

Society of Saint Pius X



S S P X



# The Missions

Foreign Mission Trust **MAGAZINE**



# Holy Communion

“It is necessary that children be nourished by Christ before they are dominated by their passions, so they can with greater courage resist the assaults of the devil, of the flesh, and their other enemies, whether internal or external.”

—Pope St. Pius X

Photo of first communicants at Our Lady of Sorrows in Roodeport, South Africa



# Letter from the Publisher



Dear Faithful,

It is with great pleasure that, as the new District Superior, I am prefacing the magazine dedicated to the Foreign Mission Trust. America, a pioneer-spirited country, has always helped the effort of mission work, both physically and spiritually. Countless missionaries have crossed the deserts and mountains of their own continent itself, as its vast expanse made it a huge mission field. At a later period, American-born priests, brothers and sisters, went afar off crossing the oceans in search of souls who had been created and redeemed by Our Lord.

The natives throughout the world have always felt astonishment, attraction, and love for these elites of humanity who came to visit them in their sheds and huts and jungle, leaving behind mansions, castles and affluent cities. "What do you see in us that draws you to want to share our rough life with us, uneducated and illiterate people, who live in the fringe of society, plunged in misery both material and spiritual?" And the answer is always the same: "What brings me to share your life, your joys and your woes, is Jesus Christ who sent me to you: "He who hears you hears Me." It is Jesus Christ who wants to come to your soul and make you a child of God through His grace and His Church. It is Jesus Christ who speaks through my mouth and says: "I am offering you the life of God within you now, and eternal happiness hereafter."

"Jesus Christ, yesterday, today and forever," said St. Paul (Heb. 13:8). The faith of all times urges us on to preach to all nations and continue the tradition of all times and the American tradition of helping souls thirsty for God's words. Souls yearn for the word of truth and hope and divine charity over and above the bread or rice which we can offer them also. This divine word is the real liberator of souls and cities and peoples. Let nations recognize the Savior of humanity in Christ crucified and risen from the dead, and all other problems will fade away and snow in summer. Let the Pater be on the lips of the whole earth: "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

In Christo,

Fr. John Fullerton  
Publisher



S S P X

## How to help the Foreign Missions:

Please make out checks or money orders in US dollars only to: "Society of Saint Pius X Foreign Mission Trust" The mailing address is:

Society of Saint Pius X Foreign Mission Trust  
PO Box 206  
Farley, MO 64028

- Please do not send cash since this is against US Postal Regulations. Please call (816) 753-0073 to discuss the donation of securities or precious metals.
- Important note concerning the direction of donations and tax deductions: If you wish your donation to be used for a particular foreign mission, or even a specific project, please specify this in an accompanying note and do not write anything on the check. The Trustees normally honor such donor requests, but it must be clear that, in order to be eligible for a tax deduction, each donation must be entirely at the disposal of the Trust to use as it sees fit for the foreign missions in general.

### Contents

Letter from the Publisher	4
Fiji	
—First Impressions	6
Sri Lanka	
—Saint Philomena, the Wonder Woman	12

# The Missions


Foreign Mission Trust **MAGAZINE**

Publication office is located at  
PO Box 217, St. Marys, KS 66536  
PH (816) 753-3150; FAX (816) 753-3557

©2020 BY THE SOCIETY OF SAINT PIUS X FOREIGN MISSION TRUST.  
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PRIESTLY SOCIETY OF SAINT PIUS X  
FOR THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

# First Impressions

Facts



**Fiji Islands**

- Fiji consists of 333 islands, about 110 of which are inhabited.
- The two major islands, Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, account for 87% of the population of almost 883,000.
- The capital, Suva on Viti Levu, serves as Fiji's principal port. About three-quarters of Fijians live on Viti Levu's coasts.
- Fiji's total land mass is slightly smaller than the state of New Jersey.

I am a Benedictine monk of Our Lady of Guadalupe Monastery in Silver City, New Mexico, in the United States. Since I am staying for a time in Sydney, Australia, Fr. Fullerton, the District Superior, asked if I would be interested in visiting the Fiji missions. I am so very glad that I took this opportunity and was able to experience firsthand the important work that the SSPX has been doing in these mission countries.

The thing that strikes you most when you fly to the Fiji islands for the first time is the absolute beauty of God's creation: the blue, clear water, the pure white sandy beaches, the lush green of the diverse landscape, the mountains and hills. It makes one's mind flash back to the very beginning, "And the Lord God planted a garden of paradise in which he placed man whom he had formed" (Gen. 2:8). All things in Fiji seem to speak of the beauty, greatness, and love of Our Father who created all these for His glory and to raise our minds to the contemplation of Him.

## Rotuma

Rotuma is a little island located approximately 300 miles to the north of Vanua Levu, Fiji's 2nd largest island. This island is completely isolated and depends on the mainland of Fiji for many of its supplies. When I arrived the ship had not been able to come for some time due to inclement weather. The supplies were low, especially the fuel which was necessary to run the generators to supply the little electricity they have—electricity which is needed to pump the water from the well, the island's main water source. This island



only has one incoming flight per week and so the arrival tends to be somewhat of a social gathering as well. There are seven villages on the island of Rotuma, each with their own chief.

There are about 2,000 souls living on the island and most are either Catholic or Methodists. The French Marist Fathers were the first Catholic missionaries to arrive in Oceania (the geographic region that includes Australasia, Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia) and they arrived in Fiji on August 1, 1844 in Namuka, Lau. The priests eventually arrived in Rotuma in 1846. Education was important to the Marists so they went about establishing schools, built churches, and taught people about the Faith. They also taught the native people skills such as carpentry and masonry work. The first religious sisters arrived in 1882. These sisters belonged to the Third Order Regular of Mary, known later as the Sisters of the Society of Mary.

I stayed in Rotuma for a week saying Mass and giving daily catechism and sermons to the community of 30 souls. They were so happy to have the priest among them and so eager to hear



the truths of the Faith. For now, we are only able to bring the sacraments to this mission twice a year. Occasionally, a local would wander in who just happened to be passing by and he would come in and listen to the sermon or catechism. It seemed that if there were a dedicated priest here with these people there would be great fruit for the glory of God. These native people, with their simple, poor lives are a field ripe for the harvest. We see witness to this fruitfulness in the mission and church of Our Lady of Victory, situated between the villages of Juju and Pepjei. The older folk remember the zeal of the missionaries who labored for their souls. They recall the organization and order with which the mission functioned, educating youth and old alike. I was told that there was a rumor that the Marist Fathers will no longer be coming to the island, even on periodic visits. How things have changed!

## Suva and Nakavu

Suva was the next mission I visited. It is situated on the main island of Fiji, Viti Levu, on the southeast corner. It is the largest of the three missions, having 40 to 50 parishioners. For now, we are able to bring the sacraments to Suva and Nakavu every two months. As I mentioned before, the people here do not have much money. However, if you were to ask them to bring their offerings in other forms, I am sure you would have an abundance of fish, chicken, fruits and vegetables! One thing that struck me in these missions is the gusto and enthusiasm with which everyone sings. In most parishes that I have visited in my travels there is singing, yes—but not like this. Everyone sings and everyone sings loudly. I taped the singing of their version of “Immaculate Mary” and you could hear, among them all, one little child singing with all his heart and soul. It was so beautiful!



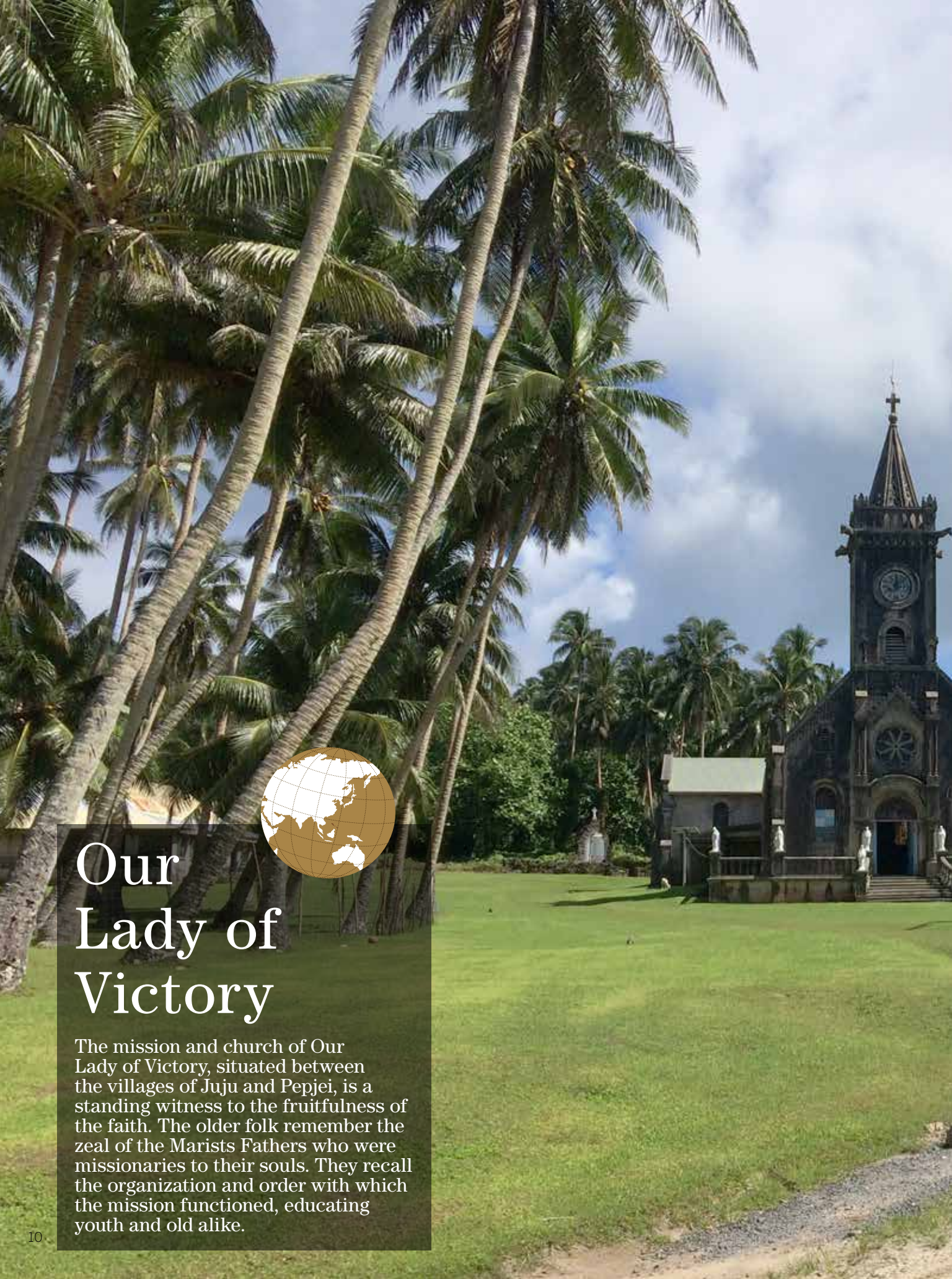




In the evening of the Sunday I was there, we traveled to the village of Nakavu, which is about one and a half hours west of Suva. At the end of our journey, the bridge which passes over the water before Nakavu was washed out, so we had to cross the water on stones and travel the remaining mile on foot. These villagers are very poor but so happy. Their homes at times are little better than what we would consider a shed—such an eye opener as to what things are truly necessary. After a beautifully sung Mass I was welcomed by their traditional Mamasa ceremony, as I was in Rotuma and Suva. After the meal I was accompanied by many of the parishioners back to the washed-out bridge where we met our ride to take us back to Suva.

## The Fiji Missions Need Your Help

Bringing the Faith and the true sacraments to these people is possible due to donations from generous souls, as the peoples of these islands are very poor. There is so much more we could be doing if only we had the means. Our service to these missions is a material one, yes, but also even more importantly a spiritual one. Your prayers are essential not only for these faithful and the work of the missions but also for vocations. Suppose we had all the money in the world, it would matter little if we had not a priest, a brother, or a sister to be sent. Pray, pray for vocations—and you who are young, think of God, think of these souls.



# Our Lady of Victory

The mission and church of Our Lady of Victory, situated between the villages of Juju and Pepjei, is a standing witness to the fruitfulness of the faith. The older folk remember the zeal of the Marists Fathers who were missionaries to their souls. They recall the organization and order with which the mission functioned, educating youth and old alike.



**CHRIST THE KING**  
SCHOOL  
OF THE  
LADY OF VICTORIA  
Sumi Catholic Mission  
Controlling Authority (Archdiocese)  
PHONE: 358 965  
**PRIMARY SCHOOL -**  
**KINDERGARTEN**

# Saint Philomena, the Wonder Woman

---



At the Priory of the Society of Saint Pius X in Negombo, Sri Lanka, we have a great devotion to Saint Philomena. There is a statue of the saint in our church next to her relic in the wall with blessed oil burning all day long in her honour. Every week we hear of graces, even miracles, granted by her to the faithful. It all started on December 9, 2017:

## Dengue Fever

On Saturday, December 9, 2017, the priest in the priory went and blessed a nine-month-old baby girl in the hospital who was dying of dengue fever. The parents were devastated; she was their first child. After the evening Mass, the priest went to the MICU of Lady Ridgeway hospital, Colombo, and gave the baby the blessing for a sick child and anointed her with St Philomena's oil on the forehead and left. The next morning, the father called: the dengue was gone. On December 13, the baby was discharged and went back home.

Here below are the three most recent favours granted by Saint Philomena:



## Financial and Family Problems

On March 15, 2020, a father and a mother with their five children (the eldest is 18 and the youngest a few months old) came to our church. They are very poor. Their house is a 7 x 3-meter rectangle made out of concrete bricks. They came to ask for prayers, for a blessing, and for advice. The father works for the Municipal Council doing odd jobs like sweeping and collecting rubbish. They struggle a lot, can't save money, and seem to be always overwhelmed by material difficulties. They also have problems with one of their children. We advised them to pray to Saint Philomena. On May 27, the mother came back to tell us that their life is much easier now and all their problems are solved.

## Court Case

On May 28, a lady who started praying to Saint Philomena after she discovered our church by chance came in the evening to give us a donation. After four years of hearings with no end in sight, the judge told her that her case would end on July 2 to her advantage.

## Healing

On May 18, a woman came to our church following the recommendation of a friend of hers. She had a severe pain in her right leg for a long time and could not get rid of it. She also had other intentions on behalf of some relatives. She was given the Saint Philomena prayer booklet and some blessed oil. On

St. Philomena Facts

Saint Philomena's name, taken from the original Filumena, which means "daughter of light," expresses her divine mission as a beacon of holiness, a kind of "lighthouse" pointing towards God, and giving a practical example by which we can orient our life and form our hearts.

Her virtue sparkles like a diamond, in all its strength and splendor, in her heroic martyrdom. She renounced her self totally: not only forgoing wealth, fame, honor and pleasure, but a long and "full" life and the approval of her family, while suffering all of the pains of her martyrdom. To endure this is only made possible by profound faith in God and His Almighty, loving Providence; by hope in His promises; and by a pure and ardent love for Him, the kind of love that from one's depths recognizes and loves God as All.

This love is what conquers self-love. It is the cornerstone of Saint Philomena's purity, strength, and all of her virtue. It is the kind of love that will overcome our own temptations, especially that of impurity. Saint Philomena, who consecrated her life and virginity to God, and who herself overcame temptation, will intercede for our own purity of heart, mind and body if we ask humbly, persistently, and with faith.

Feasts of St. Philomena

January 10: Birthday of St. Philomena

Sunday after January 10: Patronage day

May 25: Celebration of the Finding of the Holy Body of St. Philomena

August 10: Celebration of the Translation of the Holy Body and the Martyrdom

August 11: Liturgical feast

August 13th: Celebration of the Name of St. Philomena

Second Sunday of August: Solemn festivities in honor of St. Philomena

May 30, she came back with six boxes of food and a donation in cash to express her gratitude. She had no more pain in her leg and her relations too felt the power of the glorious Martyr.

Here are some of the graces received in 2018:

## Drunkenness

A lady came to the priory to ask for prayers for her husband, an inveterate drinker, who for the past 35 years had been making life impossible for his family with daily physical and verbal abuse, which the neighbours were helpless witnesses to. The good lady received a blessing and was advised to put a few drops of holy water in her husband's food and put some oil of Saint Philomena on the four corners of her husband's bed, without telling him anything, and pray to Saint Philomena. Just a few days later, her husband stopped drinking for good and became as gentle as a lamb, apologizing to his wife for all the bad things he had done to his family for so many years.

## Passport

A few days later, a man and his wife came to the priory for a blessing. They were the neighbours of the previous couple: being surprised that they no longer heard the screams coming from the other side of the wall, they asked the reason, and this led them to the priory. They brought a blueprint of their house to be blessed as well as the passport of their son who was in his thirties and did not do anything with his life and had no interest in work. A few weeks later they brought the passport again, this time with the holder. The passport holder had recently undergone a metamorphosis and was looking for work. He asked for prayers for a job interview he had just been offered.

## Arthritis in the Arm

A lady from Bolawalana parish (2 kilometers from the Priory) told me that she was suffering day and night from terrible arthritis on the right elbow to the point of not being able to hold even a sheet of paper. She applied the oil of Saint Philomena and now she can carry the saucepans in her kitchen without any difficulty.

## Wedding Express

At 30 years of age, a young lady was becoming desperate about finding a husband. She prayed a novena to Saint Philomena. Ten days later, she was engaged. When I met her at a dinner, she said the wedding date was already set.

Here are some of the graces received in 2019:

## Evil Spirit

Sometime in February 2019, a lady came to pray with a friend of hers in our church. She asked me to pray for her and her husband because they had finan-



cial problems. Later, she asked me to bless their home because she felt there was some evil spirit that prevented her from sleeping at night. I went to their place and blessed their home. Later, she phoned me to tell me that she had a perfect night's sleep for the first time in years.

## Knee Problem

The same woman asked me to bless her sister's home in Bambalapitiya, Colombo. I went there and met the sister and brother-in-law, who was in his 80s. The brother-in-law had severe pain in the knees that prevented him from walking freely; he was using a walker and was wearing knee guards. I blessed their home and gave the man a bottle of Saint Philomena's oil to apply on his knees. The next time I met them (about two weeks later), they told me that the pain left and that the man was able to go cycling. No more walker or knee guards!

## Nasty Bacteria

On Wednesday, August 7, 2019, Brother and I went to bless a patient at Welisara hospital. He had got a bacterial infection two months earlier which caused three wounds to appear on his body and affected the lungs. He had already spent the past two months in the hospital with the doctors not knowing how to treat him. When we saw him, we saw the large, deep wounds with pus. He also had a tube collecting fluid from his lungs, quite a lot of fluid. I blessed him and anointed him with the oil of Saint Philomena. A few days later, on Tuesday, August 30, the phone rang to tell me that the patient was going to be discharged. The doctor couldn't understand how he could have been healed so quickly.

## Lung Problem

A few days later, informed about Saint Philomena's power by a friend of theirs, a family from Kudalkala called me for a blessing. The mother, a woman in her 60s, had just come back from Welisara Hospital. She was breathing with difficulty and could not eat or sleep. I blessed her with Saint Philomena's statue and gave her some oil. She came with her two daughters to the following Sunday Mass and to Saint Philomena's novena. Two weeks

later, after Sunday Mass, when I asked her how she was, she replied: "I am perfectly fine." She now comes to Mass every Sunday and to every novena unless a family event prevents her from coming.

## Job Offer

A couple came to ask for a blessing. After the blessing, they asked me to come and bless their home. A few days later, I went to bless their home near the Hindu temple on Sea Street. It was a poor house. The grandparents lived with them. The mother told me that their six-year-old daughter had a fever; they had gone to a doctor who gave her tablets, but the fever did not go away; they went to another doctor, but nothing happened there either. The mother also told me her husband has not had work for a long time. I blessed everyone with Saint Philomena's statue and left.

Three days later, they brought us a nice cake as a thanksgiving present: the daughter's health is improving, and the husband had received three job offers.

Saint Philomena is fantastic. We cannot but recommend you turn to her in all your necessities. You will be amazed by what she can do for you.

Father Fabrice Loschi  
SSPX-Sri Lanka



Society of Saint Pius X



S S P X

The Society of Saint Pius X is an international priestly society of almost 700 priests. Its main purpose is the formation and support of priests.

The goal of the Society of Saint Pius X is to preserve the Catholic Faith in its fullness and purity, not changing, adding to or subtracting from the truth that the Church has always taught, and to diffuse its virtues, especially through the Roman Catholic priesthood. Authentic spiritual life, the sacraments, and the traditional liturgy are its primary means to foster virtue and sanctity and to bring the divine 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.