



S S P X



in  
Mission

Foreign Mission Trust MAGAZINE



# Lift Up Your Eyes

“Our vocation is not go to reap in the fields of the mature crops; Jesus doesn’t tell us: ‘Lower your eyes, look at the fields and go and reap’. Our mission is more sublime still. Here are Jesus’ words: ‘Lift your eyes and see. See how in heaven there are empty places, He asks you to fill them. You are my praying Moses on the mountain; request workers of me, and I will send them. I only wait for a prayer, a sigh of your heart! The apostolate of prayer, is it not so to speak, higher than that of preaching? Our mission, as Carmelites, is one of forming evangelical workers that will save millions of souls whose mothers we will be.”

— *The Story of a Soul: The Autobiography of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux*



# Letter from the Publisher



Dear Readers,

Catholic missionary work has undergone a profound change since the Second Vatican Council. Ever since the Council, missionaries have prioritized natural issues over the conversion of souls. Implementing the principles of enculturation became one of the highest priorities and is considered the main way to show respect to souls in the missions.

Today, Catholic religious and lay associations are much more involved in secular concerns and integral human development than in preaching the Faith. In 2016, Pope Francis formed a Department for Promoting Integral Human Development in the Roman Curia to oversee numerous Catholic outreach programs fostered directly by the Vatican. These programs are much more involved in educating and assisting the poor economically than in direct conversion efforts. The word “proselytizing” now has a negative connotation.

With the Council’s emphasis on individual conscience, and on God’s all-embracing wish to save all souls, the importance of the true Faith and effective conversion have been lost.

Certain irregularities in past missionary work have to be rightly denounced. But it is unjust to assert that traditional missionary work summarily bears the imprint of an instrument of cultural imperialism or economic exploitation.

Restoring all things in Christ, we return to the true notion of missions: Baptism is the ordinary means to enter into the Church and the acceptance and practice of the true Faith is the means of salvation. The Catholic missionary lives up to the commandment of Christ: “Seek ye therefore first the kingdom of God, and His justice, and all these things shall be added unto you.” (Matthew 6:33)

In Christo,

Handwritten signature of Jürgen Wegner in blue ink.

Fr. Jürgen Wegner  
Publisher



S S P X

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# A South American Harvest



The district of South America is about 5,600 miles long (9,000 km), going from tropical Bogotá, in Colombia, to the glacial cold of Ushuaia, Argentina. Traversing six different countries in order to bring Our Lord to souls, we have little to envy the district of Asia!

## The Children of South America Need Your Help!

It is a common practice in the Society of Saint Pius X to devote many resources to the support of our schools. These are the seed beds for vocations and for Catholic families—the beginning of the solution to the tremendous crisis in the Church.

It is no different in our district, where we must give our unceasing financial and moral support to three schools: financial, because the expenses always exceed the income; moral, because we must fight against the abusive policies of our governments in matters of education.



## There's Still Much to Be Done

In the city of Cordoba, Argentina we had been planning to open a secondary school for boys, to protect the boys who graduated from the primary school of the Dominican sisters from the risk of losing their souls in pursuit of other educational “offers”. We purchased a 2.5 acre lot (which has not been paid off yet) in order to build some classrooms and a campus in which our boys could be educated in a traditional Catholic environment. This initiative came to fruition in March of 2017 when, with great effort, we opened the first classrooms as well as a field where they could play soccer and have gym class.

In the city of Moreno, about 43 miles (70 km) from the city of Buenos Aires, our School of the Infant Jesus (*Escuela del Niño Jesús*) has been left without a vehicle to transport the children. We are therefore no longer able to go on outings with the boarding students, nor provide transportation for other academic activities. Also, the 54 square foot classrooms have become too small so that we now need to build new ones. But we can't complain—eight years ago we only had five classrooms and six grades!

### Facts



### District of South America

The District of South America of the Fraternity of Saint Pius X was officially founded on November 27, 1977, after a memorable apostolic trip by Bishop Lefebvre to Latin America.

It currently covers the entire South American subcontinent and the Dominican Republic. It has a community of 45 priests and is made up of:

- The Headquarters of the District
- 10 priories
- 3 schools
- 1 house of spiritual retreats

Independent of the jurisdiction of the District but in close union in the apostolate, there are other works of the Fraternity and of the friendly communities:

- The Seminary of La Reja
- 1 convent and 1 novitiate of the Sisters of the SSPX
- 2 schools of the Dominican Mother Teachers

### Apostolates

- Summer camps
- ACSS
- Heart of Mary Crusade
- St. Andrew's Society
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Third order of St. Pius X

In the city of Mendoza we have only been able to start an elementary school thus far, but each day it becomes more urgent to continue the work by adding education up to the twelfth grade. The difficulties are sometimes insurmountable at the bureaucratic level, and are only resolved through the intercession of St. Joseph. To give an example, the State was about to obstruct the opening of our school: The priest in charge had no other recourse than to appear before the government authorities to request an extension. While he was waiting to be seen, a woman approached him and asked him where he was from. He told her he was from France, to which she replied with a smile that her son in law was also French. As the conversation ensued, they found out that they were not just from the same country, but hailed from the very same city in France. The woman turned out to be the director of schools, in charge of accepting or rejecting educational projects. Not too long after, we received the approval from the State.

### Intercession of Saint Joseph

The good Saint Joseph, to whom we always pray for our benefactors, has not abandoned his work during all these years. We are quite amazed at the different ways in which he works, making the current complex financial system look like child's play. If St. Joseph had to procure sustenance for the child Jesus, how can we not expect his help today, for these children whom the same Savior claimed as His? "Amen I say to you, as long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me." *Sancte Joseph, ora pro nobis!*

Father Pedro Roldán, in the Dominican Republic, first fruit of our school in La Reja.



The school of the Infant Jesus, in La Reja, Argentina



A blessing before the big match



Mass in the Andes Mountains





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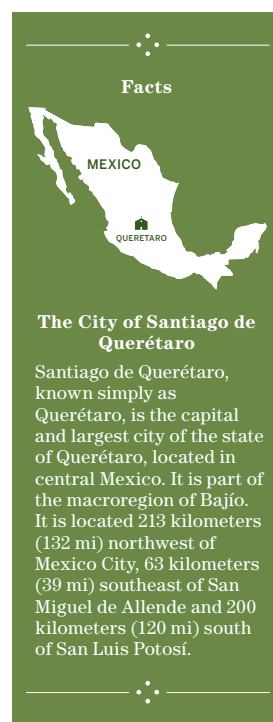
# An SSPX Mission for Querétaro

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The city of Santiago de Querétaro was founded in 1531, the same year as the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Its name comes from another apparition, that of Saint James the Greater, who appeared in the sky of Querétaro next to a white cross, thus allowing the conversion of the indigenous people of the region. The city is known for having in its downtown one of the first schools of the *Congregatio Propaganda Fide* in America, the school of the Holy Cross, where missionaries were trained to preach all over America. The best-known missionaries who studied there are probably two Franciscans: Brother Antonio Margil de Jesús, who traveled from Costa Rica to Texas, and Brother Junípero Serra, who evangelized all of California.

Today, after the devastating hurricane caused by the Second Vatican Council, the SSPX must re-evangelize this area that produced so many missionaries! A small group of 30 faithful, who arrived from the capital for work reasons, asked for our help in 2009, and as of 2011 the priests of the Mexico City priory have served the mission in Querétaro every month. Early on, Mass was celebrated in varied and picturesque places, for example, in houses or their attached gardens, in garages, party rooms, and also in schools, theaters, and even in a veterinary clinic! Little by little the group reached around 50 people, and since May of 2016 the faithful are visited by a priest every two weeks. This led to significant growth for the mission, which now numbers around 120 people, many of them children.

With this growth, it was necessary to leave the usual places and rent a larger piece of land with a shed. The faithful looked very eagerly for a place to buy and



# Mexico

in July of 2017 they were able to purchase a vacant lot of about 800 square meters. Everything needed to be refurbished in order to install a tent-chapel for 150-200 chairs—in the style of the ones used for priestly ordinations in several of our seminaries!—since the budget did not allow for more. However, a good quality tent was installed, with a small sacristy, a shed, bathrooms, and a beautiful garden. The only thing that we will continue to suffer from is the winter cold. Attending Mass in a temperature of 41°F is an interesting experience...

This is how the small Mission of Querétaro has become one of the largest in Mexico for the SSPX. There are Baptisms regularly, First Communions, catechism for children and adults, magnificent ceremonies accompanied by organ and hymns, and all this under the white canvas of a tent-chapel, hoping to one day build a church worthy of the missions built by our Brothers Antonio Margil de Jesus and Junípero Serra.






# Laborers of the Early Spring

*“There will be priests in the future the latchet of whose shoes the pioneers would not be worthy to loose...but even when gathering their golden sheaves, they may remember with profit those laborers of the early spring who sowed in tears that they might reap in joy.”* These words were written by a pioneer priest in Australia, a certain Fr. Gallagher, toward the end of his life as he reflected upon an epoch in the history of the Church in Australia that was, even then, passing away. Men such as himself had traveled for hundreds of miles seeking the scattered sheep in a vast country. In a land without roads, they had gone *“by bridle track”* from homestead to homestead and from frontier settlement to fledgling town. But by the end of Fr. Gallagher’s life, stone churches had already replaced dozens of wooden chapels, numerous schools had been established, and seminaries were training the second generation of native Australian clergy.

The movement for Catholic tradition has, in a very real sense, constituted a return to these pioneer days, not only in Australia, but in every part of the world. And just as in former days, so in our own days through much toil and sacrifice, the makeshift has slowly given place to the permanent while the infrequent and the irregular have become continuous and stable. But this transition is, without doubt, further advanced in certain parts of the world than in others. As a rule, the priests and religious featured in this publication, and the vocations found at Holy Cross, are still very much *“laborers of the early spring”*.

Facts



**Holy Cross Seminary,  
Goulburn, Australia**

– Currently, priests who have studied at Holy Cross are serving in the following countries:  
Australia, New Zealand, the United States, the Philippines, Kenya, Nigeria, Mexico, Ireland, and France

## Supporting Districts in Development

The seminarians and brothers who are formed at Holy Cross are, on the one hand, the fruits of the very apostolic efforts which are chronicled in these pages while, on the other hand, they are an important source of hope for the continuation and expansion of those efforts. The missionaries working in various parts of Asia and English-speaking Africa are waiting for the return and the assistance of the vocations which they have sent to Australia. These men will be of particular help due to their mastery of the native languages and their grasp of the cultural nuances particular to each region.

To prepare for their future work, seminarians are frequently sent overseas for part or all of their summertime apostolates. This year, a Kenyan, a Nigerian, and two Filipinos were sent outside of Australia to assist with summer camps, catechism

programs, and medical mission activities. Other seminarians remained closer to home assisting in camps sponsored by the seminary, assisting with the four retreats held at the seminary, and teaching in a Society school.

To assist in the promotion of vocations within the District which hosts the seminary, the seminarians travel to a parish at least once per year, usually in conjunction with a major feast day. During the last three years, the seminary has gone “on the road” to Tynong (Melbourne), Sydney, and Brisbane. The faithful profit from a conference on the priesthood or religious life while young people profit from the opportunity to see what seminarians and brothers look like “up close”. The seminary in turn hosts students from various boys’ schools within Australia for whom the possibility of a vocation will be far more “real” for having seen the seminary and experienced the life there for a brief time. Various other works to promote vocations are currently being explored by the sem-





inary in cooperation with the Australian District.

## Good-byes and New Faces

The seminary recently bid farewell to Fr. Christoph Pfluger after 11 years of teaching duties. Father finds himself in new, and colder mission territories in his new assignment in Canada. His duties have been taken up by a Canadian in the person of Fr. Robert MacPherson who brings experience both as a professor at the American seminary and as a former member of the Asian District. Another farewell was that which was bade to Mr. Desmond McDonnell who retired after 15 years of introducing Holy Cross seminarians to the joys of the Latin language and to the history of the Church. The seminarians were able to express their appreciation to their beloved “*magister*” at a luncheon held in his honor.

## Upcoming Works

Water is a precious commodity in the rural regions of New South Wales, and water tanks, situated to collect the run-off, dot the landscape of the Seminary’s grounds as well as the properties of neighboring ranchers. But the Seminary also suffers from the effects of too much water when heavy thunderstorms make their appearance. The roof leaks in several places—above the sacristy being the most infamous location. The seminary’s unpaved driveway also proves remarkably mobile when heavy rains carry away the gravel and carve out treacherous ruts. In the near future, the seminary hopes to undertake the first of several projects to waterproof the main building. An engineer has also been hired and has drawn up plans for re-grading the driveway and installing several drains to maintain the integrity of the driving surface. This improvement will be much appreciated by the seminary’s parishioners and should reduce the repairs required on the seminary’s vehicles! Another upcoming project will be the reinforcement of the rear wall of the main chapel which is slowly leaning away from where it ought to be! This work of reinforcement must be completed and the stabilization of the wall verified before the repairs to the sacristy’s leaking roof may be undertaken. We hope for the support of overseas benefactors to assist with these necessary works of restoration.

### Facts

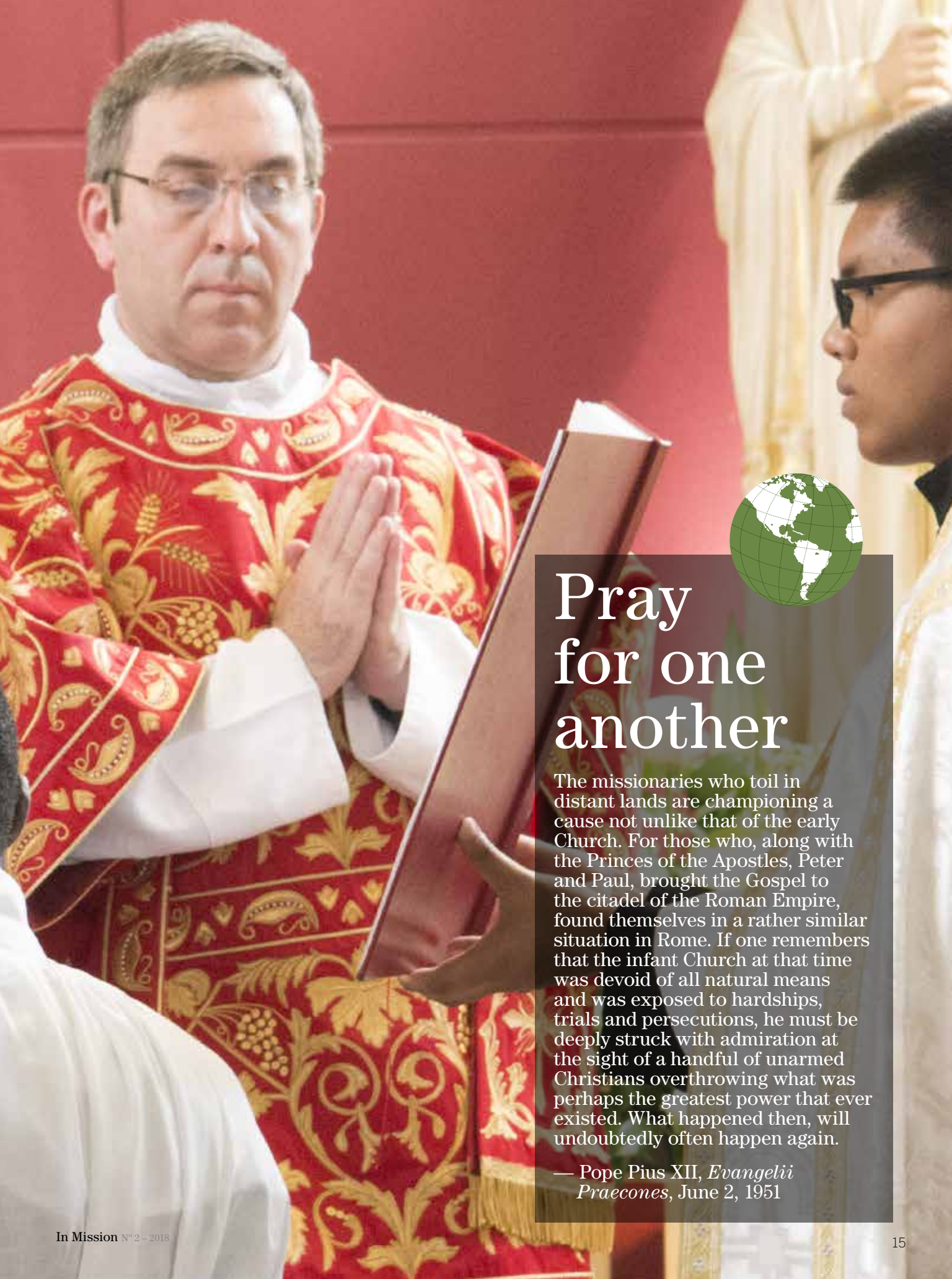


- Officially the Commonwealth of Australia, it includes the mainland of Australia, the island of Tasmania and numerous smaller islands.
- Australia is the sixth largest nation (in land mass) after Russia, Canada, China, the U.S. and Brazil.
- It is the only nation to govern a whole continent and its surrounding islands.
- Its population lives around the edges of the continent because the center is desert.
- Highway 1 is the world’s longest national highway, circumnavigating the entire country, about 9,000 miles.
- The top ten deadliest snakes can be found in Australia.
- The koala, an iconic Australian animal along with the kangaroo, sleeps up to 20 hours a day and spends the other 4 feeding on mainly eucalyptus leaves.

### Popular places to visit in Australia

- Sydney
- Great Barrier Reef – 1430 miles long, it’s the largest coral reef system in the world
- Pink Lake – near Dimboola in Victoria, this pink lake gets its color from microscopic algae found in the water





# Pray for one another

The missionaries who toil in distant lands are championing a cause not unlike that of the early Church. For those who, along with the Princes of the Apostles, Peter and Paul, brought the Gospel to the citadel of the Roman Empire, found themselves in a rather similar situation in Rome. If one remembers that the infant Church at that time was devoid of all natural means and was exposed to hardships, trials and persecutions, he must be deeply struck with admiration at the sight of a handful of unarmed Christians overthrowing what was perhaps the greatest power that ever existed. What happened then, will undoubtedly often happen again.

— Pope Pius XII, *Evangelii Praecones*, June 2, 1951

# Missionaries in an Island Paradise

## Facts



- Rotuma is a volcanic island which covers approximately 43 sq. kilometers, located approximately 465 kilometers north of Fiji.
- Although the island has been politically part of Fiji since 1881, the Rotuman culture more closely resembles that of the Polynesian islands to the east, most noticeably Tonga, Samoa, Futuna and Uvea.

Rotuma is an island which captured the imagination of the early explorers of the Pacific Ocean. Although rather small—13 kilometers long and 4 kilometres wide—and also quite isolated, the early explorers, nonetheless, were charmed by its natural beauty and the primitive simplicity of its inhabitants.

*“On the 17th April, 1772, the French Vessel ‘La Coquille’ left its difficult current course to embark on the long return leg towards the central Pacific. On the 1st May, the ship faced technical problems on the island of Rotuma. The navigators literally fell under the charm of the island’s inhabitants—beautiful, intelligent, soft-spoken people, happy and welcoming...in a state of primitive simplicity which was presented by the Tahitians to the first navigators...They dyed their bodies in yellow and red, and wore their hair long and down to their shoulders. Their arms were presently tattooed with little specs regularly spaced out, and their thighs were covered in lines tightly knotted together, which gave an extremely dark complexion.—“The Tefui Monthly,” March 15, 2004*

The Catholic missionaries were hard on the heels of these early explorers. In 1835, Pope Gregory XVI established the Vicariate Apostolic of Western Oceania to which Rotuma belonged so as to evangelize this vast territory. Jean-Baptiste Francois Pompallier, who belonged to the Society of Mary, was consecrated a bishop in 1836 in order to govern the missionary activities within this territory.

Fathers Pierre Verne S.M and Gregoire S.M were the first Catholic mis-





missionaries to arrive at Rotuma in 1846. *“Look at your map”, writes Fr. Verne to his superior, “Off Oceania by twelve degrees longitude and find a pretty little island called Rotuma which has 6,000 inhabitants and is still buried in the shadows of paganism. Here is the field that divine Providence has assigned me. Although they are pagans, the Rotumans are eagerly waiting for Catholic missionaries. The king has just refused two months ago heretical ministers who wanted to settle there, telling them that they wanted to become Catholics. Everything augurs well for us in this mission station which the bishop has put under the patronage of Our Lady of Peace. Above all, please do not forget this mission station in your good prayers...”*

The priests of the Society of Saint Pius X continue the missionary work which the French Marists had begun in the 1840's. When the priests of the Society of Saint Pius X travel to Rotuma, they are welcomed into the house of Visone Motofaga Tausia and his wife (where the Mass is celebrated) and are looked after by Suahili Henry and his wife.

For several years now, the Society of Saint Pius X has been ministering to a very robust group of traditional Catholics on the island of Rotuma. Like many others, they sense the crisis of faith which the Catholic Church is presently undergoing and have attached themselves to the traditions of the Catholic Church, and most especially to the Tridentine Rite of the Mass with which the French missionaries had sown the seed of faith and with which their forefathers had worshiped God. Fr Bélisle had commandeered an architect to draw up plans for the building of a chapel and an adjacent unit for the visiting priest to stay in. Mr. Sauhili has arranged, together with his tribe and family, for a



### Facts



- The vast majority of households in Rotuma maintain gardens which supply their staples (taro, yams, tapioca, breadfruit and bananas). Pineapples, papaya, mangoes, watermelon and oranges are also grown in abundance to supplement the diet.
- Although only a few men engage in deep-sea fishing, the fringing reef that surrounds the island is widely exploited for a variety of fish, octopus, crustaceans, and edible seaweed.
- Rotumans are a gentle people; violence is extremely rare and serious crime is nearly nonexistent.
- The Rotuman people today are almost all committed Christians, with Methodism, Catholicism, Seventh Day Adventism, and Jehovah's Witnesses represented on the island.
- Christianity in Rotuma overlays an age-old set of beliefs implicating spirits of various kinds.

## Catholicism in Rotuma

In 1846 a French warship brought Fr. Pierre Verne to Rotuma, and after saying Mass on Christmas Day, he settled on the south side of the island, at Fag'uta. Verne managed to gain a few converts, including a young chief named Uafta, who was sent to Rome and Paris for about five years before returning to Rotuma. He learned to speak French fluently and played an instrumental role in establishing Catholicism on the island. In 1853, the priests left Rotuma, with about 30 Rotumans, due to persecution of their converts by non-Christian chiefs. The French did not return until 1868, when Frs. Dezest and Trouillet arrived from Futuna with the Rotumans who had left in 1853. They were well received on Rotuma by Chief Riamkau of Fag'uta.

The tomb of Fr. Dezest, the French priest who arrived in Rotuma in 1868.

plot of land to be set aside for this purpose. With the support of the Society of Saint Pius X, men belonging to the Rotuman mission, some of whom are carpenters, are ready to build a chapel according the plans which have been drawn up.

We kindly ask that in your generosity you consider how you might help the Society of Saint Pius X to further these efforts to continue the missionary work of the French Missionaries who spent their lives working to extend the Kingdom of Heaven even to the farthest ends of the world.

The building of this chapel consists of two stages. For the first stage, approximately 13,000 Australian dollars is needed to purchase materials in Fiji and ship them across to Rotuma. The second stage consists of fitting the chapel with the necessary furnishings and amenities. With your help, we hope to get the first stage underway by the beginning of next year.



Maybe one of these young men would like to be a priest!

The plot of land set aside for the new chapel on the island of Rotuma.



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# Mary's Mission Tour

A 1,200 km foot pilgrimage across the Philippines

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## Mindanao

The great Mary's Mission Tour apostolate toured Mindanao from South to North from October 28, 2016 through Feb. 6, 2017, during which 16,165 souls were joined to the *Militia Immaculatae*. Of this impressive number, 10,308 were students.

During follow-up work and subsequent Missions in Mindanao between February and September of 2017, 974 *Militia Immaculatae* members from Mary's Mission Tour have been visited along the Mission trail. At a second Mission, 198 of these initial members participated in a renewal ceremony, while 500 additional members were enrolled in Mary's army. Meanwhile, about 1,000 *Militia Immaculatae* members in five schools were visited and reminded of their obligations. This on-going work will no doubt yield much fruit, especially since the follow-up work is only beginning in the Northern parts of Mary's Mission Trail under the jurisdiction of the two other Philippine Pories.

If 2,000 (or 12%) of the 16,000 *Militia Immaculatae* members enrolled during Mary's Mission tour in Mindanao have been visited in the seven months since the conclusion of the mission, then it will take 4 more years to visit and consolidate the 3 months of work and 940 km of Marys Mission tour in Mindanao. Only Our Lady can foresee the fruits that this work may bring. More laborers are certainly necessary in the harvest field!

## Panay

The statue of the Pilgrim Virgin reached Iloilo a few days prior to the consecration of the church of the brothers' novitiate on May 13th. On May 16th, Mary's Mission Tour left St. Bernard's to start her mission through the island of Panay, to the northern port of Caticlan, 170km away. Escorted by the Brothers, she arrived on the 31st of May and crossed to the island of Luzon.



Facts



**Final Figures for Mary's Mission Tour**

- Attendance at a Conference on the *Militia Immaculatae*: 57,406
- New MIs enrolled in the *Militia Immaculatae*: 48,104
  - In Schools: 29,657
  - On Mission Trail: 18,447
- Enrollment in the Brown Scapulars: 95,743
- Attendance at Mass by non-Faithful: 13,000.
- Consecration of Cities, Towns, local Government bodies: 157
- Consecration of Schools: 53
- Consecration of businesses: 34

## Luzon

A few of our faithful from Manila came to welcome the statue that reached the island of Luzon through the port of Batangas, on May 31st. The port officers welcomed the Mission Tour and Mass was celebrated in their office followed by the consecration of their sector to Our Lady. The pilgrims slept in the customs facility. News of the tour spread and the General Manager came over to consecrate all the port facilities to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

In Batangas, the Governor wanted to do the consecration to Our Lady but was absent on that day. The head of the Human Resources there, who was an ex-priest, objected to the consecration. A 6+ magnitude earthquake hit Batangas within days of this unfortunate occurrence...

The Province of Laguna and of Rizal were consecrated and Our Lady was welcomed with a band. In some other places, due to the pressure of the local clergy, the Mission Tour was rejected.

Finally, the statue arrived in Manila and had wonderful success in the schools. In one day, they were able to enroll 4,000 new *Militia Immaculatae* members in just one school. To crown Our Lady's visit, Manila City itself was consecrated by the Mayor, former President Estrada.

The pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima eventually reached Our Lady of Victories Church on June 23rd, 2017. For the parish itself, as a preparation for its consecration, Fr. Stehlin preached a Marian Retreat from July 3-8. Then, following the example of St. John Mary Vianney, the names of our parishioners were written and placed in a golden heart and Our Lady of Victories Parish was consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on July 9th, 2017. The following Tuesday, when all the priests had returned from their missions, the Priory and all its mission centers were also consecrated to the Immaculate Heart.





## Towards Baguio

On the very day chosen for the pilgrim statue to leave Our Lady of Victories Church (July 24th), a typhoon hit the capital. Some wondered whether we should go as planned. The water level had risen on the roads, but our faithful went though. The weather did not prevent our 40 brave pilgrims from walking through the wind and rain for the final stage of Mary's Mission Tour—from Metro Manila to La Trinidad, Benguet. In fact, when they were in Bulacan that afternoon, the flood waters had already risen above their knees! Yet, the pilgrims continued against all odds. The place set for the Mass was flooded almost up to the sanctuary. Even rats and snakes went in to find refuge!

As in the south, the local clergy had a mixed reaction towards us. The dioceses of Pampanga, Dagupan, and Urdaneta received us. In fact, Fr. Ghela, Fr. Saa and Fr. Fortin were allowed to celebrate our Mass in some of the local parish churches. The diocese of Baguio, however, would not have anything to do with us. Nevertheless, when the churches were closed, it is then that the local government offices were open to receive Our Lady's statue and our pilgrims! It is quite a paradox that the majority of local bishops and priests refused to receive Our Lady while the local government officials, some of whom were active Freemasons, were the ones who received Our Lady and consecrated their local governments to her Immaculate Heart.

It took a long uphill climb to get to Baguio, but our pilgrims were keeping their eyes on the finish line. Three priests were able to join us at that stage of the journey. Scapulars and miraculous medals were distributed in the city for the two days spent in Baguio and Trinidad.

And so, after almost 9 months of pilgrimage



and walking 2500 kms, the pilgrim statue finally returned to Quezon City. On August 12th, 300 faithful of Our Lady of Victories parish met the pilgrim statue at Quezon Memorial Circle. A giant balloon rosary was released and parishioners and pilgrims walked the last 6 kms back to the church. That evening, a musical production entitled "A Mother's Heart" was performed by our parishioners at Teatrino Theater for an audience of around 450 persons, mostly non-parishioners. The following day, August 13th, a Mass of thanksgiving was offered by Fr. Ghela for the successful culmination of Mary's Mission Tour.



# Asian Vocations

His Excellency Bishop Tissier de Mallerais traveled to Goulburn (Australia) for the annual ordination ceremony at Holy Cross Seminary on the feast of the Assumption. He conferred the minor orders of porter and lector on Mr. Daniel Yagan and Mr. Cyril Alolaya of the Philippines as well as Mr. Joseph Manyeki of Kenya.

Three seminarians, including Pius Kim of South Korea, entered the clerical state through tonsure.

Bishop Tissier, in his sermon, spoke of the privileges of Our Lady and the need for the ordinands to make reparation for the crimes against the Immaculate Heart and to fight on her behalf against her enemies.

On September 15th, Sr. Alma Marie renewed her engagement for 1 year and Sr. Maria Rosario renewed hers for 3 years. As of this great Feast of the SSPX Oblates, the Bethany Novitiate counts 4 Oblates, 4 postulants, 1 pre-postulant, and 1 pre-postulant for the Society Sisters. May the Lord grant us many more holy religious vocations.





In the meantime, the essential work of forming young men to the religious life as Brothers, and also for preparing some for the priesthood continues. We now have seven of our candidates for the priesthood in the Holy Cross Seminary in Australia. Here, in St. Bernard, we have five professed Brothers, two Novices, who took their first vows on the feast of St. Michael (September 29th), and another nine men are preparing for the religious life or the priesthood. Among these we have our first Koreans (five) and Chinese candidates (two). Another Korean pre-seminarian, Vincenzo, is scheduled to come in December.



Three seminarians entered the clerical state through tonsure.



Consoling Sisters of the Sacred Heart from India visit Ecône.

Facts



The Asian Mission Field

*These are lands watered with the blood of martyrs...*

- 650 Martyrs of Mannar, Sri Lanka
- 26 Martyrs of Nagasaki, Japan
- 103 Korean Martyrs
- St. Theophane Venard
- St. Lorenzo Ruiz of Manila

*...toiled by saints and multitudes of missionaries...*

- St. Thomas, Apostle
- St. Francis Xavier, patron saint of missionaries
- St. Maximilian Kolbe
- Bl. Maria Assunta Pallotta

*...and visited by pilgrims...*

- Basilica and Tomb of St. Thomas, India
- Basilica of Bom Jesus and Tomb of St. Francis Xavier, India
- 26 Martyrs Monument, Japan
- Our Lady of La Vang, Vietnam
- Our Lady of Akita, Japan

*...this is the harvest field of our SSPX missionaries in Asia.*



# Small Miracles

Two Ilonggo novices, after the required period of one year plus one day, pronounced their first vows on the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, the patron of the brothers of the Society. One other brother renewed his vows on that day as well. While we are thankful to God for these vocations, greater numbers mean greater costs for our novitiate. Thanks to the farm of St. Bernard, we are able to feed these hungry mouths from the produce...at least to some degree. After the stress of our church construction, and with our growing numbers, our faithful car lost its faith...and died! We have been forced to buy a new one...but with no money. Sometimes we receive miracles, sometimes we simply end up in debt! I would like to affirm the first, but alas, I must confess the second. Perhaps you could be part of a small miracle so we can pay it all back? We would be most grateful.







# Reaching Bethlehem by a Stony Path



**Facts**

**The Mission in Figures**

- 1 Priory
- 10 Chapels
- 1 School
- 2 Orphanages
- 2 Convents

Allow me to relate a personal story. A few years ago, a good and kindly mother gave birth to a baby girl. The mother passed away during childbirth, but her baby survived. With the mother gone, the father was not prepared for the responsibility of raising a child on his own. He took his new baby girl and gave the child to another family. After 10 years, the adoptive parents fell on hard times. With little money and poor health, they could no longer afford to look after the girl.

So what happened, you ask? The little girl knocked on our door. We took this child into the care of our orphanage. A few years later, her adoptive parents, the only mother and father she knew on this earth, passed away. What occurred in the heart of this poor child when she discovered the news of her parent's death was unimaginable. In only ten short years, her biological father had abandoned her and her adoptive parents had forsaken her.

This innocent child was left all alone in this world. We could justifiably ask: "Why did God abandon this soul?"

First, let us remember that the evil we experience in this world is not created—or caused—by God. While on earth, Jesus comforted his friends with these words: "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). Nothing can change the fact that we are fallen creatures living in a fallen world. Most of the evil we experience is caused by



man—not by God. Even Christ suffered while He was on Earth and He died a horrific death on the Cross.

God did not abandon this little girl any more than He abandoned His only-Begotten Son.

Following a recent retreat at our orphanage, this girl, now some years older, has chosen God as her Father. On the feast of St. Thérèse, I had the honor of giving her the saving grace of Baptism. God saw fit to adopt this child as His own. This time, no one can separate her from Him (Cf. Romans 8:28).

The Eternal Father in heaven, who can never pass away, devised a special road map for the soul of this girl. In His infinite wisdom, He desired that she reach Bethlehem by means of a stony path, filled with emotional suffering.

Before I close, allow me to personally share my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for your continued donations. Every dollar you provide allows us to carry on this holy apostolate in India. It is my wish that I could personally thank each and every one of you for your unending generosity. But I cannot. All I can do is repay you with my prayers—and by offering the Holy Mass—for you and your loved ones. Remember, also, my dear benefactors, what Proverbs says about giving to the poor:

“Whoever is generous to the poor, lends to the Lord, and He will repay him for his deed...” (Proverbs 19:17)

“One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.” (Proverbs 11:24-25)

In Christo,  
Fr. Therasian Babu



#### The Mission on a Map



Fr. Therasian is an Indian priest, ordained at Winona in 2011. Since his ordination, he was stationed in India. In 2015, he was made prior. This little community has 3 priests total: Fr. Therasian Babu, Fr. John Hatrup, and Fr. Tyler Nelson

#### Major projects

We need a proper school building for our growing school. Veritas Academy was started by Fr. Patrick Summers, an American, in 2005. We are currently in a rental property and need our own school so that we will not be constantly shifting places.

A community of 7 sisters are also nested up in a small rental house. Their semi-contemplative vocation is seriously disturbed by the noise of the city. We would like to build a proper convent for them in the countryside.

#### Minor projects

Maintaining the school is a great challenge. As you know, 98% of the children at the school are orphans and the de-facto father of these little ones is the SSPX prior! We heavily rely on the generosity of our benefactors.

# Lithuania and the Work of Catholic Tradition

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Facts



- Lithuania is the southernmost country of Europe's Baltic states, a former Soviet bloc nation bordering Poland, Latvia and Belarus.
- 77.2% of Lithuanians belong to the Roman Catholic Church. The Church has been the majority denomination since the Christianisation of Lithuania at the end of the 14th century.

## The SSPX's Missionary Work in Lithuania

According to the heart and mind of Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, the SSPX goes in missions to those souls who sincerely call on its priests for spiritual help in this time of bewildering confusion and crisis in the Catholic Church. After years of repression and suffering, the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, and Lithuania's national independence, a handful of Lithuanians contacted the Society and asked us to come and assist the faithful to rebuild Catholic Tradition in this tiny ravaged and formerly atheistic country.

Lithuania is a predominantly Catholic country. Therefore, after some initial visits from our priests, a Lithuanian Cardinal, Vincentas Sladkevicius, who was consecrated a bishop by Blessed Teofilus Matulonis and who clearly saw the western modernism creeping into Lithuania, said to a group of religious sisters, "When the Society of Saint Pius X comes you must join them. They will restore the Church in Lithuania." He strongly encouraged these sisters to attend the Masses of our priests. Knowing that this was a very holy and faithful prelate of the Church, we were greatly encouraged in our missionary endeavor to help the Lithuanian people keep the Faith and rediscover Tradition.

Certainly, it would be, and still is, a work of mercy. This is because most of the faithful in Lithuania are quite impoverished, and so the mission here significantly depends on donations from more developed SSPX missions abroad. The SSPX is a spiritual family, and it is tremendously edifying to see the more



developed missions helping the developing missions all over the world. We are truly thankful to all who have contributed to the Lithuanian mission and beg you for your continued support.

## Laying the Foundations of a Mission

SSPX missionaries first came to Lithuania in 1995. With a very limited number of priests, they did their best to lay the foundations of an apostolic mission in an almost stupefied land waking up from a communist coma. Of course, there were many difficulties. Firstly, the mission was originally served from the priory in Warsaw (1994-2002). Priests stationed there had to travel from Poland to the cities of Vilnius and Kaunas in order to give conferences, retreats, and offer Holy Mass. After 7 years of this kind of sacrificial work, we began to see some fruit in 2002. Our first Lithuanian vocation was ordained a priest for the Society of Saint Pius in that year (Fr. Edmundas Naujokaitis). He was an immense help to our mission because he knew the terrain, mentality, and the language. He was our only Lithuanian priest and our missionaries are very thankful for his assistance.

In June of 2002, the General Superior decided to establish a priory in Kaunas, the second largest city in Lithuania, in order to facilitate and expand the mission. During the following years, the Society developed mission centers in 3 important Lithuanian cities: Kaunas, Vilnius, and Šiauliai. Numerous contacts were also made with bishops, priests, religious and individuals in at least 5 other cities over the years.

From the beginning, we began to print books, leaflets, and tracts in the Lithuanian language. We needed to educate the people about the crisis in the Church and Tradition because they knew so very little, but our educational efforts had to be in their language. Lithuanian Catholics had been almost completely cut off from the West for decades and knew so little! We began to offer regular Ignatian retreats and pilgrimages to strengthen the faithful interested in Tradition. We also began publishing a serious journal along with an internet apostolate. All of these resources have helped to strengthen the work of the SSPX mission in Lithuania.



The priory in Kaunas, Lithuania.



Fr. Edmundas Naujokaitis, ordained for the Society in 2002.

The priory in Šiauliai, Lithuania.

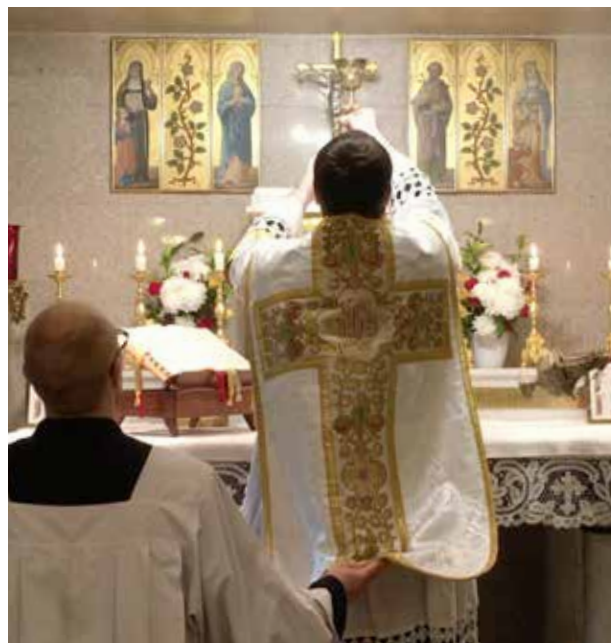


## A Priory According to the Spirit of Archbishop Lefebvre

A new priory was purchased in April 2004, but much the construction still needed to be finished. After an enormous amount of work, the new priory in Kaunas was finished in 2009. It is a wonderful building, which enables our priests to live the common life that our Founder Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre insisted upon. The word “priory” comes from the French language and means “a little monastery”. SSPX priories must be like small monasteries where our priests, brothers, and sisters can live a quasi-monastic life. It must be a place of silence, prayer, and recollection. It is a religious house, where the priests can return from their missions and spiritually rejuvenate themselves. Currently, three priests reside in Kaunas, and the priory coordinates the SSPX apostolates in Lithuania, Belarus, and Russia. This arrangement means a lot of difficult traveling for our priests, making our priory and our common life together even more important.

## Spiritually Reaching Out to Lithuania

We would have to admit that our mission in Lithuania has in fact been a little “slow going” over the years if we were to simply look at the number of faithful. But is a mission merely about the quantity of faithful? As one of the saints said, “one soul is a Diocese.” Truly our mission must to be seen as a work of mercy. This mission, in a former soviet and atheistic state, requires great patience and charity. Our mission here not only involves bringing the Traditional Faith, Mass, and Sacraments, it also requires a tremendous amount of basic and fundamental Catholic formation in souls. Our missionaries are constantly astounded at how effective the soviets were in eradicating religion within their society and its people. Our work here therefore requires helping the Lithuanian people almost, as it were, spiritually recover from decades of irreligion, forced atheism, and militant communism. This recovery takes time. Now, the new enemies of consumerism and liberalism have entered Lithuania and present us with new



challenges. Another difficulty we face is that Catholics in Lithuania are very attached to their clergy and hierarchy and cannot bring themselves to “disobey” and follow the SSPX “sect”. Yes, many accuse us of being a sect! We have to remember that it was the priests and bishops who were the people’s strength during the Soviet times, and so they think that it is impossible to resist them now and follow us. Unfortunately, modernism is rapidly entering Lithuania and the Catholics are drinking it in like poisoned water. Our mission, therefore, is to patiently warn them about the errors and dangers of this incoming modernism, teach the Faith and Traditions of the Church while giving a holy example of Traditional Catholic living. Please be a part of our mission and help us with your prayers and material support!—Fr. Shane Pezzutti



Confirmations with Bishop Tissier de Mallerai in 2017.

Erecting a Statue of St. Casimir.

Procession on Easter Sunday.

Holy Mass in the chapel in Vilnius.

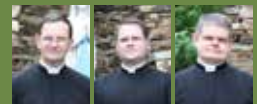
### The Mission on a Map



### The Mission in Figures

- 3 priests
- 3 Mass centers

### The missionaries



- Fr. Werner Boesiger  
Swiss; ordained in  
Écône, 1988
- Fr. Shane Pezzutti  
American, ordained in  
Winona, 2010
- Fr. Edmundas Naujokaitis  
Lithuanian; ordained in  
Zaitzkoffen, 2002

### Mission Facts

- SSPX mission in  
Lithuania officially began  
in 1995 under guidance of  
Fr. Karl Stehlin
- SSPX mission in  
Lithuania currently has  
3 chapels in Kaunas,  
Vilnius, and Šiauliai
- Our missionaries in  
Lithuania must learn the  
Lithuanian language.
- Our missionaries in  
Russia must learn the  
Russian language.

Society of Saint Pius X



S S P X

The Society of St. Pius X is an international priestly society of common life without vows, whose purpose is the priesthood and that which pertains to it.

The main goal of the Priestly Society of Saint Pius X is to preserve the Catholic Faith in its fullness and purity, to teach its truths, and to diffuse its virtues. Authentic spiritual life, the sacraments, and the traditional liturgy are its primary means of bringing this life of grace to souls.

Faithful to the words of Our Lord—“Going therefore, teach ye all nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost”—the Society of Saint Pius X strives to bring the Gospel and Tradition to souls around the world. As a lifelong missionary, Archbishop Lefebvre passed on this charism to the Society. This magazine aims to both inform souls about the work of the missions and how they can be helped.