



# Mission Update

United States  
Catholic Mission Association

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Winter 2002



John Cwik, SJ, Visits the Catholic Network of Volunteer Service Exhibit



Alan Neely Receives the 2002 USCMA Mission Award from J. Nangle, OFM. Mrs. Neely (center)



Joseph Donders, M Afr, and Robert Hurteau, MM, Panel Participants



Scott Alexander, Keynote Presenter, with John Swope, SJ, of USCCB Lat. Am. Sec.

## Mission and Inter-religious Dialogue

2002 USCMA Conference



Deacon Bil Scott - Austin Diocesan Off. of Mission & Evang., with Wife, Estelle



Kathleen Townsend, Mark Koenig, & Denis Clark, OFM

Reflecting USCMA's Commitment to Promoting Mission & Global Solidarity

Challenging Participants to Integrate Elements of Mission: Proclamation, Witness, Dialogue, Spirituality and Prayer, Social Transformation, and Reconciliation



Stephen Bevans, SVD



Fr. Philip Pitya



Dharampal Singh Rihal, Rosanne Rustemeyer, SSND, & David Amidon



Martin Jacobs, Ghazala Sadiq, Alan Neely, & Padmini Srinivasan Hands of the Interfaith Alliance, Wake Cty., NC



Helene O'Sullivan, MM

**From the Director**  
**Rosanne Rustemeyer, SSND**

We have come into the beautiful season of Advent! Enveloped in quiet darkness early each evening, we yearn for the light that dispels the darkness. Scripture provides the script for pondering crucial missionary issues of people in exile, migrating, refugeeed, homeless. We wait! We hope!

Recently, **Gathering the Fragments**, a survey of lay mission formation materials was published. This is the fruit of the joint efforts of the Catholic Network of Volunteer Service, the Pallotti Center and USCMA. We are extremely grateful to Tina Moreau-Jones for her work on this project. The publication recognizes the contributions of 40 years of laity in mission and furthers collaboration and competence in formation for mission.

The USCCB Committee on World Mission met on Nov, 10<sup>th</sup>. We are pleased to learn that the Office of World Mission will be reestablished at the Bishops' Conference in the Education Department and will be staffed in January, 2003. The new arrangement will allow for greater access and outreach to schools, parishes and seminaries for mission education.

At this time next year, the Congress for Mission for the Americas (CAM II) will take place in Guatemala. Fr. John Kozar will soon attend a preparatory meeting in El Salvador. We hope a number of invitations will be sent to mission-organizations. We will keep you informed.



**Raleigh Diocesan Staff Members, Joan Jurski, OSF, and Terry Jackson**

I thank you who were able to join us in Raleigh for our annual conference. The meeting was a giant step forward in the area of dialogue and working together across faiths.

Advent and Christmas Blessings!

**USCMA Annual Business Meeting Report**

The Annual Conference held in Raleigh was attended by approximately 180 participants including the members of the Interfaith Alliance who joined us on Saturday. Judging from the evaluations returned, the presentations, panels and workshops were informative and very well received.

On Sunday morning the group gathered for our annual meeting. The election results were shared. The slate presented to the membership was overwhelmingly approved. New members who will begin their three year term in March, 2003, are: Al Utzig, SSC, James Lindsay, Will Steinbacher, GHM, Michael Linden, SJ, John Sivalon, MM, and Rosanne Fischer. Elected as nominees from the floor: Suzanne Moore, MM, and Thomas Johnson, FSC.

Rosanne Rustemeyer, SSND, related the work of the Association over the past year. A financial report for 2001, as well as the first nine months of 2002, was shared by Betty Scanlon, RSM, the Board Secretary-Treasurer. Betty announced that USCMA has applied to participate in the Combined Federal Campaign and that recently USCMA received \$23,000 as part of a will.

The USCMA Mission Award, serving to thank Rev. Dr. Alan Neely for his years of support and friendship to USCMA, was presented to him on Saturday.

Milwaukee is the chosen site for the 2003 Conference. Theme: Mission and Social Transformation.



**BOARD MEMBERS Rosanne Rustemeyer, SSND, Stephen Hicken, MMAF, Betty Scanlon, RSM, and Joseph Nangle, OFM,**

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## We Listened for the Voice of God

### Contemplation and Mission - Pre-Conference Retreat



Jean Amore, SMIC

“Evelyn set out and provided a calming and reflective setting for busy missionaries to be in touch with themselves and their personal journey. Brian emitted such a genuine sense of peace,” relates Angie Behen, CSA. “... Weeks afterwards, the effect lives on.”

This year 49 participants gathered for the Pre-Conference Retreat and welcomed an environment conducive to prayer created through the use of candles, plants, draped cloths, pillows, and “yes”—flowing water. Stretching and breathing movements heightened the readiness for “listening practices” for Lectio, Language, and Ritual. Silence and storytelling bonded missionaries.

This created the ambience that challenged each one to slow down and “let the Spirit move in”. There was an overwhelming agreement that the experience paved the way for a greater receptivity to both content and dynamic of the entire Conference.

**We  
Celebrated  
the Voice of God!**



Evelyn Mattern, SFCC, and Brian Pierce, OP, Retreat Facilitators, Enjoy a Light Moment

### Conference Prayer Experiences

One of the components of the Conference proceedings in Raleigh was to provide pilgrimages to different worship sites to support the theme of **Mission and Inter-religious Dialogue**. Thirty-five participants availed themselves of the opportunity of *Jumah* Prayer with the community that gathers at Shaw University. Another thirty boarded buses on Friday night to join the Jewish communities at Temple Beth Or and Temple Beth Meyer. A session on Japanese Buddhism was presented concurrently at the Marriott Hotel. Saturday evening St. Francis of Assisi Parish welcomed conference participants to join the congregation for Liturgy. The conference prayers each morning followed the theme of dialogue in Asian, African and Caucasian modes. And Sunday’s sending prayer concluded the weekend with a litany of commitment to mission.



Padmini Srinivasan Hands, Japanese Buddhist, Chants with Prayer Beads in Hand



Participants Arrive at St. Francis of Assisi Church for the Saturday Vigil Mass  
An Outdoor Holy Water Font Symbolizes Our Christian Identity



Philip Reed, M Afr, and Mary Paul Asoegwu, DDL, Lead Participants in Prayer

## Workshops Address Emerging Mission Issues and Trends

The 2002 Conference workshops awakened and renewed the participants' commitment to issues relative to their missionary calling. The themes this year ranged from "the local to the global" and from "the emerging to the enduring".

### The Catholic Church in the American South

Ken Sanchagrin, facilitator, presented the results of his survey, *2000 Study of Religious Congregations and Membership in the United States*, conducted through the Glenmary Research Center. While we have seen that the Northern States are decreasing in population and the Southern States are increasing, it was surprising for many to learn that, for example, in North Carolina the Catholic population has experienced a growth of 111 % in the last 10 years. This migration has tremendous implications for the mission of the Church.

### Can Inter-religious Dialogue Find a Home in Latin America?

Imaging Mary as a "model for inter-religious dialogue" in Latin America, Brian Pierce, OP, captured the intrigue of his participants. Mary encountered Juan Diego, for example, in respectful dialogue, as a mother, going to a site of significance, dressing in familiar holy dress, and speaking the native language of *Nahuatl*.

### How to Start an Interfaith Group

One of USCMA's partners in designing the 2002 Conference was Rev. Dr. Alan Neely of the Interfaith Alliance of Wake County, NC. In practical ways, he showed how peoples of diverse faiths could connect, work together, and build community. Among the activities that the Interfaith Alliance has sponsored are: "Vigils Against Violence" that was held in response to homicides in the city, an "Interfaith Festival of Music and Dance", and "Adventures in Learning" on world religions, interfaith worship services and dialogues.

**HIV / AIDS: A Global Response** Susan Weisert, MMAF, generated a lively discussion on the problem of the availability of medicines, the burdens of poorer countries' debt payments, and the challenge of the prevention and care treatments for the disease.



M. Jennifer Wandia, SMI, & Susan Weisert, MMAF

### Trafficking of Children: The Scope & The Demand

Without in any way minimizing the scope of the problem or eliminating hope for solutions, Mary Ann Smith, MM, walked participants through one of the ugliest realities of a globalized world—human trafficking and the sexual exploitation of children. Children are regularly smuggled into New York from Indonesia perhaps through a route that takes them through Australia, Hawaii and San Francisco. Participants were challenged to enter into "the combat" of this worldwide problem.

### Immersion and Short-term Mission Experiences

Preparation, lengths of experiences, "learning" verses "doing", and re-entry, were topics led by Kevin Day and Stephen Hicken, MMAF. Resources from Christian groups can be adapted for Catholic planners and participants. A dire need exists to develop theological foundations and "best practices" resources, with a Catholic perspective, *vis-a-vis* immersion and short-term mission experiences.



Maria Paz Aribon, OP, Wenda Nelson, David Gikonyo, IMC, and Deacon Mickey Friesen



Workshop Facilitator, Mary Ann Smith, MM



Workshop Co-leaders, Kevin Day & Stephen Hicken, MMAF



Mary Marsella & Megeen White

## Annual Resolutions — A Call to Education, Reflection, Prayer and Action

The 2002 resolutions charge members with the responsibility to give special attention to three areas of global concern: human trafficking, especially that of women and children, the global water crisis, and the relationship between a nation's inability to make debt payments and to provide HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention programs at the same time.

The resolution on **Human Trafficking** makes it clear to us that it is a huge international business that engages the selling and trafficking of adults and children to and from countries all over the world. Human trafficking is a gross violation of human rights. Actions to prevent this abuse and to help victims are a moral and ethical responsibility and, as such, worthy of our attention and time.

Another resolution on the looming **Water Crisis** calls our attention to one of the most critical challenges facing the world today. By adding our voice to the claim that all people have a God-given right to clean water for the purposes of drinking, cooking, bathing, and other basic necessities of life, we hope that water will be respected as a resource of the community and not as a commodity to be sold and traded.

A third resolution, **Debt and HIV/AIDS**, declares our belief that all people have a God-given right to adequate nutrition, shelter, basic health care, education, environmental sustainability and a secure livelihood. However, due in part to heavy debt burdens, 95 percent of the world's 40 million people with HIV/AIDS do not have access to care, treatment and life-extending medicine. In these cases, debt servicing has become oppressive and immoral and denies individuals, communities and nations the access to basic human services. Debt cancellation and relief programs become a moral requirement.



Alfonso Kim, MM,  
Reviews a Resolution

(THE FULL TEXT OF THE RESOLUTIONS IS AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING USCMA OR BY VISITING ITS WEB SITE AT [WWW.USCATHOLICMISSION.ORG](http://WWW.USCATHOLICMISSION.ORG))

Each of the resolutions reflects our concerns as Catholic missionaries, who possess first hand experiences dealing with global realities and taking moral responsibility, to act seriously on behalf of the common good.

As Catholic missionaries it is our belief that we are able to bring to these issues our personal witness to the Gospel and Church teachings in the hope of developing just and lasting solutions.

On the home front, the trafficking of children for sexual exploitation does remain a problem. The global demand for water has increased more than sixfold over the past century compared to a threefold increase in world population. And so crucial the need for debt cancellation, that USCMA membership has agreed to press members of the House of Representatives to pass HR 4524, known as "Debt Relief Enhancement Act of 2002".

Members are encouraged to send the staff any resources they would like to recommend to other members or any actions that they may have recently taken. Actions communicated to the staff will be reported to the membership at the next annual business meeting as requested at this year's meeting.

Throughout the year, the staff will keep members informed of events, legislation and resources related to the important issues of human trafficking, water crisis, debt, and HIV/AIDS. Look for this in our newsletter, *Mission Update*, E-mail action alerts, and a new section on our web site dedicated to this year's resolutions.

Resolutions are indeed a call to education, reflection, prayer and action!



Kathryn Runman (left), Angelo Biancalana, MCCJ, and  
Maria Teresa Goffi, CMS, Listen and Concentrate

## Mission Cooperative Program

### PROMOTING MISSION AND GLOBAL SOLIDARITY

USCMA was pleased to participate in mission cooperative programs in 10 dioceses in 2002. We thank each arch / diocese that gave us the opportunity. And we extend a sincere word of gratitude to each mission preacher who shared his or her story that reflected not only a love for the Church's mission and mission activity but the fondest of memories from personal experience. There are no adequate words to express our appreciation to all pastors and parishioners for their generosity and hospitality. We trust that the lives of the listeners have been enriched. As one parishioner of Holy Trinity Parish remarked, "I wait every year for this live mission message!."

#### 2002 Mission Cooperative Participants

Arch / dioceses	Parishes	Preachers
Chicago	St. Bronislava	Ms. Tina Moreau-Jones
	St. Benedict	Rev. Neal Kaminski, OFM
	St. Thomas of Canterbury	Rev. Roger Schroeder, SVD
	St. Mary	Rev. Albert Utzig, SSC
	Sacred Heart	Ms. Megeen White
Cincinnati	St. Jerome	Sr. Demetria Smith, MSOLA
	St. Francis de Sales	Sr. Martha Walsh, SC
	St. John Fisher	Rev. Jack Whitley, CSB
Dallas	Cathedral Santuario de Guadalupe	Rev. Joseph Nangle, OFM
Davenport	St. Mary / St. Peter	Sr. Adela Gross, OSF
	St. Thomas More	Mr. Kevin Day
Erie	St. James, St. Francis Xavier & Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Sr. Jean Fitzpatrick, SSC & Sr. Mercedes Ventenilla, SSC
	Ft. Wayne / S. Bend	Sr. Demetria Smith, MSOLA
Los Angeles	St. Pancratius	Rev. Charles O'Rourke, SSC
	St. Dominic Savio	Mr. Stephen Hicken
	Holy Name of Mary	Rev. Angelo Biancalana, MCCJ
Milwaukee	St. Peter / St. Patrick / St. Michael	Mr. Don & Mrs. Cheryl Mueller
Portland (ME)	Immaculate Heart of Mary	Mr. Kevin Day
Scranton	St. Stanislaus Kostka, Holy Trinity	Sr. Marie Stelmach, OP
	St. Michael	Sr. Rosanne Rustemeyer, SSND
	St. Thomas Apostle	Mr. Kevin Day

## Jubilee USA Network

As part of the activities in Washington around the annual meetings of the IMF and World Bank, Jubilee USA Network held two days of informative teach-ins and plenary sessions from September 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>. Participants included guests from developing countries around the world who shared their stories and views of debt, globalization, trade, the environment and the AIDS pandemic.

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, Jubilee joined with the Religious Working Group on the World Bank and IMF in sponsoring an interfaith prayer service. Persons of Christian, Jewish, Muslim and Buddhist faiths joined together in song and community to pray for one another and for all those in the world living with debt and in poverty.

On September 28<sup>th</sup>, Jubilee joined ACT UP, 50 Years Is Enough and other groups at the Capitol Mall to rally against debt, AIDS, globalization and other human rights issues.

A very diverse group of 10 - 15 thousand people from all over the country with colorful puppets and banners listened to inspiring speakers and then marched peacefully towards the World Bank and IMF headquarters.

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#### Anti-War Protests and Actions

Throughout the debate in Congress about the possibility of a US attack on Iraq, USCMA staff participated with other groups in opposing war and advocating a peaceful, diplomatic solution to the problem of Iraq's possible development of weapons of mass destruction. They joined NETWORK, Pax Cristi and the National Council of Churches in lobbying Congress and in praying together publicly at Freedom Plaza near the White House. On October 26<sup>th</sup>, a number of groups sponsored a huge anti-war rally in Washington with smaller rallies in many other cities around the country.

## Resources & Up-coming Events

### Africa and the Middle East Advocacy Days

AN ECUMENICAL GATHERING IN WASHINGTON, DC

An Educational and Advocacy Event for People Committed  
to Working for Just U.S. Policies toward  
Africa & the Middle East

February 23 - 26, 2003

Contact: Anne Rhee at 301 - 384 - 3615  
Web site: [www.loga.org/advocacy2003.htm](http://www.loga.org/advocacy2003.htm)

### *From Mission to Mission*

WORKSHOPS FOR AND WITH RETURNED MISSIONERS  
CROSS-CULTURAL RE-ENTRY AND RE-DISCOVERY FOR MISSION

February 18 - 28, 2003 San Antonio, TX  
July 7 - 17, 2003 Colorado Springs, CO

Contact: FROM at 720 - 494 - 7211  
Web site: [www.missiontocommission.org](http://www.missiontocommission.org)

### ***Gathering the Fragments:***

### ***A survey of components for the formation of international lay missionaries***

THIS STUDY PRESENTS AN OVERVIEW OF THE WAY THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES PREPARES ITS LAITY FOR MISSION  
WORK INTERNATIONALLY AND CROSS-CULTURALLY.

The survey was sponsored by The Catholic Network of  
Volunteer Service, The United States Catholic Mission  
Association, and The Vincent Pallotti Center and was  
conducted and written by Tina Moreau-Jones.

Cost of 106 page paperbound book \$8.00  
Contact: CNVS at 800 - 543 - 5046

### Catholic Network of Volunteer Services

#### FORMATION WORKSHOPS

Starting a full-time volunteer or lay mission program?  
A new staff of an existing program?

January 9 - 12, 2003 Washington, DC  
March 13 - 16, 2003 South Bend, IN

Contact: Eunice Peck at 202 - 332 - 6000 ext. 18  
E-Mail: [epeck@cnvs.org](mailto:epeck@cnvs.org)

#### TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Fundraising Jan. 30 - 31, 2003 Phil., PA  
Visas for Volunteers Feb. 20 - 21, 2003 Washington, DC  
Intentional Community Issues Apr. 24 - 25, 2003 Chicago, IL

Contact: Brian Carpenter 202 - 332 - 6000 ext. 12  
E-Mail: [bcarpenter@cnvs.org](mailto:bcarpenter@cnvs.org)

### Maryknoll Mission Institute

#### TAPPING THE SPIRIT'S ENERGY:

BIBLICAL SPIRITUALITY FOR MISSION & COMMUNITY  
March 24 - 28, 2003 Rea McDonnell, SSND

#### DANCING IN TROUBLED TIMES:

BIBLICAL BELIEFS AND VALUES OF RELIGIOUS LIFE  
May 11 - 16, 2003 Nancy Schreck, OSF

Contact: Maryknoll at 914 - 941 - 7575  
Web site: [www.maryknoll.org](http://www.maryknoll.org)

### Mission Project Service

6<sup>TH</sup> EDITION IN ENGLISH, SPANISH AND FRENCH OF  
Agencies for Development Assistance — Sources of Support  
for Community-Based Socio-Economic and Religious  
Projects in Less-Industrialized Countries  
Cost: \$60.00 includes shipping & handling  
Contact: Mission Project Service at 315 - 654 - 2447

## Book Review

**Church, Community for the Kingdom** by Joseph Fuellenbach. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 2002

Perhaps the biggest development in Catholic theology over the past several decades has been the shift toward understanding Christian mission as the promotion of the Kingdom of God as preached by Jesus rather than just church planting. One of the most succinct and convincing expositors of this insight has been John Fuellenbach, SVD. In many ways, his latest book, **Church, Community for the Kingdom**, might be considered volume II of his 1987 classic **Kingdom of God**. In this latest book especially, he is clear that "though not limited to the Church, the Kingdom is unthinkable without the Church." (p. 209) Building the local church communities in which disciples let themselves be set on fire again and again with the vision of Jesus is the means to promoting the Kingdom. **Church, Community for the Kingdom** is reminder that, like it or not, "missiology" necessarily involves us in the bothersome issues of ecclesiology. For the kind of Church communities built determine the quality of witness they present. With reason this was selected for the ecumenical American Society of Missiology series.

REVIEWED BY *David Ullrich, OMI*

**Orbis Books Received at USCMA**

**A SELECTION OF BOOKS PUBLISHED IN 2002 BY ORBIS BOOKS, MARYKNOLL, NY**



**Doing Local Theology: A Guide for Artisans of a New Humanity.** By Clemens Sedmak.

**Enlarging the Story: Perspectives on Writing World Christian History.** Edited by Wilbert R. Shenk.

**Evolutionary Faith: Rediscovering God in Our Great Story.** By Diarmuid O’Murchu.

**Many Mansions? Multiple Religious Belonging and Christian Identity.** Edited by Catherine Cornille.

**Models of Contextual Theology. (Revised and Expanded Edition)** By Stephen B. Bevans.

**Radical Gratitude.** By Mary Jo Leddy.

**Subverting Greed: Religious Perspectives on the Global Economy.** Edited by Paul F. Knitter & Chandra Muzaffar.

**Soul Sisters: Women in Scripture Speak to Women Today.** Poems by Edwina Gateley. Art by Louis Glanzman.

**The Blindfold’s Eyes: My Journey from Torture to Truth.** By Diana Ortiz, OSU.

**Zen and the Bible.** By J. K. Kadowaki.

**Leadership of Mission-Sending Institutes Set Future Missionary Thrust**

In recent months many of the mission-sending institutes set directives for the future of mission. Among these groups are the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Maryknoll Sisters, Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, School Sisters of Notre Dame, Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (Salesian Sisters), and the Marianhill Fathers, to name a few.

Pope John Paul II concluded his message to the Marianhill Fathers with, “In a world where human drama is too often marked by poverty, division and violence, following Christ demands that consecrated persons respond courageously to the Spirit’s call to a continual conversion, in order to give a new vigor to the prophetic dimension of their vocation.” (Zenit, ZE02102908)

These sentiments were echoed over and over by the groups suggesting as possible responses to the call to transformation: work toward global community, deepened sense of discipleship, greater collaboration and solidarity, redistribution of resources, inculturation, and reconciliation.

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*Peace on Earth*

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**The Staff of USCMA Wishes You  
A Blessed Christmas and A Happy New Year**