

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar



Meet a Missionary

For almost half a century, Dominican Father Peter Oillio, a native of New Orleans, has served as a missionary in Nigeria.

"Our first Church was a garage with a tin roof that seated some 30 people," he said. The people were grateful "the fathers" had come to town, he remembers, and the Catholic community eventually grew to 500. Soon a church building, dedicated to St. Dominic, was constructed.

Rice in a Bag

Rice in a Bag: Measure $\frac{1}{4}$ cup dry rice into a small zip lock bag, and seal. Hand out the bags of rice to your students to take home. Tell them to ask someone to cook the rice for them. This activity shows how much rice some children in the Missions receive each day. Challenge the students to eat just that for supper while their family eats a regular meal. Spend time the next day reflecting on the experience.

AUGUST

2010

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

29 30 31

Place your orders now for
HCA Membership materials!
Go [online](#) for
more information.

Start a prayer journal this month, noting your
prayers for the benefit of children around the world.

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar

Be a Missionary Every Month!

At Baptism we are all called to be a part of the worldwide mission of Jesus – to proclaim His “Good News” to all people. Here are ways to live out your vocation to be missionary:

Daily – Pray. Ask God to open people’s hearts so that they will believe in Jesus and to strengthen missionaries who proclaim the “Good News” to the poor.

Once Weekly – Read about an area of the world where Catholic missionaries are helping others to learn about the love of God.

Once Monthly – Tell your family and friends what you have learned!

Get Current!

Ask children to look for current events related to countries in the Developing World. Make a current events bulletin board or scrapbook with newspaper clippings as well as photos and articles from magazines about these mission countries – using that display to learn more about God’s people in those areas of the world. Each day, remember people in those parts of the world in prayer.



September 2010

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

May the peoples
praise you, O God;
may all the peoples
praise you.

Psalm 67:3

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14 15 16 17 18

Place your orders for HCA's Advent program
this month. Call 1-800-431-2222 for more
information or see our [Resource Guide](#).

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

26 27 28 29 30

St. Cyprian – September 16. *“You cannot have God for your Father if you do not have the Church for your mother.... God is one and Christ is one, and His Church is one; one is the faith, and one is the people cemented together by harmony into the strong unity of a body...”*

(St. Cyprian, *The Unity of the Catholic Church*).

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar

Seeds of Faith

Religious medals in the soil.

That's what Sister Velasco Gelos Guadalupe left behind 60 years ago – medals buried in the soil of Nagaland in Northeast India. She and two other missionaries from Spain – a priest and another Sister of the Missionaries of Christ Jesus – were the first Catholics allowed in the area back then. They had been invited by the government to help staff a newly established hospital. No direct evangelization was allowed at the time, however.

“So Sister Guadalupe buried the religious medals as she visited villages, praying and hoping for the growth of the Catholic faith,” said Father Benny Barghese, a local priest who works in the Diocese of Kohima. “With her prayers, and God’s grace, her hopes were realized.”

The Kohima Diocese today encompasses the whole state of Nagaland. At present, 26 local priests serve their own people there; the first two were ordained in 1989. There are also some 80 local Religious Sisters and 160 men and woman preparing for Religious life.



Catholic school students, Nagaland

October

2010

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

October is Mission Month. Be sure to visit our [website](#) for reproducibles to help you celebrate. And, don't forget that Friday, **October 1** is HCA Day. It's also the Feast Day of **St. Thérèse of Lisieux**, co-patron, with St. Francis Xavier, of the Church's worldwide missionary work. Learn more about St. Thérèse [online](#).

1 2

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pray the World Mission Rosary.
Visit www.worldmissionrosary.org

10 11 12 13 14 15 16

17 18 19 20 21 22 23

October 24 is World Mission Sunday!

24 25 26 27 28 29 30

31

Ask children to look through their trick-or-treat bags this Halloween for loose coins and to consider donating these coins to HCA for children in the Missions.

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar

Prayer Journal

Ask children to pick a notebook to be a prayer journal. Daily, have children write down prayer requests in the journal. This can be done as a class and as a family at home. The children may be aware of natural disasters around the world, as well as wars or other current events. They may also want to list prayers for family members and friends. For a list of the Holy Father's missionary prayer intentions visit www.fides.org/english. Students might also want to record prayers of thanksgiving – "thank you notes" to God for the many blessings He has given them, most especially, His love and the love of family and friends.

Count Your Blessings

Ask students to count the number of showers, tubs and sinks in their homes and then ask: How would your life be different with one more? One less? None at all? Encourage children to sacrifice one dollar – or more – for every shower, tub and sink in their home so that children in the Missions might have access to clean water. Need a place to store those donations? Consider our free *Helping Hand Envelope*. Call 1-800-431-2222, extension 738, to find out how to order.



November

2010

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3 4 5 6

Place your orders for HCA's Lent program this month. Call 1-800-431-2222 for more information or see our [Resource Guide](#).

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24 25 26 27

28 29 30

Martyrs of Paraguay – November 17. Three Spanish Jesuits - Roque Gonzalez, Alfonso Rodriguez, Juan de Castillo - worked to convert the natives Brazil and Paraguay. They were murdered in 1628 during missionary service. Pope John Paul II canonized them in 1988.

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar

Mission Buddies

Pray for missionaries from your (arch)diocese, especially on their birthdays and at Christmas. Children can help support and encourage missionaries and their families by such prayerful remembrance. You may want to see if the children even have a "birthday buddy" from among the missionaries serving overseas from your area! Contact your local office of the Pontifical Mission Societies (mission office) for a list of lay, priest and Religious missionaries working in the Developing World.

A Lesson From the Missions

"Mission Lessons," featuring Monsignor John Kozar, National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, are 60-second audio reflections related to his mission visits and to his encounters with missionaries in the Developing World. Monsignor Kozar then relates those experiences to the "lessons" they hold for the everyday lives of listeners. "Mission Lessons" are available on CD at no charge; to order a copy, please call 1-800-431-2222, extension 709. You may also listen to them at www.iamamissionary.org.



December

2010

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



1 2 3 4

Learn more about HCA's annual **Christmas Artwork Contest** at www.hcakids.org.
Deadline for entries: January 31, 2011

5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14 15 16 17 18

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

26 27 28 29 30 31

St. Francis Xavier – December 3. In 1534 Francis Xavier joined the community of St. Ignatius of Loyola (the Society of Jesus). After his ordination in 1537, he sailed to Goa, India, to proclaim the Gospel. Today, his remains are enshrined in the Church of Good Jesus in Goa.

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar

Catholic Schools Week

Last year, Kim Zardet, HCA Coordinator in Allentown, Pennsylvania, brought a "mission spirit" to the annual celebration of Catholic Schools Week. She told us: "During Catholic Schools Week, I visited 11 schools, promoting the concept of solidarity. I ordered paper chains with a Catholic theme. At the end of each visit, I talked with the students about solidarity and suggested the school work as 'one family in mission' and complete a solidarity chain.

"The first school I visited – Holy Family School in Nazareth – enrolled more than 300 students," she continued. "The students created a solidarity chain that ran the entire length of their gym! The rest of the school visits also went very well!"

Each school hung their chains in special locations to remind students to pray and sacrifice for children around the world.



January

2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

St. John Neumann – January 5. Father John Neumann was a missionary in the Buffalo, New York, area before becoming bishop of Philadelphia in 1852. Canonized in 1977, he is buried in St. Peter the Apostle Church in Philadelphia.

1

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Visit our [website](#) to download an **Epiphany Prayer Service** and information for celebrating **Catholic Schools Week**.

9 10 11 12 13 14 15

16 17 18 19 20 21 22

23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30 31

Don't forget! The **deadline** for submitting entries to the annual **HCA Christmas Artwork Contest** is **January 31, 2011**.

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar

Mission Fair

Help to plan a mission fair at your parish church or school. Create different "activity stations" using materials featured on our website at:

www.onefamilyinmission.org/hca/hca-reproducibles.html

Serve international snacks, play international music, make crafts from around the world, or play games that children in the Missions might play. Invite missionaries from your area who may be home on a visit to participate in the fair. Ask students to pray a "living" World Mission Rosary:

www.worldmissionrosary.org

Fly Your Flags

Help children learn more about God's love for all people by using international flags. Order or make flags representing various countries in the Developing World. Go online to www.fides.org to find information about the work of the Church in those nations. Use the flags as a visual reminder to pray for children and missionaries in those countries.



February

2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16 17 18 19

20 21 22 23 24 25 26

27 28

St. Josephine Bakhita - February 8.
Born in the Darfur region of southern Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped at the age of seven, sold into slavery and given the name Bakhita, which means *fortunate*. Re-sold as a slave several times, she learned about the Catholic faith while serving as a nanny to an Italian family. Baptized and confirmed in 1890, she took the name Josephine, entering the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa in 1893. She was beatified in 1992, and canonized eight years later.

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar

Mission Scrapbook

Make a mission scrapbook to document your class, parish or school involvement with the Missions. Include maps, prayer cards, photos, postcards, letters, etc. Add foreign postage stamps and coins to represent mission countries your prayers and sacrifices have helped. Be sure to include information about how children have helped to support the missionary work of the Church and include quotes from them about what they find most interesting or important. When completed, be sure to display in a prominent area so that all members of the parish / school can enjoy the scrapbook.

Sharing Tree

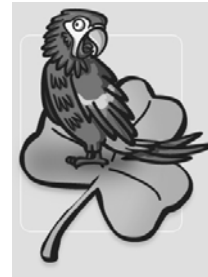
Have children draw tree trunks three-to-four-feet high on brown paper. Cut out hearts from pink construction paper, or ask students to trace their hands on construction paper. Then, ask the children to write on those hearts / hands what they will do for children in the Missions during Lent (pray, sacrifice, offer financial help, etc.). Tape the hearts / hands on the tree trunk to resemble leaves. Display your sharing tree during Sunday Mass or a school prayer service.



March

2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15 16 17 18 19

20 21 22 23 24 25 26

27 28 29 30 31

St. Dominic Savio – March 9. Born in Italy in 1842, Dominic entered the school run by St. John Bosco at the age of 12. He wanted to be a priest and helped St. John Bosco in his work with neglected boys. Sadly, Dominic died before realizing his dream. He was canonized in 1954.

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar

Extreme Makeover — HCA Style

How do you think the lives of children in the Missions would change if you could give the world an “HCA Extreme Makeover”? For a “sneak peek,” consider the story of these twin brothers from Madagascar.

When their father died, the twins’ mother brought them to a Church-run boarding school and feeding center. “They had nothing – no clothes or food,” said Sister Lucie, who runs the school / center on that African island nation. “The family had to beg to stay alive.”

The twins are just two of the some 100 children aged three to 15 who receive routine medical care and nutritious meals there. Children are also given shoes and school uniforms which all wear with great pride.

“Many of the children in this area of the country have little to no time to play,” Sister Lucie explained. “Most who are born to very poor families need to work as rice harvesters. Others have to beg to help to support their families.

“Without help from the Holy Childhood Association, we could not provide for these little ones,” she continued. “Our school is but a small drop of water in a large ocean of poverty. But, together – with the Lord’s help – we will make a difference.”



April

2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Remind students who are moving on to high school that they can continue to support the work of the Church in the Missions through the **Society for the Propagation of the Faith**.

Consider also getting a free subscription for your students to **MISSION** magazine so they can read about the heroic work of local priests, Religious Sisters and Brothers, and lay catechists in the Developing World:

www.missionmagazine.org.

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

10 11 12 13 14 15 16

17 18 19 20 21 22 23

24 25 26 27 28 29 30

St. Vincent Ferrer - April 5. Despite the opposition of his parents, Vincent entered the Dominican Order in his native Spain at the age of 19. Benedict spent the last 20 years of his life preaching the “Good News” throughout Europe.

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar

Fish Prayers

Cut out large fish shapes from colored construction paper and distribute to students. Invite them to write an original prayer on the fish for children of the world. Tack a fish net (available at craft stores) to a wall or bulletin board in your school, classroom or church, and let children put their "fish prayers" in the net. Create a banner to place above the prayers featuring the verse: "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19).



Switch Things Up!

Ask students to make homemade "buttons" by cutting out large round circles from colored construction paper. On these buttons, students should write their first names and list their heritage. Students can pin the buttons to their shirts with safety pins that you may provide. Change classroom or lunchroom seating assignments several times during the month to encourage students to get to know different people – and through those "meetings," the world!

May

2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Preparing students for First Holy Communion? Check the Holy Childhood Association's "Bread of Life" web module at www.hcakids.org; download activity sheets for all grades!

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

29 30 31

St. Damien of Molokai – May 10. In 1873, Father Damien was sent from his native Belgium to serve as a chaplain in the Molokai leper colony in Hawaii for a term of three months. After seeing the living conditions there, he volunteered to stay permanently. Father Damien was an effective advocate for those suffering with Hansen's Disease (leprosy), receiving much-needed support from the local government. He did contract the disease and died of its complications in 1889. He was beatified in 1995.

Holy Childhood Association Mission Education Calendar

The Spirit of Pentecost

After Jesus rose from the dead on the first Easter Sunday, He spent time with his Apostles, teaching them and praying with them. Then He ascended to His Father in heaven. This event in Jesus' life is called the **Ascension**. The Apostles were sad and afraid when Jesus went away. Ten days later though, the Holy Spirit came to them just as Jesus had promised. That day that the Holy Spirit came is called **Pentecost**. The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit appeared as "tongues of fire" above the heads of the Apostles. The Holy Spirit gave Jesus' friends the courage to be missionaries and to share His "Good News."

When we are baptized, we are filled with the Holy Spirit too. We become missionaries, responsible for sharing our faith with others. Later, when we receive Confirmation, we are filled with seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. These gifts give us strength to continue to tell everyone about Jesus – to continue Pentecost today.

Read: Acts 1:1-14 and Acts 2:1-41.

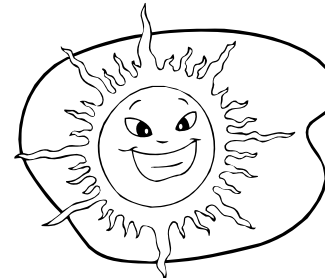
Discuss with children:

- Why do you think that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us?
- How did Jesus demonstrate His love when He sent the Holy Spirit?
- How can we let the Holy Spirit help us more fully?
- What are things the Holy Spirit can help us do?

June

2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14 15 16 17 18

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

26 27 28 29 30

St. Barnabas – June 11. When a Christian community developed at Antioch, Barnabas was sent as the official representative of the Church of Jerusalem to invite them to join. Later, he was sent with Paul to preach to the Gentiles. Barnabas dedicated his life to proclaiming the Gospel and inspired many to learn more about the faith.