



Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America, Inc.

U.S. MISSION EDUCATION APOSTOLATE • CHURCH ENGAGEMENT DIVISION

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Greetings to you good and faithful people from the Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers. We are grateful for this opportunity to be with you even if from a distance. The Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers were founded in 1911 by the Bishops of the US Catholic Church to train, send and support missionaries from the US in overseas mission. Today Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers are active in mission ministries in 22 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and providing mission education and missionary discipleship formation in the US.

How fitting are today's Scripture passages for our mission visit ! We are so encouraged by God's all-encompassing love for us, especially for those who are hungry and are in need of nourishment. Isaiah's image of complete welcome for all who are hungry and thirsty is an image of God's plan for our world: sustenance for all, no exceptions noted !

That is a snapshot of mission: all are welcome, all are served, especially those in great need. As Jesus fed the thousands with just a few loaves, we in mission, with the help of our supporters, feed, serve, heal and assist those in our care in our mission areas.

All of us are greatly encouraged, strengthened and mobilized by St Paul's words that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus. This is a message of God's love for all people. Those who serve directly in mission are moved to action by this promise of God's love. The action is our mission ministry which I'd like to share with you today:

Maryknoll's ministries include health care programs such as in South Sudan providing treatment for those with diseases of the eyes; care for and accompaniment of refugees; famine relief in east Africa; housing, education and care for street children in Bolivia; trauma healing ministry in Brazil; pastoral care for immigrants in Taiwan; educational, medical treatment and prevention programs in Kenya; clean water projects; chaplaincy and prison ministries; primary evangelization in Indonesia; care for the sick poor in Bangladesh, among other ministries.

Examples of our ministries include Fr. Mike Bassano, MM who has been living and ministering in the UN Protection of Civilians Refugee Camp in Malakal, South Sudan. Fr Mike provides accompaniment, solidarity, food assistance, joyful witness and pastoral care to those with whom he lives and ministers.

In other areas of South Sudan and in neighboring Uganda, Fr. John Barth, MM is active in providing care for the blind and those with diseases of the eyes, and for others in need. In a recent email summary Fr Barth provided this update: "I've purchased supplies in the first four months of 2020 and will likely need to buy similar supplies later this year and in 2021. They include uniforms for nursery school children in the Palabek Refugee Settlement (So Sudanese refugees taking shelter in northern Uganda); medical supplies for St. Theresa's Mission Hospital in St. Theresa's parish in Isohe, South Sudan and for St. Joseph's Hospital here in Kitgum, Uganda where I live. On top of these supplies I provided medical subsidies for poor refugees and poor Ugandans unable to foot the bill

for medicines, tests, operations at hospitals in Uganda. These services are not available in South Sudan because the medical infrastructure there is so, so weak. The average expenditure was \$179 a patient. The treatments included a wide range of illnesses from club foot, blood tests, ulcers, Hepatitis, Malaria, typhoid, broken bones , cancer treatment, dental, burial expenses, gun and arrow wounds, etc., etc. Most of these cases required x-rays, lab tests and/or prescribed drugs, many of which are not available in the hospitals and have to be purchased in a pharmacy. *Note: **Monthly refugees receive basic food assistance from the World Food Program (9 kg of **maize flour**, 3 kg of **dried beans**, 0.63 kgs of **vegetable oil** and 0.15 kgs of **salt**, nothing more. [This is equivalent to one bowl of corn flakes (without milk) three times a day and one-half can of tuna fish per day].***

Please learn more about the Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers at:
<http://www.maryknollsociety.org> and <http://www.maryknoll.us> Thank you for your prayerful support. Please also visit www.maryknollvocations.org to participate with us in God's mission.

Gratefully in Christ's mission,
The Maryknoll Fathers & Brothers.