



PRESENTATION BROTHERS

Mission Update

A Message from our Congregation Leader

DEAR FRIENDS, Pope Francis is really capturing the imagination of so many millions of people throughout the world. Recently, I had the privilege of meeting him at an audience in Rome. What comes across when you meet the man personally is his faith, his humanity and his joy.

He left me with the simple request, "Pray for me". It is a request he makes of everyone he meets. Here is a man who believes in the power of prayer. Here is someone who believes in the power of love generated by prayer. A personal encounter with Christ changes how we see life. We 'see in a new way'.

As I write this introduction to 'Mission Update', I am seeing mission in a new way. It is about 'opening eyes' and helping people see Christ in the lived reality of their daily lives. For the Presentation Brothers and our partners in mission, this is our challenge in education, in Christian formation with young people and in our ministries in the developing world.

This mission is more relevant than ever and is expanding all the time. We are so grateful to you, our friends, for your prayers and your practical support. I hope this edition of 'Mission Update' will give you some idea

of the wide range of our mission endeavours. Without your help these initiatives would be impossible. I thank all those who have contributed to 'Mission Update', in particular to Br John Guinane, Director of our Mission Development Office. I also thank our development specialist, Mr John Shiels; Br Walter Hurley and, indeed, the many others who have contributed in diverse ways. Thank you all!

To all our friends and supporters I say: May God bless you, your families and loved ones. Thank you for your generosity.

Br Martin Kenneally
Br Martin Kenneally | Congregation Leader



Mass for Mission Sunday at RTE studios in Dublin



Pope Francis greets Br Martin Kenneally, Rome, September 2013



Congratulations to Brother De Lellis

Above: Brother De Lellis is congratulated by the Governor General of St Lucia, Dame Pearlette Louisy.

Our longest serving missionary, Brother De Lellis (Finbar) Sullivan, has been awarded an MBE (Member of the British Empire) 'for services to education' by Queen Elizabeth II in the Birthday Honours List 2013.

Brother De Lellis has worked in Trinidad, St Lucia, Barbados, Peru and Grenada. He is a native of Glengarriff in County Cork.

Brother De Lellis becomes the third Presentation Brother to receive an MBE. Brother Macartan Sheehy and Brother Canice Collins, both deceased, also received the prestigious honour.

Presentation Brothers on live TV!

Tens of thousands of people learned more about the missionary work of the Presentation Brothers as we hosted RTE's special live broadcast of Mass for Mission Sunday. An opening lead-in video featured the work of the Brothers in Ghana. Brother Bernard Gazire and Brother Rupert O'Sullivan were both filmed discussing the empowerment of children, especially women, through education.

The celebrant for the Mass was Fr Patrick Relihan, a school chaplain in Youghal, Co. Cork and past-pupil of the Brothers. Our choir was from Coláiste Muire in Cobh, Co. Cork. Coláiste Muire is a school of the Presentation Brothers Schools Trust (PBST).

Brother Raj and Brother Theiva, our Sri Lankan novices from Killarney, were joined by Sr Lumay Thomas FMM in performing a traditional dance during the entrance procession. They also accompanied the gifts to the altar at the offertory. The choir was conducted by Ms Susan Ormond and the musical director was Mr Dominic Finn, both teachers at Coláiste Muire.

The liturgy included a rich ethnic mix with Brother Kevin Mascarenhas from Pakistan, Brother Barry Noel from Grenada and Siobhán Quinn, a returned lay missionary from Ghana, helping with the readings. Mrs Phyllis Brady, a native of Zambia and great friend of the Brothers, brought the gifts to the altar with Brother Andrew Hickey.

We have received tremendous feedback since the Mass was screened. Well done to everyone involved. The Mass can be viewed in RTE's video archive at www.rte.ie/tv/religion/player.html (under October 20th).

Focus on Ghana & Nigeria



Participants at the workshop on Misesan Cara's Child Protection Policy in Logre, Ghana.



Three classroom blocks with side offices and the multi-purpose hall at PBSS, Tafawa Balewa in Nigeria.

Visit to Ghana and Nigeria

In July 2013 Br John Guinane, the Director of our Mission Development Office and our Liaison Officer with the Irish funding agency, Misesan Cara, travelled to West Africa with development specialist, John Shiels, for a capacity-building visit.

They teamed up with Br Alban Besigrinee (Development Officer at the Province Development Office in Tamale, Ghana), Br Francis Agoah (Province Leader) and local Brothers managing various projects to deliver:

- Child protection training courses at two venues: Presentation Brothers Novitiate in Logre, Ghana, and Presentation Brothers Secondary School at Tafawa Balewa, in Nigeria.
- Project Management/Development training courses at the Provincial House in Tamale and at the new project site at Hain, both in Ghana.
- Joint design of a new Educational Outreach Project at Logre.
- Forward planning and assessment of education, youth work and child protection proposals.

The trip was made possible by funding from Misesan Cara.

Growth in West Africa!

The Presentation Brothers' West Africa Province is growing fast, as indigenous Brothers take over from their foreign, mainly Irish, colleagues. By September 2013, about forty African Brothers were managing schools and projects in Tamale, Hain, Logre, Navrongo, Yendi and Bolgatanga in Ghana; and Tafawa Balewa and Gboko in Nigeria. Two Irish Brothers now remain.

In addition to the forty professed Brothers at work, about twenty novices and postulants are in formation, while others are on third-level specialist graduate or postgraduate courses in Ghana, Kenya, Ireland or Nigeria.

A new Presentation House of Studies has been opened at Sunyani in the south-west of Ghana, for Brothers undertaking studies (mostly postgraduate) at the nearby Catholic University of Ghana.

The four-member West Africa Leadership Team, under Province Leader, Br Francis Agoah, is fully indigenised, as is the six-member Development Committee. In parallel with this succession process, the Province is experiencing major growth. The Junior Secondary School at Tafawa Balewa in Nigeria, has converted to a Senior Secondary, which will double its enrolment to 500 girls and boys. In 2013 the Province completed construction of a new primary school in Hain, Ghana, for an eventual 250 pupils; this Upper West town is completely new territory for the Presentation Brothers. Proposals are also being developed for a new Educational Outreach Centre at Logre in Ghana and for a new formation (or training) house at Gboko in Nigeria.

Below: Some of the participants at the Workshop on Project Cycle Management in Tamale. Tamale is the location of the Province Headquarters for the Presentation Brothers in West Africa.





Expansion at Tafawa Balewa in Nigeria

With financial support from the Government of Ireland, the Presentation Brothers' Secondary school at Tafawa Balewa, in Bauchi State in Nigeria, is converting from a Junior Secondary to a Senior Secondary School. Construction of the necessary extra space was completed towards the end of 2013.

Situated in a Muslim-Christian conflict zone in the north-east, this co-educational school opened as a Junior Secondary in 2008 and very rapidly reached (and exceeded) its enrolment target of 250 pupils.

In the Nigerian system, Junior Secondary schools do not operate above age 15; other cultural/economic factors combine with this to ensure large-scale early school-leaving on the one hand, and much unmet need for education beyond age 15 on the other. The new school will teach up to age 18+.

Misean Cara, the agency which channels Irish Aid funds into the development work of missionaries, has provided a €100,000 (USD \$118,000) grant, having provided a grant in 2007 for the original construction.

The Principal, Br Bernard Gazire, has a Masters in Community and Voluntary Services from All Hallows College, Dublin.

The school serves the local Christian community and has a substantial minority of Muslim students. Numbers can vary depending on outbreaks of communal violence. Great teaching emphasis is placed on the development of tolerance, mutual understanding and reconciliation.

Human Rights in West Africa

The West Africa Province of the Presentation Brothers is to step up its work on Human Rights & Advocacy for the poor, following the graduation in September 2013 of Br Emmanuel Imoru (*right*) with a Master's Degree in Human Rights from the University of Education at Winneba in Ghana. Br Emmanuel will head up a programme comprising:



- Implementation in Ghana of the policies and activities of the Edmund Rice International advocacy centre in Geneva, a collaborative project of the Christian Brothers and the Presentation Brothers.
- Systematic long term support to the efforts of poor and marginalised people to secure the economic, educational and social rights to which they are entitled.
- Strict implementation of the very detailed Child Protection Policy of our West Africa Province throughout all our schools and projects in the Region.
- Strengthening our province-wide approach to gender equity, promoting the long-term education of the girl child.
- Ensuring fair policies of access to our schools in Ghana and Nigeria for the poor and the very poor, following the inspiration of Blessed Edmund Rice.
- Human rights training being introduced into the curricula at our Novitiate in West Africa.
- Human rights 'audits' at our schools and projects.



Above: Staff from Presentation Brothers Secondary School (PBSS), Tafawa Balewa, Nigeria attend a Child Protection Policy workshop given by Br John Guinane (former Principal), John Shiels (development specialist) and Br Alban Besigrinee (Development Officer, West Africa Province).



New Presentation Brothers School in Ghana!

Most of the Presentation Brothers ministry in Ghana is in the Northern and Upper East Region. This area stretches north from our Province House in Tamale as far as the border with Burkina Faso.

A new Presentation community and school opened in 2013 in the town of Hain in Jirapa District in the Upper West Region. Many Presentation Brothers are from this region so it is fitting that, in partnership with the Diocese of Wa, we begin our ministry there. Three Brothers were originally assigned to Hain and more will follow them to this remote semi-desert and very poor area.

The primary school is now completed. Two identical buildings, each of three classrooms, have been constructed. Although the buildings are virtually identical, the funding support is not. Misesan Cara granted support for one of the two, while the second has been funded by Tom and Ann Jago of Dublin. Tom is a former pupil of a Presentation Brothers' school in Cobh, Co. Cork. He and Ann have additionally contributed to the costs of building a house for the community of Brothers who will be living there.

The next step will be to build, within three years, a new Junior High School.

From Top:

Kindergarten pupils relaxing during break time in Hain. The Kindergarten is a feeder school for the primary school.

A cross-section of the stakeholders at the project location in Hain in the Upper West Region of Ghana.

Classroom Blocks in Hain each consisting of three classrooms with furniture.

The Chief of Hain presenting a ram to Br John Guinane and Mr. John Shiels at his palace during their July 2013 visit to the Upper West Region of Ghana.



Sri Lanka



New Plans at Logre

Above: Participants at the Workshop on Project Design at Presentation Junior High, Logre, Ghana.

Since it opened in 2002, the Presentation Junior High School at Logre, in Ghana's Northern Region, has been continually expanding and improving, often with financial aid from Misesan Cara. Needs assessment work in 2012/13 at this 250-pupil co-educational facility (and its associated 950-strong Presentation primary/kindergarten) demonstrates a 'felt need' by the local community for expanded facilities.

The school badly needs more study space, IT space and a library, all of which could be accommodated in one new building. But what difference would this make to the thousands of pupils attending Government secondary schools across a wide rural area, with many isolated villages?

Instead, an Educational Outreach Centre is planned for common use by a consortium of four Government and two Presentation schools. It will be used for exams, teacher in-service training, as a library and IT space, for hosting teacher exchanges between schools and subject-based Teacher Associations. A youth leadership outreach programme is also planned for the six schools, covering issues such as Personal Growth, Leadership, Peace-building, Human Rights, Education of the Girl Child, Community Development and Social Justice.

Sri Lanka Initiative

Our first Sri Lankan Novices, Br Theiva and Br Raj, together with their Formation Director Br Barry Noel (left) and Congregation Leader of the Presentation Brothers, Br Martin Kenneally (right).

The Presentation Brothers are now inviting new vocations from Sri Lanka. Our Sri Lanka Initiative is aided by collaboration with the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Mary (FMM) and many others.

This initiative seeks to foster new life and build capacity within the Congregation by reaching out to areas around the world where there is a new interest in religious life and growth in the Church. It also provides opportunities to reach out and engage with those most in need and marginalised in our world.

A programme of formation within an international and multicultural environment has now been developed. Funding for initial and on-going formation in the Congregation is a priority. However, this aspect of our mission has proved to be very challenging. Through the Mission Development Office, new and creative ways are being explored to source funding from various organisations and agencies.

A second phase of this initiative is to establish a new presence and mission in an area of need in Sri Lanka. The focus now is on building capacity. This involves training the young men who come to our Congregation from Sri Lanka. The goal is to facilitate a reliable and accountable foundation for a future mission there.



Immersion in Ghana! A shot from the March 2013 visit of students from Brebeuf College School and St Joseph's College.

Mission Today & Tomorrow Conference

Above (left to right): Mr. John Shiels, Br John Guinane, Br Barry Noel, Br Joseph Mukasa at 'Mission Today & Tomorrow' International Conference.

Mr. John Shiels, development specialist, Br John Guinane, Mission Development Officer, Presentation Brothers, Br Barry Noel, Congregation Leadership Team, Presentation Brothers, and Br Joseph Mukasa, Presentation Brothers, Glashule (originally from Ghana), attended a two-day 'Mission Today & Tomorrow' International Conference at All Hallows College in Dublin in June 2013.

The conference focused on the changing reality of mission and missionary development today. This was a project of All Hallows College, in association with Misesan Cara, the Irish Missionary Union and Kimmage Development Studies Centre. It formed part of the Irish Government's *The Gathering* 2013 programme of activities.

New Support from Misesan Cara

Funding from the Irish Government for our development work overseas has increased. Irish Aid, part of the Department of Foreign Affairs, provides a substantial annual grant to Misesan Cara, an agency whose 86 members (which include the Presentation Brothers) are Catholic missionary congregations. Misesan Cara then provides grants to the development (as distinct from the pastoral) activities among the poorest overseas.

Misesan Cara, since the last edition of Mission Update, has provided four grants through our Mission Development Office and our Misesan Cara Liaison officer, Br John Guinane. The beneficiary activities (described elsewhere in this Update) are:

- €4,235 to assist with the costs of Br Emmanuel Imoru's Masters in Human Rights;
- €80,843 to build a 3-classroom block at our new primary school at Hain in Ghana;
- €9,900 for a two-week Capacity Building/Organisational exercise in Nigeria/Ghana;
- €100,000 construction costs to convert our junior Secondary School at Tafawa Balewa in Nigeria into a Senior Secondary.

This is generous and much-needed support. It does not cover all of our development work or any of the costs of our pastoral work all of which rely heavily on help from other sources. It is of key importance and we, and the ultimate beneficiaries – the marginalised and poor – are very grateful to Misesan Cara's Board and staff.



misesan cara
Mission Support from Ireland



Staff and students come together to plan activities for the very popular 'Spirit of Pres' Week at Pres Bray.

Brebeuf College supporting Ghana

By Michael Da Costa at Brebeuf College, Toronto

Brebeuf College continues to solidify its relationship with the Presentation Brothers and African missions through successful fundraising and service trips to Ghana.

In 2013, the Brebeuf Community beat its previous record and raised \$22,000 for the Brother Lawrence Maher Fund to assist schools in Ghana and Nigeria. These funds are used to support the lunchtime feeding programme in Logre; to purchase desks, uniforms, computers, books and other supplies; to pay fees for primary students; to offer secondary school scholarships; and to assist with other areas of need. Money was raised through many initiatives, including: student collections; a 'Casino Night'; a Christmas fundraising catalogue; casual days; a grant from the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA); and generous donations.

This fundraising was invigorated by two Brebeuf trips to Ghana. Building on the success of the 2011 trip, students and staff from Brebeuf and St. Joseph's College travelled to Logre and Yendi in March 2013 for a service, immersion, and leadership experience. In collaboration with the Ghanaian students, the Canadians volunteered through teaching, painting, running activities and staging an Olympics for the primary students. There was much

sharing of culture and new friendships were formed. It was a life-changing experience. As one Brebeuf student noted: 'As time went on, we came to realise that these people weren't poor; we were. They lived on barely anything, but were still more satisfied and grateful than us. It became more and more obvious that money wasn't the deciding factor as to how rich people are'. The trip will be repeated next year and it is hoped that Brebeuf will be able to sponsor a group of Ghanaians to visit Toronto in the near future.

'Spirit of Pres' in Bray

The students and the staff at Pres Bray organise an exciting series of activities for the 'Spirit of Pres' Week each year. The week includes a celebration for the Feast of the Presentation of Mary which falls on November 21st. These activities include fundraising for the Presentation Brothers missions.

Readathon at Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh

Anne Cleary, Transition Year Coordinator at Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh, writes on the fundraising efforts of students at the Coláiste.

Sincere thanks to Br John Guinane for attending our Transition Year Graduation Ceremony to accept a cheque for the Presentation Brothers' Secondary School in Tafawa Balewa, Nigeria.

During the year the Transition Year students organised a Readathon for all 1st and 2nd year students. The Readathon committee chose the school in Nigeria as they had read about the challenges facing the Brothers in their efforts to provide education for the young people there.

On Graduation night, Br John spoke about the work done in the school and assured us that the money raised would be used for teaching materials and recreational equipment. In his letter of thanks to our students Br John acknowledged the on-going support of our school and complimented the boys on their

TY. work. We wish the Brothers, staff and students in Tafawa Balewa the very best in the year ahead!



Schools Support Mission



PresLink 2013-2014

Above: PresLink students at Presentation Brothers College, Cork.

PresLink is a group of students and mentors in Presentation Brothers College in Cork who have been generous and untiring in fundraising for our missions for the past six years. Every year, the students engage in a range of activities to link with the Presentation Family in the developing world. Well done to all concerned!

Due to huge interest from this year's 4th year pupils, there are two PresLink Committees! One committee will look after 1st, 2nd and 3rd year pupils and the other committee will look after 4th, 5th and 6th years.

A Date for Your Diary!

PresLink - Presentation Brothers College, Cork

Carol Concert: Sunday 8th December @ 7.30pm in Presentation Brothers College, Cork.

Tickets will be available from the school office on 021-4272743 or by visiting info@pbc-cork.ie

Daragh Holmes 4th Year (Junior Committee) writes...

PresLink is not only about fundraising. It's also about forging links between the different Presentation Brothers' communities around the world. It is vital that we remember where our school comes from and that is why PresLink tries to maintain contact with the Brothers who founded the school. To raise awareness of the Presentation Brothers and their work and to introduce PresLink to them, we showed all our First Year students the *At the Desert's Edge* DVD. They were very interested and very enthusiastic!

Many Presentation Brothers projects abroad are in need of funds and that is where our fundraising kicks in. This year we have a number of activities planned for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Year students and their parents. We have begun with the 'Gold Rush', which proved a great success last year. We are also planning a Christmas Carol Concert for this December. A number of other events and activities are also lined up for the year, e.g. a crossbar challenge, bag packing, raffles, a table quiz and many more. We hope that the students involved will be as generous as in recent years and have fun along the way!

Ken Greally 4th Year (Senior Committee) writes...

The following are some of the activities the senior PresLink committee plans to do this year. The committee came up with many ideas to help fundraise and raise awareness for PresLink. Before Christmas we have 3 main fundraising ideas that we want to complete. These are:

1. Half-court basketball shot – each shot costs €2 and if the person succeeds in getting the basketball in the hoop they will be entered into a draw worth €50. The programme will run over three days.
2. We plan to hold a PresLink Ball to raise funds. We hope this will take place in February perhaps around St Valentine's Day.
3. We also plan to sell wristbands made with the school logo.

These are our main events before Christmas. There will also be other events such as raffles, FIFA tournament, cake sale, a Pres calendar, movie day, soccer marathon and much more!

Income & Expenditure

Our accounts are subjected to an annual independent and external audit in compliance with best practice.

Coláiste Chríost Rí Immersion Programme in Ghana

By Eoin Barrett and Michael Gannon.

Towards the end of last year a student came to the Principal with an idea to make a difference to other people's lives. Between two students and Brother Patrick, our school chaplain, planning began for an immersion programme. We started by making a choice on whether to provide help to either the West Indies or Africa. After a number of intense meetings we, as a team, chose Northern Ghana as a prime spot to carry out this idea. As we researched we saw that there were several Presentation Missions which could provide us with food and lodgings in return for our support in helping to provide infrastructure to that particular community. From that, the Presentation Immersion Programme to Ghana was formed. Never did we know that it would be given the all-clear to begin the long road ahead.

Much planning was put in place before the end of last year and everything took off in September 2013. Things became all too real! Fundraising commenced and a group of students were brought together to share why they also wanted to do it and to what extent they'd go to help raise the money needed. We set ourselves a very ambitious target of €50,000. We will be sure to give it our all to reach our target. In the meantime we received a visit from Brother Francis, a Ghanaian Brother. 32 students met Brother Francis and all showed great interest in the knowledge he imparted on his country.

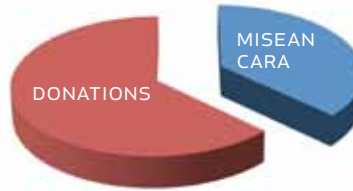
Right: Students at Coláiste Chríost Rí planning fundraising activities for their immersion trip to Ghana.



Income 2011

Donations: €83,970.66

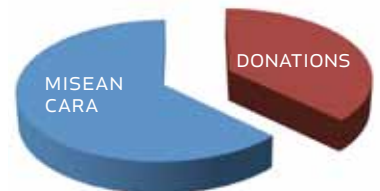
Grants from Mísean Cara:
€20,000



Income 2012

Donations: €109,807.94

Grants from Mísean Cara:
€185,978



Expenditure 2011

Ghana: €84,699.22

Nigeria: €20,000

St. Lucia: €1,299.84

Volunteers: €58,699.27

Training: €17,193.09

Bank: €119.50

Office: €3,433.46

Auditors: €847.00



Expenditure 2012

Ghana: €100,238.56

Nigeria: €7,595.11

St Lucia: €439.74

Volunteers: €5,680.69

Training: €1,170.00

Bank: €170.00

Office: €291.68

Auditors: €369.00



- GHANA
- ST LUCIA
- TRAINING
- OFFICE
- NIGERIA
- VOLUNTEERS
- BANK
- AUDITORS

From the Americas



Brother Denis Clavaz assists the Missionaries of Charity in Toronto.

Update from Our Lady of the Americas Province

It has been a time of transition in the Our Lady of the Americas Province in recent months. The Province includes Brothers' communities in Canada, Grenada in the West Indies and the United States.

Three of our Brothers have made moves recently. Brother Andrew Saul, who completed a year of studies in Toronto, has returned to the Brothers' community in Grenada. He will continue his studies, keep in contact with The New Life Organization (NEWLO) training center and assist with Vocation Promotion. Brother Andrew a native of Guyana will be very helpful as we explore and encourage vocations from Guyana and the West Indies.

Two Brothers who served as missionaries in both Peru and St. Lucia for many years have joined two other communities in the Province. Brothers Mike McGrath and De Lellis Sullivan, leave behind in St. Lucia dedicated years of service to the Center for Adolescent Renewal and Education (C.A.R.E.). The C.A.R.E. Program was founded and managed by Presentation Brother, Dominic Brunnock, who set up the program in 1993 after he retired from teaching. The work of C.A.R.E. continues to serve the needs of the youth on the margins.

Outreach in West Indies

Above: Brother Robert Fanovich helps out with the group work at a youth retreat in Petite Martinique

Brothers Robert Fanovich and Andrew Saul travelled for two hours by boat to a beautiful island called Petite Martinique to assist with a retreat for 30 young adults recently. It was a weekend of prayer and getting to know more about our Catholic faith in a relaxed atmosphere.

These COR (Christ in Others Retreat) retreats are held two or three times each year in Grenada and are very popular with young people. The Brothers helped out in organizing games, talks and generally rendered assistance wherever and whenever needed.

The retreat also gave people the opportunity to share their hopes, dreams, frustrations and problems with the adults present. With an unemployment rate of 40%, many cannot find jobs or are underemployed. The weekend was a welcome relief and respite from the harsh reality of life in the islands.

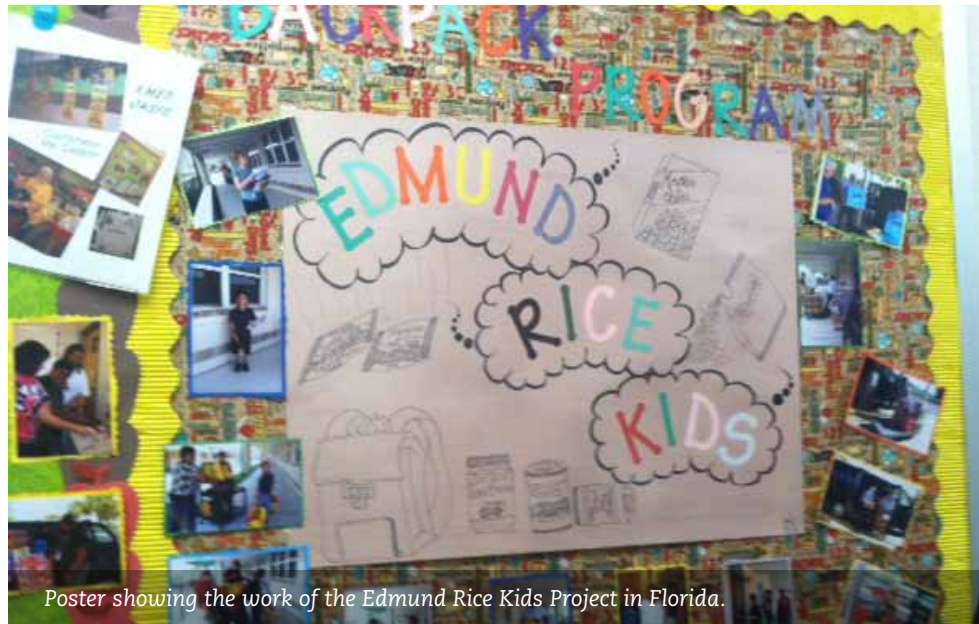
Outreach in San Antonio

Brother James Needham is Co-director of the Presentation Ministry Center, along with a Presentation Sister, in San Antonio. The Ministry Center is intended to assist Spanish-speaking people, especially immigrants, in human development and community. The center offers a variety of classes, much like a school, to educate men and women in areas such as English and computer literacy, as well as knitting and crochet. Also included are citizenship education and ESL classes.

Another area of need in San Antonio is that of the homeless. Haven for Hope offers a place of new beginnings and hope for men, women and families faced with homelessness. Brother Francis Sebo volunteers at Haven for Hope offering support with spiritual services. He also assists with two local conferences of the St Vincent De Paul Society. Brother Raphael Mario Toodle is also working to promote the vocation of the Presentation Brothers in the United States.



Young people link arms on their way to church during a youth retreat attended by Brother Robert Fanovich.



Poster showing the work of the Edmund Rice Kids Project in Florida.

The Mission continues in Urban Toronto

By Brother Denis Claivaz

Having spent many years working as a Presentation Brother missionary in Africa, the West Indies and in advocacy with Edmund Rice International at the U.N. in Geneva, I have now returned to Canada, the country of my birth.

The main purpose of our new ministry in Toronto is vocation promotion. This is very challenging! Our community in Parkdale has started Taizé Prayer and we now have about 30 people joining us on the last Wednesday of every month. The conversations afterwards over pizza and pop have proven very popular.

I also engage with Seniors in High School who are looking to make major decisions in their lives and I have been invited to facilitate the discernment process. My involvement with university chaplaincies has given me a direct opening to a large pool of young people.

Our community also engages in the feeding of the homeless with the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa's sisters) in the heart of downtown Toronto.

We are now known as a 'House of Discernment for Male Religious' in the Archdiocese of Toronto. We continue to pray that the efforts being made will one day be rewarded with a few young men making the bold decision of 'coming to see' what these 'Pres Guyz' are all about.

Caribbean Moves

The Presentation Brothers have closed their house in Castries in Saint Lucia. The Brothers have moved to another Caribbean island-nation, Grenada, joining our community there.

St Lucia is home to the C.A.R.E. (Centre for Adolescent Renewal and Education) Project, whose work will continue as a St Lucian non-governmental organisation. CARE was established by the Presentation Brothers in April 1993 to address the problems of young girls and boys with limited or no schooling, almost no job prospects, in many cases difficult family background, literacy deficiencies, or problems in accessing or staying in the island's relatively well-developed schools' structure.

CARE manages six vocational training centres (Castries, Anse-la-Raye, Gros Islet, Mabouya Valley, Odsan and Soufrière) offering full-time courses in woodwork, construction skills, basic engineering, metalwork and crafts. In the 2014/15 year, it estimates it will serve a total of 120 participants.

In Grenada, in addition to a very successful Presentation Secondary School, the Brothers' community is involved in prison ministry, bringing some hope to prisoners living in very harsh conditions.

Associates offer hope in Florida

The Presentation Associates (lay friends and supporters of the Brothers) in Kissimmee have been providing assistance to the local Child Advocacy Center which helps children who are physically and sexually abused. The Associates have furnished two rooms and supplied over 2,000 teddy bears for the children.

The Associates have also established *Edmund Rice's Kids Project* to feed children at a local school who were going hungry at weekends. Children are now given a backpack of food to take home each weekend.





The number of children being fed has grown from 85 to 127 and by Christmas it will reach 200. To meet the challenge the Associates are seeking to have each child sponsored by an individual at a cost of \$20 per month or \$180 per year. They are also enlisting the help of the 7,000 Mass goers at Holy Redeemer Church in Kissimmee.

With some 3,100 children in need in the locality, a figure that is projected to soon increase to 3,800, it looks as though the Associates will have plenty of work for some time to come.

The Associates meet each month for prayer and a discussion of their work. They are joined via Skype by Brother Francis Schafer and Brother James Needham. They have now formed a corporation called Presentation Brothers Associates, Inc. and in June of 2013 were granted non-profit status which allows them to apply for grant funding and be a tax exempt corporation.

Keep in Touch!

You can keep in touch with everything that's happening in the Presentation Brothers by subscribing to our e-letter on www.PresentationBrothers.org

-  Find us on Facebook
-  Follow us on Twitter
-  Read The Blogging Brother
-  Watch us on YouTube

Standing Order Form

To: The Manager

I hereby authorise you to debit my

Account No:

with the sum of: _____

monthly annually

and to credit the Presentation Brothers Mission Development Account.

It shall be understood that the Bank shall not be under any liability for damage or loss caused by any omission to make these payments.

Name:

Address:

Signed:

Mission Development A/c Details:
AIB, 66 South Mall, Cork, Ireland.
Sort Code: 93-41-78
Account Number: 79467763

Thank You!

Thanks to Tom and Ann Jago

A special 'thank you' to Tom and Ann Jago who have been generous supporters of our missions over many years.

Tom, a past pupil of the Presentation Brothers in Cobh, is a great believer in education as a means of liberation and development. He and Ann have been great friends and supporters, in particular of our recent school project in Hain, in the Upper West Region of Ghana. Thank you Tom and Ann!

Thank You to the School Communities

With grateful hearts the Presentation Brothers would like to thank all the schools that have raised money for our missionary work in West Africa.

Our sincere gratitude to the students, staff and parents in:

- Brebeuf College School, Toronto
- Bunscoil Chríost Rí, Cork
- Coláiste an Spioraid Naomh, Cork
- Coláiste Chríost Rí, Cork
- Coláiste Muire, Cobh
- Greenmount N.S, Cork
- Nagle-Rice National School, Milltown, Co. Kerry
- Presentation Brothers' College, Cork & PPU
- Presentation College, Bray
- Presentation Secondary School, Milltown, Co. Kerry
- Scoil Iosaef Naofa, Cobh, Cork
- Scoil Muire na Mainistreach, Killarney, Co. Kerry
- St. Brendan's Community School, Birr, Co. Offaly
- St. Brendan's N.S., Birr, Co. Offaly
- St Joseph's N.S., Mardyke, Cork

You have all shown generous support for the Presentation Brothers' apostolate. Your concern for the less well-off is inspiring.

The Brothers thank all the schools for the care, love, concern, collaboration and generosity in extending a big helping hand to the people of our West Africa Province. These school communities are paving a way for a better future for the less fortunate and marginalised.

Thanks to our Benefactors

In common with many in Ireland the Presentation Brothers have experienced a downturn in our material resources over the past five years. This coincides with an extra demand for support for our mission and ministries overseas especially in the growing West Africa Province. We could not respond adequately to such worthy causes without the continuing support and the fund raising efforts of individuals and groups in Ireland and Canada.

To all these generous people, young and old, who continue to collect and donate to the development of others we are sincerely grateful. Pope Francis continues to remind us of the needs of the poor and our Christian imperative to respond. Your fundraising actions are a wonderful response to this. Be assured that you are remembered daily in the prayers of the Brothers.

The Congregation also acknowledges the support given to the Presentation Brothers, through Br Joe Gilleece, by the:

- Apostolic Workers in the Diocese of Elphin
- Apostolic Workers in the Diocese of Down & Connor
- Apostolic Workers in the Archdiocese of Armagh
- Kilmore Mission Committee
- Society of St Vincent de Paul in Northern Ireland
- Christian Brothers Edmund Rice Trust

The Brothers are also very grateful to the Knights of St. Columbanus (Bray) and the Cork Bridge Club and indeed to all of our benefactors for their generous support.