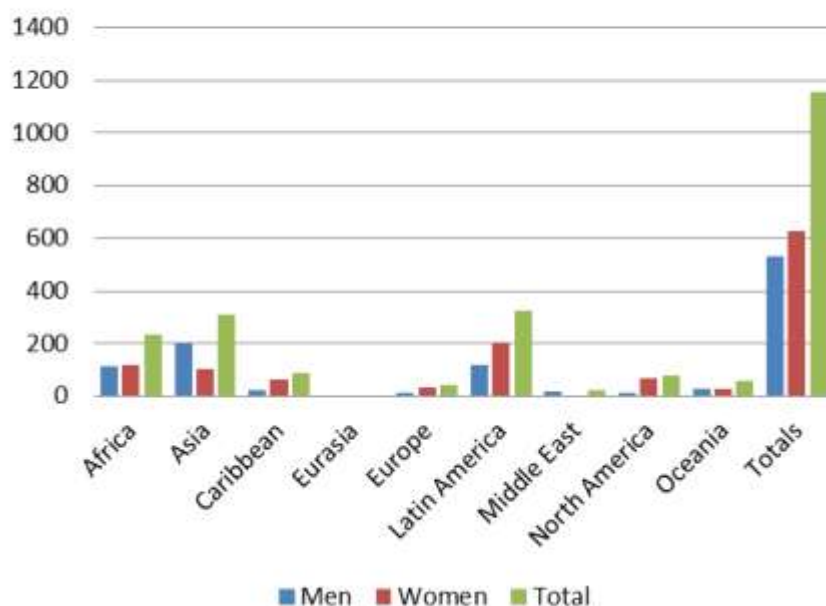
U. S. Missioners by Church Role 1960-2012



US Catholic Missioners by Region and Gender 2010-2011

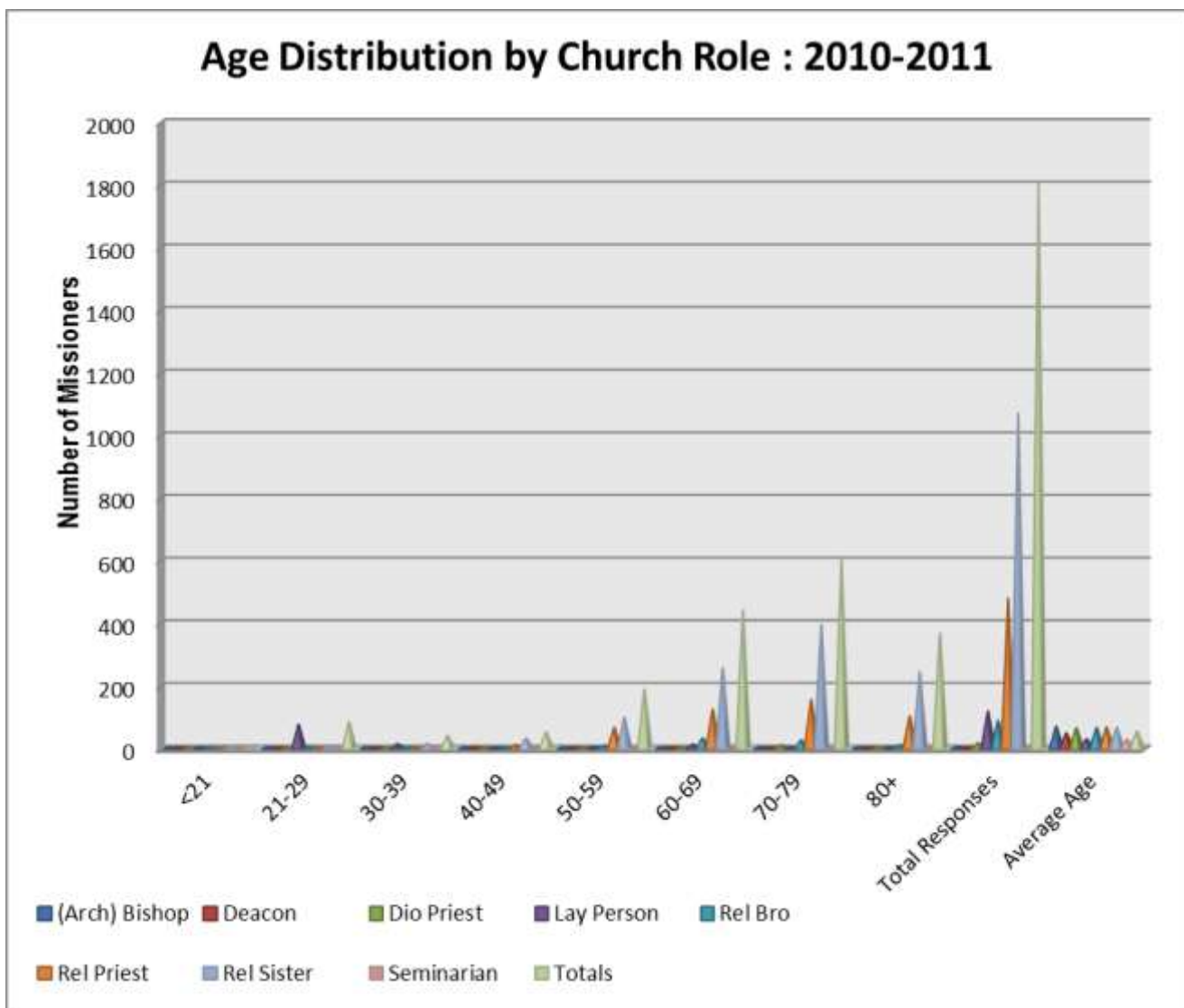
Region	Men	Women	Total
Africa	113	120	233
Asia	204	105	309
Caribbean	25	62	87
Eurasia	3	2	5
Europe	11	32	43
Latin America	119	206	325
Middle East	18	3	21
North America	11	67	78
Oceania	27	29	56
Totals	531	626	1157

US Catholic Missioners by Region and Gender- 2010-2011



Age Distribution By Church Role

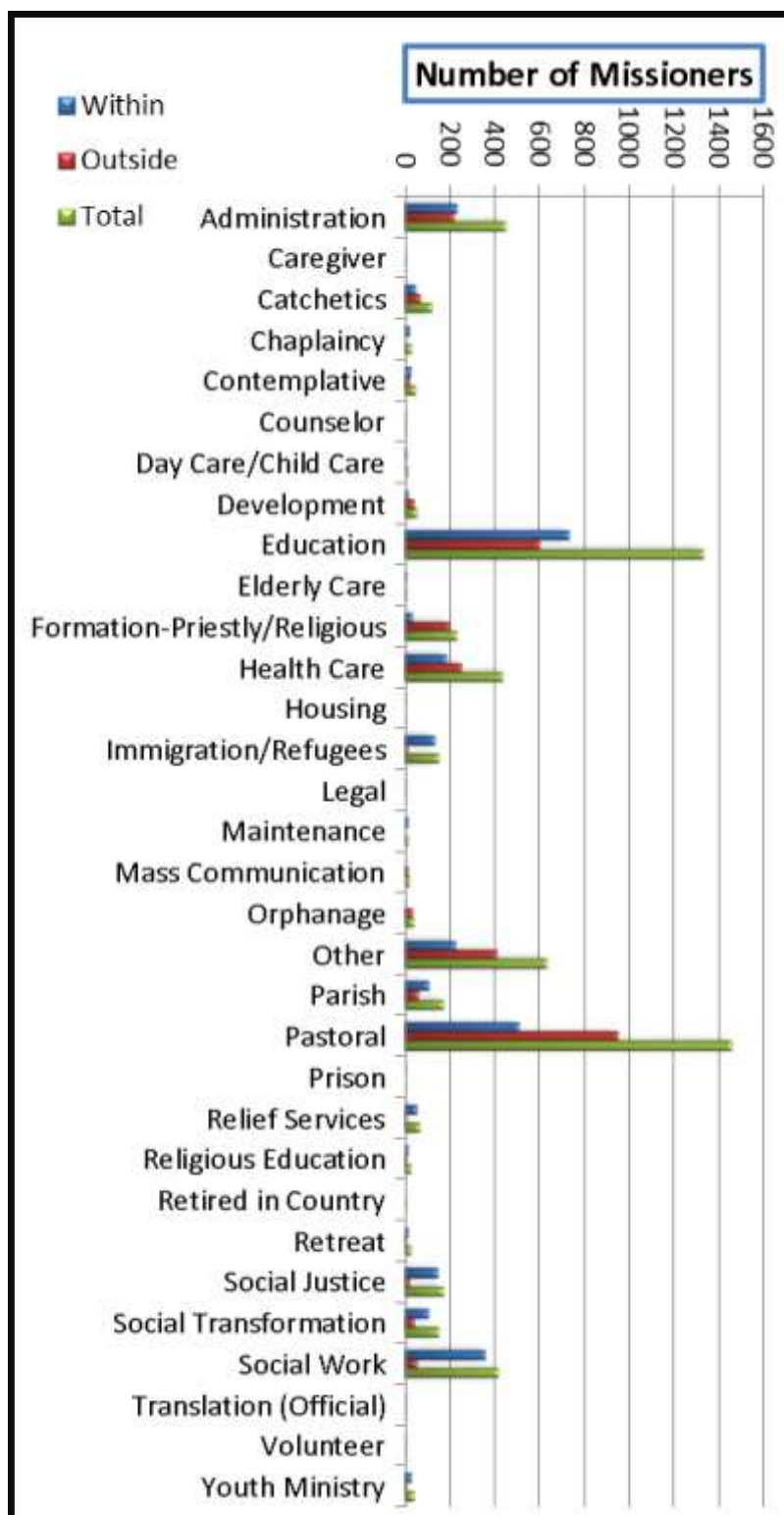
Age Group	(Arch) Bishop	Deacon	Dio Priest	Lay Person	Rel Bro	Rel Priest	Rel Sister	Seminarian	Totals
<21	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
21-29	0	0	0	80	0	0	7	1	88
30-39	0	1	0	17	0	3	17	6	44
40-49	0	0	2	3	2	14	35	0	56
50-59	0	0	2	6	12	70	103	0	193
60-69	3	0	2	15	36	129	262	0	447
70-79	1	1	13	2	29	160	400	0	606
80+	2	0	0	0	14	107	249	0	372
Total Responses	6	2	19	123	93	483	1074	7	1807
Average Age	73.7	51.5	68.4	32.9	69.9	70.8	70.6	31.1	58.6



U.S. Catholic Missioners Primary Work Activity
Within U.S. Borders/Outside U.S. Borders
2010-2011

Primary Work Activity	Within U.S.	Outside U.S.	Total	Percentage total
Administration	234	219	453	7.31
Caregiver	0	2	2	0.03
Catechetics	51	70	121	1.95
Chaplaincy	25	7	32	0.52
Contemplative	27	24	51	0.82
Counselor	3	5	8	0.13
Day Care/Child Care	11	4	15	0.24
Development	16	43	59	0.95
Education	733	604	1337	21.56
Elderly Care	10	1	11	0.18
Formation-Priestly/Religious	37	200	237	3.82
Health Care	187	253	440	7.1
Housing	1	0	1	0.02
Immigration/Refugees	137	15	152	2.45
Legal	5	1	6	0.1
Maintenance	17	0	17	0.27
Mass Communication	3	17	20	0.32
Orphanage	3	37	40	0.65
Other	226	414	640	10.32
Parish	112	61	173	2.79
Pastoral	512	951	1463	23.54
Prison	6	0	6	0.1
Relief Services	55	11	66	1.06
Religious Education	16	13	29	0.47
Retired in Country	0	1	1	0.02
Retreat	17	11	28	0.45
Social Justice	150	23	173	2.79
Social Transformation	106	46	152	2.45
Social Work	361	57	418	6.74
Translation (Official)	1	3	4	0.06
Volunteer	1	1	5	0.08
Youth Ministry	32	12	44	0.71
Totals:	3095	3106	6201	100

Primary Ministry Within/ Outside the U.S. 2010-2011

Missionary Activities Comparison
for All Missioners: 2008-2012

Category	Percentages		
	2008	2010	2012
Administration	7.31	7.61	7.31
Catechetics	1.95	1.91	1.95
Chaplaincy	0.52	0.63	0.52
Contemplative	0.82	1.40	0.82
Counselor	0.13	0.15	0.13
Day Care/Child Care	0.24	0.00	0.24
Development	0.95	1.13	0.95
Education	21.56	21.51	6
Elderly Care	0.18	0.30	0.18
Formation-Priestly/Religious	3.82	3.40	3.82
Health Care	7.10	0.03	7.1
Housing	0.02	8.29	0.02
Immigration/Refugees	2.45	2.21	2.45
Legal	0.10	0.30	0.1
Maintenance	0.23	0.18	0.27
Mass Communication	1.46	0.42	0.32
Orphanage	0.65	0.46	0.65
Other	10.32	12.68	2
Parish	2.79	2.51	2.79
Pastoral	22.59	22.34	7
Prison	0.10	0.21	0.1
Relief Services	1.06	0.75	1.06
Religious Education	0.40	1.10	0.47
Retired in Country	0.02	0.39	0.02
Retreat	0.45	0.21	0.45
Social Justice	2.79	1.22	2.79
Social Transformation	2.45	1.94	2.45
Social Work	6.74	5.85	6.74
Translation (Official)	0.06	0.03	0.06
Volunteer	0.03	0.09	0.08
Youth Ministry	0.71	0.75	0.71

USCMA Position Opening

In Memoriam



Rev. Sjeff Donders, MAfr
1929– 2013

2003 Mission Award Recipient

“At the last USCMA conference that he attended I was blessed to sit next to him at the final banquet. So humble, so brilliant, a true missionary. He will be missed. Maybe it is not a coincidence that he passed just a week before what appears to be the selection of a very humble Pope Francis. May Fr. Donders contribute to Pope Francis’ courage to follow Francis of Assisi in ‘rebuilding the church.’”

~Mike Haasl, Archdiocese of Minneapolis/St. Paul

“He was a man of vision and in many ways could never stand being “boxed in.” Sjeff needed to be left alone to function in a way that was meaningful to himself. Indeed the world was his parish! In the course of his life in USA he touched many people through his writings, his lectures, and in his preaching. He kept busy on many levels, creatively writing and extending boundaries, yet keeping very much in touch with people in the pews, as he, for many years, helped out in a parish of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Besides this parish, Sjeff had also a special connection with another smaller, close knit Christian community that he accompanied for many years.” Fr. John Lynch, MAfr

Open Position: Associate Director of Operations
Location: Washington, DC

The United States Catholic Mission Association seeks a full-time Associate Director of Operations for our office in Washington, DC. USCMA is an association of mission sending congregations and societies, diocesan mission offices, individual missionaries, and others interested in cross-cultural and global solidarity. USCMA provides a forum in which people with a variety of experiences in mission can welcome, celebrate faith, inspire, educate and challenge one another to continue growing in our efforts to further the mission of Jesus. The Associate Director of Operations will be responsible for a range of leadership tasks. The position offers numerous opportunities for promoting mission and global solidarity in various capacities.

Requirements: The ideal candidate will have administrative experience, be proficient in the use of computers, database systems and the internet, have strong verbal and written skills, and a familiarity **with the Catholic Church’s teachings, structures and organizations. A Master’s degree in areas of theology, missiology, cross-cultural studies or a similar field is preferred.** Mission experience is a plus.

The Associate Director of Operations will work closely with the Executive Director and small staff. Main areas of responsibility will include, but are not limited to:

- Coordinate Diocesan Mission Cooperative Appeals
- Membership Initiatives.
- Grants and Fundraising.
- Maintain Association Archives

Other areas of responsibility will include, but are not limited to:

- Conference and event planning.
- Assist with USCMA Publications.
- Serve as liaison with Mission Organizations as needed.

This full-time position offers a competitive salary, health benefits, and more. For the complete position listing go to our website. For consideration, please submit a letter of application, *Curriculum vitae* or resume, and contact information for references to:

Search Committee
US Catholic Mission Association
3025 Fourth St. NE, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20017-1102.

By e-mail: searchcommittee@uscatholicmission.org

EOE/AA Employer

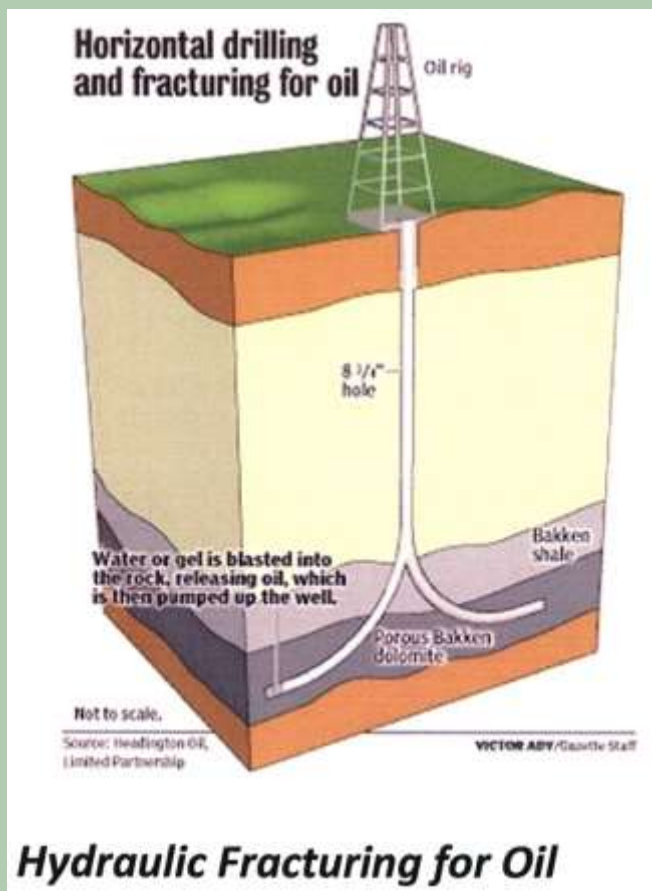


A Franciscan Approach to Hydraulic Fracturing

A debate has emerged in the United States regarding a new procedure called High Volume Horizontal Hydraulic Fracturing, or hydro fracking. This procedure is used to mine natural gas trapped within shale formations deep within the earth, since most of the easily accessible gas has already been mined. This new technique of hydro fracking pumps large amounts of water mixed with chemicals at high pressures to fracture shale and release trapped gas.

Hydro fracking seems to be an answer to many of our nation's problems including our move towards an energy policy of independence, a boost for our weakening economy, increase in employment, and an alternate source of income for landowners. However, the desire to address these national issues is now a higher priority than our human health and environmental integrity. The waste water from hydro fracking is highly contaminated with chemicals and radioactive particles that are dangerous to human persons and the environment. There is an increase in air and water pollution near hydro fracking facilities. People living in close proximity to hydro fracking activities are having major health issues from poisoned well water, asthma, skin irritations, and higher risk of cancer.

To expedite the mining of natural gas, the gas industries have received many waivers from environmental laws including the Clean Water Act; Clean Air Act; Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund Act); Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; Toxic Release Inventory under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act; National Environmental Policy Act; and the Safe Drinking Water Act. **Franciscans and Franciscan-hearted persons recognize that granting these waivers has legalized the destruction of God's creation** and is a disgrace to the dignity of the human person. Our nation is placing a higher value on natural gas than on our Constitutional rights.



We ask Congress to ensure that all oil and gas companies abide by all environmental laws, issue full disclosure of chemicals used in the hydro fracking procedures, conduct air and water monitoring near all hydro fracking facilities, make mandatory recycling of water and proper storage of toxic waste water, and ensure that no hydro fracking will occur near drinking water aquifers. We ask gas companies to work together to set up a fund to ensure proper restoration of hydro fracking sites and to clean up all environmental impacts. We ask the gas companies to move towards using safer additives that are biodegradable and less hazardous to human health and the environment. We can no longer put the health and wellbeing of human persons and the environment at the bottom of our priority list. To this end, we urge Congress to pass legislation to ensure that gas companies no longer put profits above the health and wellbeing of human persons and the environment.

Image found: <http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://geology.com/articles/hydraulic-fracturing/marcellus-gas-well.jpg&imgrefurl=http://geology.com/articles/hydraulic-fracturing/>

Special Announcement:

In an effort to hold our organization to the highest standards of global responsibility and to act as stewards of our money, USCMA has determined that it will publish two (2) more copies of the Mission Update to be sent out to our members. Beginning with our Winter 2013 Issue we will distribute via email. In addition our website also feature a **member's only section which will be accessed through a username and password. Mission Updates will only be able to be accessed in their entirety on the member's only page.**

To ensure that we have your correct email you will be receiving a letter from our offices in the summer with more details about this move to a more efficient use of money and better environmental concerns and deliberate operations.

Resources for Members:

2013 Maryknoll Mission Institute Programs

To learn more or register email missinst@mksisters.org

June 2-7 - Dying to Live: Migration, Globalization and the Human Journey- Fr. Daniel G. Groody, CSC, Ph.D.

June 9-14—Disciple(ship)Today: The REAL Challenge of the New Evangelization- Fr. Tony Gittins, CSSp, Ph.D.

June 16-21—The Missionary Spirit and The Spirit in Our Time- Fr. Diarmuid O'Murchu, MSC

June 23-28— Love, Evolution and the Emergence of God- Sr. Illa Dello, OSF

FROM MISSION TO MISSION

To learn more or register email missiontomission@hotmail.com

July 11- 14- Chicago, IL

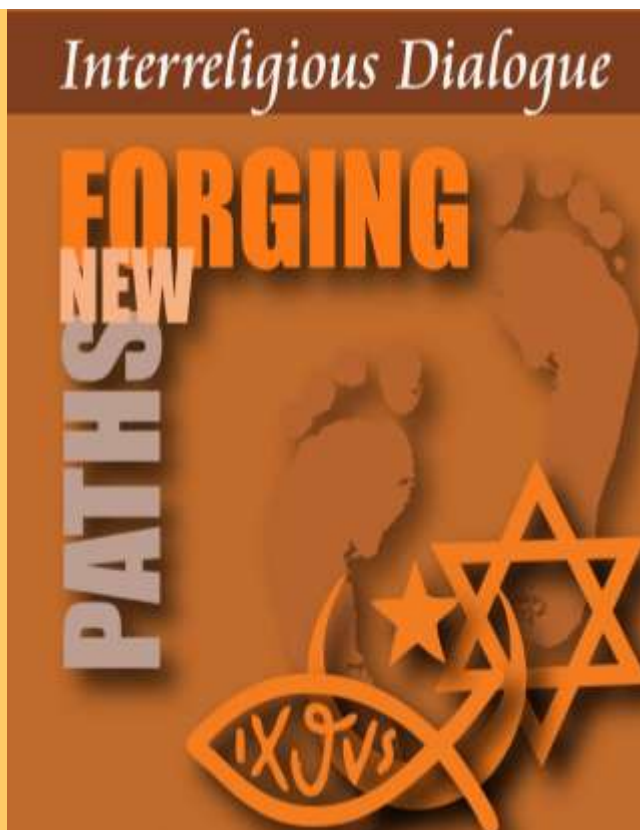
Faces in Mission:

"The call of God is to listen with an open heart." Columban Fr. Arturo Aguilar offers this insight when asked about the impact of mission in his life. Hear him and other missionaries on the newest feature of the USCMA website **Faces in Mission**. Every person has the chance to live into their mission identity with a mission spirit. Listen to what other missionaries have to say about their own experience in mission. **Share your mission story with the USCMA by e-mail uscma@uscatholicmission.org**

Photo credit: St. Cloud Diocesan Mission Office



**Be a Face in Mission at
www.uscatholicmission.org**



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Sr. Janice McLaughlin, MM

Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga

Dr. Kim Smolik and Rev. Clarence Williams, CPPS, PhD

Ms. Teresita Gonzalez de la Maza and Mr. James Lindsey

Are you staying current with events and news of mission?

USCMA's Mission Monthly

is an online, monthly newsletter published by the United States Catholic Mission Association. It aims to keep us updated on the who, what, when, and where of the mission world, member's news and events, and to strengthen our partnership in promoting mission and global solidarity.

Share your story of mission with us today!
uscma@uscatholicmission.org

If you do not already receive USCMA's Mission Monthly, send us an e-mail (uscma@uscatholicmission.org) to sign up .

CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO USCMA

All donations are tax-deductible and will go to help USCMA fulfill its mandate to

PROMOTE MISSION AND GLOBAL SOLIDARITY.

Donate on line at www.uscatholicmission.org
Just click on the "Become a Member" button.

You can also send a check or money order to:

United States Catholic Mission Association
3025 Fourth Street, NE, Ste. 100
Washington, DC 20017-1107

Find out more information about the ways you can help to promote mission and global solidarity on our website:
uscatholicmission.org

Questions or do you have a mission related event?
Send us the information and we will help to publicize!
uscma@uscatholicmission.org



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Pope Francis @Pontifex 19 May



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