

MISSION UPDATE

United States Catholic Mission Association

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 1

Spring 2010

Waiting in Hope

To turn away from tragedy, subtly or blatantly, is a way of escaping the reality of our world. ... To let ourselves be affected, to feel pain over lives cut short or endangered, to feel indignation over the injustice behind the tragedy, to feel shame over the way we have ruined this planet, that we have not undone the damage and are not planning to do so, all this is important. It motivates compassion and immediate emergency assistance, but more importantly it sheds light on the most effective way to help in the tragedy. ~Fr. Jon Sobrino, SJ

Hope and faith are linked. It is that which gives substance to our hearts. It convinces us of things we cannot see...Hope is developing in the confidence of God that permits us to go over all kinds of obstacles. ~Most Rev. Yves Marie Pean, CSC, Bishop of Gonaives, Haiti- 2009 Mission Conference

Waiting... waiting in hope. This is a message we need to hear. We wait to understand the impact of what has taken place. Waiting can help establish a way of dealing with the devastation and reality of daily life. We must allow ourselves the time we need to heal. In the midst of the rush to go and do something following the recent tragedies in Haiti and Chile, those of us who are kept glued to the news media feeding us daily with images of people and stories of horror, we could not do anything but pause and wait. Prayer services and vigils were held to remind everybody that God is with us in our pain and suffering. Collections were taken up to support those devastated by these calamities. But we know that our commitment will be more than these efforts. Our call to respond to global solidarity has been awakened once again. Only this time we know that our efforts need to be sustained.

Waiting in hope does not mean that we should stop living, stop engaging in the world, or stop responding to urgent needs. Waiting anchored in Christian hope and faith moves us from helplessness into a deeper interaction with God, allowing us to see God's promise of triumph over death, destruction and devastation. And in the midst of all these, our hope leads us beyond the rut of helplessness to a faith-filled response to the needs... a renewed sense of mission and global solidarity.

This is especially timely for those in mission who are able to recognize what the devastation of an earthquake, a hurricane and tsunami can do to a country, to the people who live there. The desire to find tangible ways to be in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Haiti and Chile serves as a bridge, a reminder that we are never alone. The community we form as missionaries, as baptized members of the Body of Christ, as People of God commits us to respond.

Through our ability to wait we will be able to etch a desire to be in solidarity.

"(Solidarity) is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say, to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all." (On Social Concern, §38) It is with this understanding of solidarity that we are engaged in the work of mission. Solidarity calls us into action for the common good, and the recognition to bring forth a response. We are called to act with sincerity and deliberate patience in our resolve to be of use. The ability to wait and hope go hand in hand in our desire to act in solidarity with one another.

We pray

that the Church, aware of its own missionary identity, may strive to follow Christ faithfully and to proclaim His Gospel to all peoples.

Benedict XVI

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Erratum: The last issue of *Mission Update* was identified as Volume 19, Issue 1. In actuality it was *Mission Update* Volume 18, Issue 4.

**He is risen!
Alleluia!**



From the Executive Director

REV. MICHAEL MONTOYA, MJ

Spring has finally sprung! After the historic blizzard that has brought the nation's capital to a standstill, we are finally seeing some signs of budding. Oh yes, we still have mounds of ice yet to thaw, but none compared to the awakening of the earth to new birth after a long winter sleep.

The change of seasons bring with it a message of hope – a message that we sorely need as we go through the graphic images of the series of disasters and calamities that jolted us as we began this new year. That like the seasons, these too shall pass! Faces and stories of men, women and children – all testify that in the midst of suffering, the human spirit soars to new heights. People overcome the most tragic of experiences. Courage and goodness meet, stretching our safe boundaries way beyond what we can imagine.

And there find a new sense of peace as our hearts are awakened to a new sense of global solidarity, a renewed response to God's call. We lift our prayers before God. Only this time, our prayers transform us to action, sending us to mission!

We honor in this edition of the Mission Update the many women and men who dedicate their lives to mission, particularly the US Catholic missionaries who keep reminding us of the story of God written in the lives of the people they serve. The Executive Summary of the Mission Survey is but a glimpse to the varied colors and brushstrokes of the US Catholics in mission.

Preparations for the Mission Congress 2010, "God's Mission, Many Faces: A Portrait of US Catholics in Mission," on October 28-31 in Albuquerque, New Mexico is in full swing. Make sure you put it on your calendar and pray for its success. You do not want to miss this event. As you know, Mission Congress happens only every five years. We want you to be there. Call us if you have any questions or go to www.missioncongress.org.

We also thank all of you who have contributed to the USCMA Annual Appeal campaign. The amount will be for the success of the Mission Congress.

Mission Reflection 2010 has also been launched as we prepare the whole country for the Mission Congress 2010. This is the first time that we have a Mission Reflection happening all over the country celebrating the movement of the Spirit within the US Church in mission. You can download the pamphlet and response sheet from our website www.uscatholicmission.org. Let us all together, celebrate the faces and creativity of US Catholics in mission.

The Latin American and Caribbean Bishops called for a continental mission during their meeting at Aparecida, Brazil and launched it at the Congreso Americano Misionero held in Ecuador (where the US Church has participated). As promised, USCMA will launch a workbook on the Aparecida Document. We thank Sr. Madge Karecki, SSJ-TOSF, DTh, Mission Director of the Archdiocese of Chicago and Board Member of the USCMA for this wonderful manual.

May we continue to anchor our hope in the Risen Christ... a blessed Easter to all of you!

From the Board President

TERESITA GONZALEZ DELA MAZA

The theme of our conference last October "Seeing mission with New Eyes" was a tapestry of hope in the context of the survival story of New Orleans in which we also heard of the perseverance of the Haitian people. However, my optimism was dramatically shaken, soon after in January, with the tragic earthquake in Haiti. For a time I was lost in how much it hurts to love Haiti.

I went often a large Haitian parish here in Miami for direction, information and company. Two days after the tragedy, they had not yet officially announced a collection but many were already bringing food donations. One woman came in with a bag of rice. She looked at us and said softly "I've lost three sisters in Haiti." She placed the bag down in the corner and silently walked out. That's how it went. A grief stricken community brought their offerings of food and their stories. I was overwhelmed with the noise of countless calls and desperate people and the deafening silence of those just waiting to hear good news.

Ash Wednesday for me signaled permission to grieve. During Lent, I searched into that noise and silence. I grappled with the restlessness of grief and perhaps some of the same pain that marked the first followers of Christ. Eventually in my Lenten walk, I came to see that others around my community felt this too. I saw evidence of God's hand in our strong feelings, transforming and connecting us in compassion across our

Cont'd on p. 3

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It is in our waiting that we can foster the Easter message of hope this Lent. When we have allowed for appropriate responses to formulate, it is easier for us to recognize the language of hope that begins to massage its way into our lives.

Bishop Yves Marie Pean, Bishop of Gonaives in Haiti a panelist at the 2009 Mission Conference in New Orleans, LA stated prophetically, "These experiences (the hurricanes of 2007, 2008) gave us, gave me the ability to live through very difficult situations that continue to find hope in the God that calls us to mission for the well-being of his flock." Let us take this time to reflect on the messages of hope coming from the pain of destruction in Haiti and Chile. Our prayers and lives of solidarity continue to be with our brothers and sisters of the world.

Messages of Hope from members in Haiti and Chile:

Haiti:

I saw a people in solidarity with one another, a people who helped each other, who took the initiative to organize themselves, a people who know suffering. I saw children who did not even cry when they were treated for their injuries, as if telling us that pain is integral part of their lives. Others who were badly hurt allowed that help be given first to those who are worse than them – without complaints. I saw a five gallon container of potable water for 100 refugees and nobody took water without asking permission.

Chile:

Here in Santiago the worst damage occurred to our Basilica Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. One of the steeples was badly damaged. The damage is confined to the exterior, the side windows and to the Sacristy. Thank God the interior of the church and stained glass are okay. Also around the exterior of the Church

there is heavy stone ornamentation that has fallen to the street. We thank you all for your concern for us. We will send more news later. We are now in solidarity with Haiti.

Haiti:

The UN soldiers are Buddhists and had a Buddhists shrine erected. Fr. Ray suggested that we all pray together. The soldiers (about 20 or so) knelt and chanted. We joined in with them and it became a very good bonding experience. We all prayed to the same God. Everything was all so uncertain, as we had no communication, especially about the roads, etc. Morning came and the road was cleared enough for us to get our jeep and to continue south to Les Cayes. We saw devastation along the way. Collapsed building, homes, people sleeping on the street, wounded no water and food. It took us about 2 hours to reach Les Cayes where we are now.... safe and in good condition. No damage here. The capital of Port-au-Prince is demolished and in complete chaos. The Oblates have lost their facilities, seminarians are homeless and have died, people are without food, water, etc. The airstrip is being reserved for rescue operations and for incoming food, water and medical supplies. 22 at the UN headquarters have died. The archbishop is also dead. We continue to be safe and realize that this will take time for us to internalize, comprehend and deal with the utter destruction that we have seen.

Chile:

All of us have been affected by this natural disaster and each one has his or her story to tell. For many days to come, people will ask, where were you for the earthquake? It is still the basic topic of conversation as if nothing else matters. One young university student said this evening, "once I discovered that my family was safe and our house was still standing, I just knelt down and thanked God and then headed off to help those who were still on their knees under the weight of the cross that they were made bear.◆◆"

Cont'd from p. 2

diverse cultural lines. We walked in a new way with the Haitian people, and in the grief of witnessing the broken Christ, we became something new. Haitian people are a people of hope. Their God is *Bondye*, the Good-God who walks with them in their grief and lies in wait with them in the rubble. Haiti calls us to something new because to remember Haiti is a memory of perseverance and renewal. From the paralyzing hollowness and confusion of the empty tomb, the Spirit launches our living.

In this issue you will find the Executive Summary of the Mission Handbook with data collated every two years that gives us a glimpse of the US Catholics in Mission. Each number represents a courageous life devoted to living the memory of Christ. We know that there will be many practical uses for this information but in a special way, let us hold these missionaries in our prayers and celebrations of Resurrection.

We look forward to seeing you at the **Mission Congress 2010** in Albuquerque on October 28-31, 2010. The USCMA is honored to convene the *Catholic Mission Forum* which organizes this Mission Congress every 5 years. The theme is *God's Mission, Many Faces: A Portrait of US Catholics in Mission*. We are working to compile a portrait of US Catholics in mission and have developed a Mission Reflection Tool and Response Sheet. We urge you to engage your community in this reflection that will take place in groups across our nation and submit your responses to us no later than July 31. Remember that only *you* can bring us your unique story to make it part of this rich portrait and be truly representative of our church. May God bless you with a blessed season of Easter! See you in Albuquerque! ◆◆

2010 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE MISSION HANDBOOK

PREFACE

"In our works, our people know that we understand their suffering." These words of St. Alberto Hurtado of Chile might as well describe the life of many missionaries working all over the world. It definitely resonates the global solidarity that has been awakened by the series of catastrophic events around the world that have claimed the lives of thousands of people, displaced millions, and left millions more to carry the burden of the memory of the tragedies as they rebuild their lives and livelihood. In the midst of all these are thousands of missionaries from all over the world who continue to accompany the people in their journey despite themselves being affected by the same disaster as the people they serve. We honor them and their commitment. We continue to pray for them and the people they serve. While this survey only presents US Catholic missionaries, they are mirrors to thousands more from all over the world who have heard and responded to the call to participate in God's mission.

This year, we celebrate Mission Congress 2010 in the United States with the theme "God's Mission, Many Faces: A Portrait of U.S. Catholics in Mission." This is a joint collaboration among eight national mission agencies in the country collectively known as Catholic Mission Forum. The USCMA acts as its convener. Mission Congress in the U.S. is held every five years. This year also marks the centennial of the World Missionary Conference held in Edinburgh, Scotland, recognized as the parent of contemporary ecumenical and world missionary movement.

We are happy to share with you the compilation of the missionary survey results we received in response to a questionnaire and a request to update the 2006-2007 statistics. We mailed the survey to 606 mission-sending organizations in February, 2009. Respondents numbered 273, non-respondents 333.

The tabulation is inclusive of **U.S. citizens, Catholic missionaries only** – lay, religious and clergy – serving in mission **both within and outside** the United States borders. Acknowledging that there are hundreds of thousands of short-term missionaries (less than a year), the survey only includes missionaries who are **in mission for a minimum of one year**.

GUIDELINES FOR SURVEY OF U.S. CATHOLIC (CROSS-CULTURAL) MISSIONERS SERVING IN THE U.S.

[Note: The following guidelines were included with the request to mission-sending organizations that they name constituencies involved in cross-cultural mission in the U.S.]

The following guidelines are intended to be descriptive, not theological or sociological definitions. We offer them as guidelines for pastoral/missional judgment and not as definitive statements or categories. A cross-cultural missionary may fall into one or many of these descriptions. We at the USCMA realize that these "guidelines" are not exhaustive, but they will help you in "self-defining" those missionary activities in which your organization is engaged.

1. The ministry is with people who have either never heard the Word or had it effectively proclaimed to them or their community i.e., **generally not reachable by the common methods or means of ministry in the U.S.**
2. The missionary is working in an area where the **local church** is easily understood as **institutionally underdeveloped** i.e., it lacks indigenous ecclesial leadership, personnel, and financial resources for effective ministry beyond the pastoral nurture of its own membership.

3. The ministry is genuinely with those on the margins i.e., **among people linguistically, culturally, and/or economically outside** the stream of the dominant culture.
4. The people with whom this ministry is exercised would see themselves as significantly distinct from the mainline culture i.e., **their distinct identity is clearly perceived by themselves when in the larger cultural context of the United States.**
5. It is a ministry of dialogue by which the Christian churches or community is engaged with a **community of values different from its own in some core religious or moral manner.**

GUIDELINES TO THE PRESENTATION

The following 2008 – 2009 tabulation has been compiled by the USCMA from data received from mission-sending organizations and home dioceses (with additional reference to the *Official Catholic Directory*). The data is as reliable as the most diligent effort can make it and as current as the constant changes in personnel will allow.

The lists of data include only U.S. missionaries, meaning those who are or have been United States citizens by birth or naturalization. Those who have taken out citizenship in their country of mission service are still listed here as missionaries from the United States. On the other hand, citizens of other countries serving as members of mission-sending organizations headquartered in the U.S. are not listed. As an example, there are numerous Maryknoll sisters serving abroad, often in countries other than their homeland, who are not U.S. citizens and therefore are not listed here among the Maryknoll sisters serving abroad as U.S. Catholic missionaries. This policy helps to prevent overlapping when the various national mission councils publish their tabulations. It must be remembered, however, that mission-sending organizations which appear to have only very few members in a given mission field may have many more who are not U.S. citizens.

The lists bear the heading *U.S. Catholic Missioners*. This includes all those Catholics who are sponsored by Catholic mission-sending organizations, even if they work for projects not sponsored by the Catholic Church.

As with the 2004 – 2005 tabulation, the many missionaries ministering in cross-cultural situations in the United States are included. The continuing political and socio-economic changes, trends and circumstances – both in the U.S. and abroad – have enabled a renewed understanding of mission universally.

TERMS:

MISSIONER is used in its generally accepted sense. It includes not only those engaged in the primary and subsequent stages of evangelization but also those ministering in closely related areas of community service and development.

SERVING stands for service over a period of time. While some organizations provide opportunities for short-term service, only those individuals are included in these statistics who serve for a minimum of one year.

ABROAD means “outside” of the 50 contiguous United States. Those working in Alaska and Hawaii are included in the data as missionaries serving within the U.S. As Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are U.S. territories and not U.S. states, their data lies in the category of “abroad” for the statistical purposes of this inventory.

U.S. Missioners by Church Role: 1960-2009

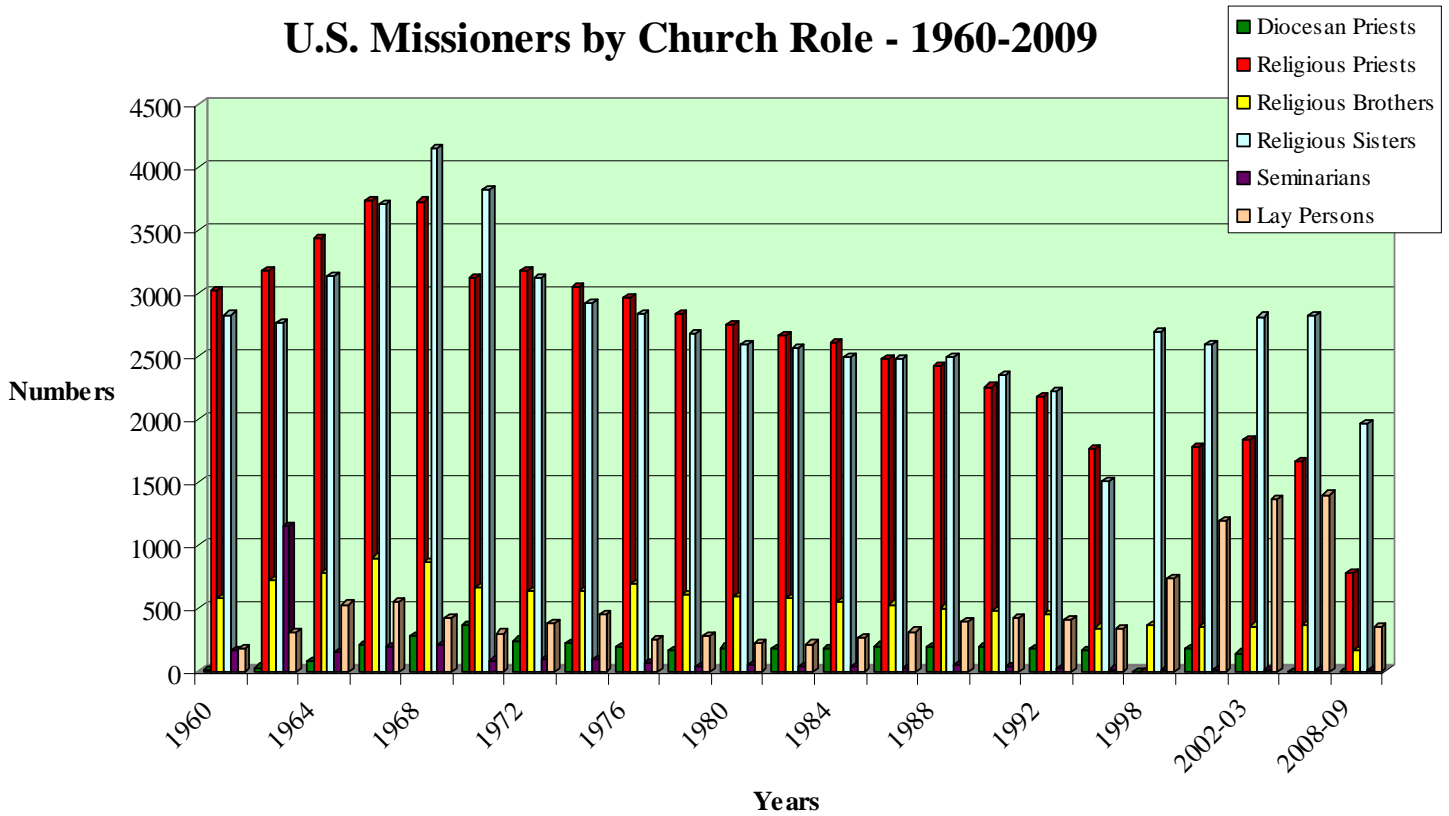
Years	Diocesan Priests	Religious Priests	Religious Brothers	Religious Sisters	Seminar-ians	Lay Persons	Totals
1960	14	3018	578	2827	170	178	6785
1962	31	3172	720	2764	1152	307	8146
1964	80	3438	782	3137	157	532	8126
1966	215	3731	901	3706	201	549	9303
1968	282	3727	869	4150	208	419	9655
1970	373	3117	666	3824	90	303	8373
1972	246	3182	634	3121	97	376	7656
1974	220	3048	639	2916	101	458	7382
1976	193	2961	691	2840	68	257	7010
1978	166	2830	610	2673	43	279	6601
1980	188	2750	592	2592	50	221	6393
1982	178	2668	578	2560	44	217	6245
1984	187	2603	549	2492	40	263	6134
1986	204	2473	532	2481	30	317	6037
1988	200	2420	504	2495	50	394	6063
1990	200	2257	477	2347	42	421	5744
1992	181	2183	449	2222	26	406	5467
1996	173	1770	347	1513	18	343	***4164
1998	• 167	• 1903	370	2693	11	739	°5883
2000-01	180	1784	349	2589	15	1191	°6108
2002-03	147	1840	361	2812	8	1368	6536
2004-05	• 136	1663	366	2819	9	1402	6395
2008-09	°8	784	171	1962	9	358	3352

*** Alaska and Hawaii are no longer in the category of overseas missioners

° These numbers include Bishops and Deacons

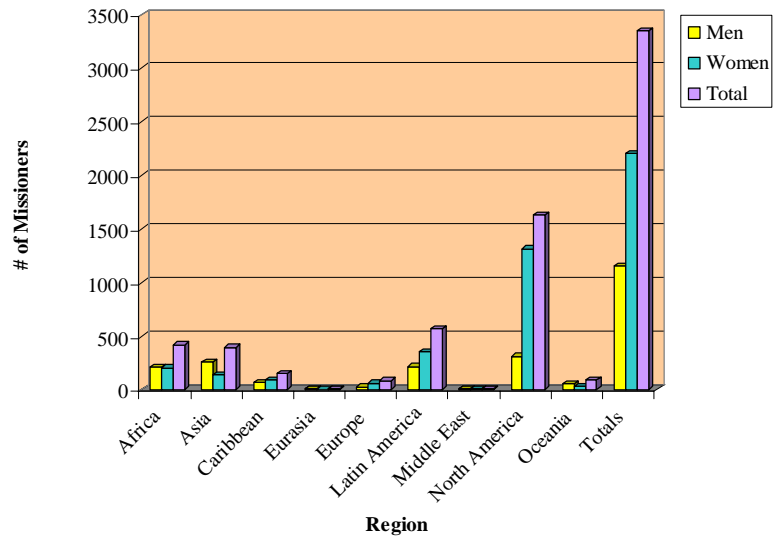
• These numbers includes missioners serving within and outside the U.S. Borders
In Cross-Cultural Mission

U.S. Missioners by Church Role - 1960-2009



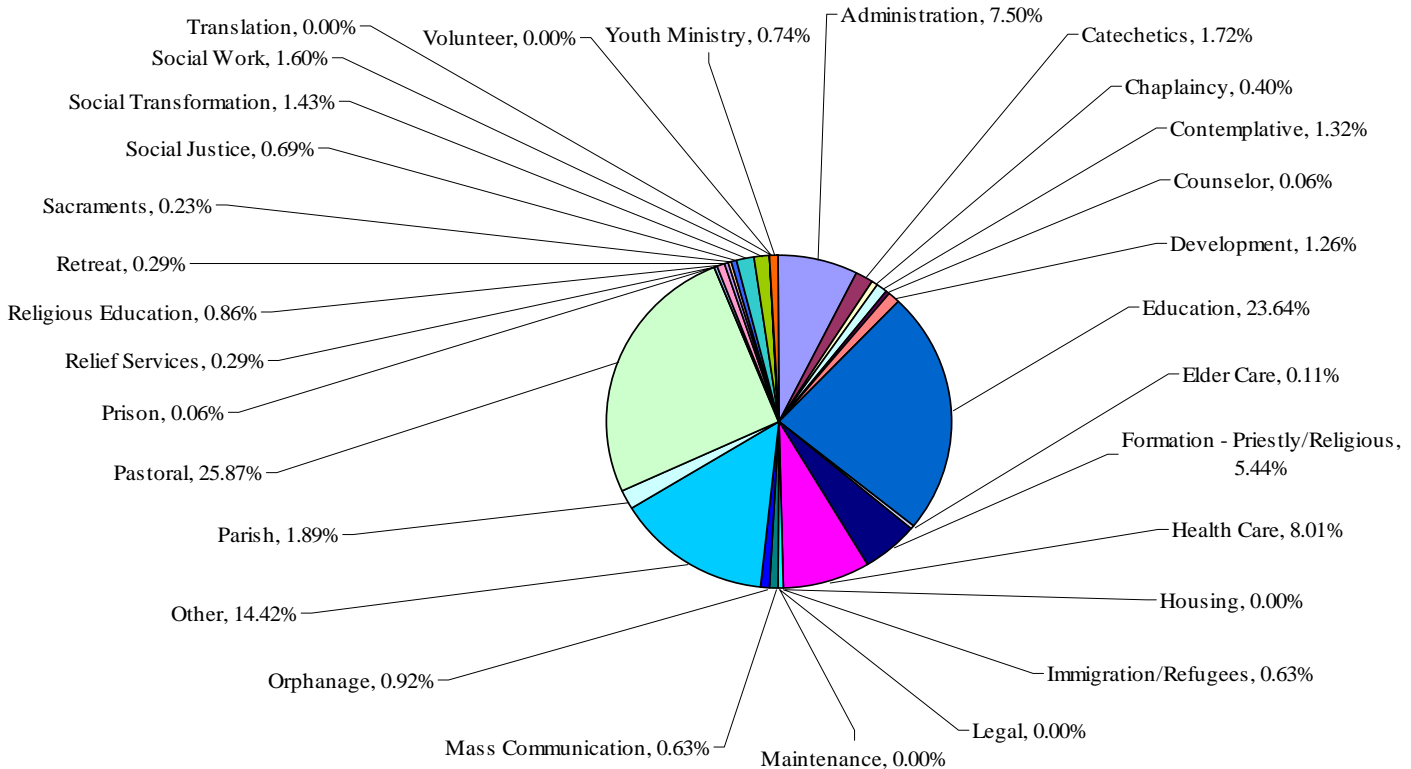
	Men	Women	Total
Africa	213	205	418
Asia	254	141	395
Caribbean	63	91	154
Eurasia	5	1	6
Europe	25	60	85
Latin America	215	352	567
Middle East	7	4	11
North America	313	1316	1629
Oceania	56	31	87
Totals	1151	2201	3352

U.S. Catholic Missioners by Region and Gender - 2008-2009

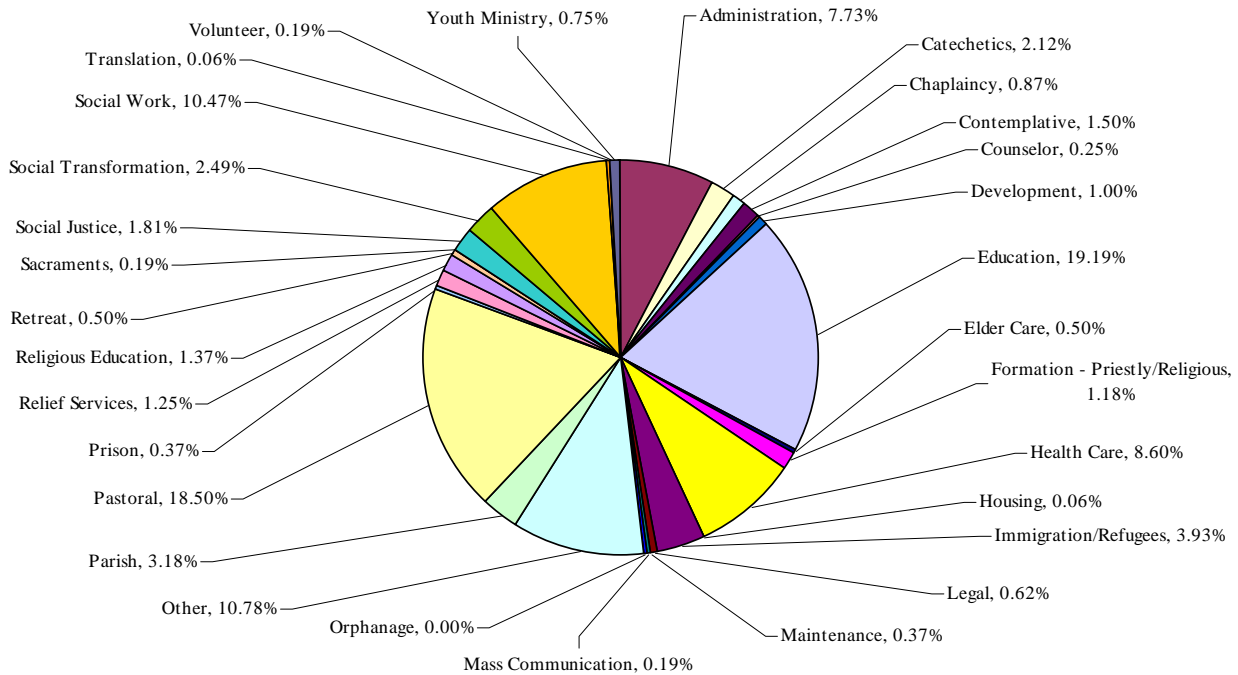


Ministry Type Counts - 2008-2009				
Ministry Type	World		Cross-Cultural	
	Responses	Percentage	Responses	Percentage
Administration	255	7.61	124	7.73
Catechetics	64	1.91	34	2.12
Chaplaincy	21	0.63	14	0.87
Contemplative	47	1.40	24	1.50
Counselor	5	0.15	4	0.25
Development	38	1.13	16	1.00
Education	721	21.51	308	19.19
Elder Care	10	0.30	8	0.50
Formation - Priestly/Religious	114	3.40	19	1.18
Health Care	278	8.29	138	8.60
Housing	1	0.03	1	0.06
Immigrations/Refugees	74	2.21	63	3.93
Legal	10	0.30	10	0.62
Maintenance	6	0.18	6	0.37
Mass Communication	14	0.42	3	0.19
Orphanage	16	0.48	0	0.00
Other	425	12.68	173	10.78
Parish	84	2.51	51	3.18
Pastoral	749	22.34	297	18.50
Prison	7	0.21	6	0.37
Relief Services	25	0.75	20	1.25
Religious Education	37	1.10	22	1.37
Retreat	13	0.39	8	0.50
Sacraments	7	0.21	3	0.19
Social Justice	41	1.22	29	1.81
Social Transformation	65	1.94	40	2.49
Social Work	196	5.85	168	10.47
Translation (Official)	1	0.03	1	0.06
Volunteer	3	0.09	3	0.19
Youth Ministry	25	0.75	12	0.75
Totals	3,352	100	1,605	100

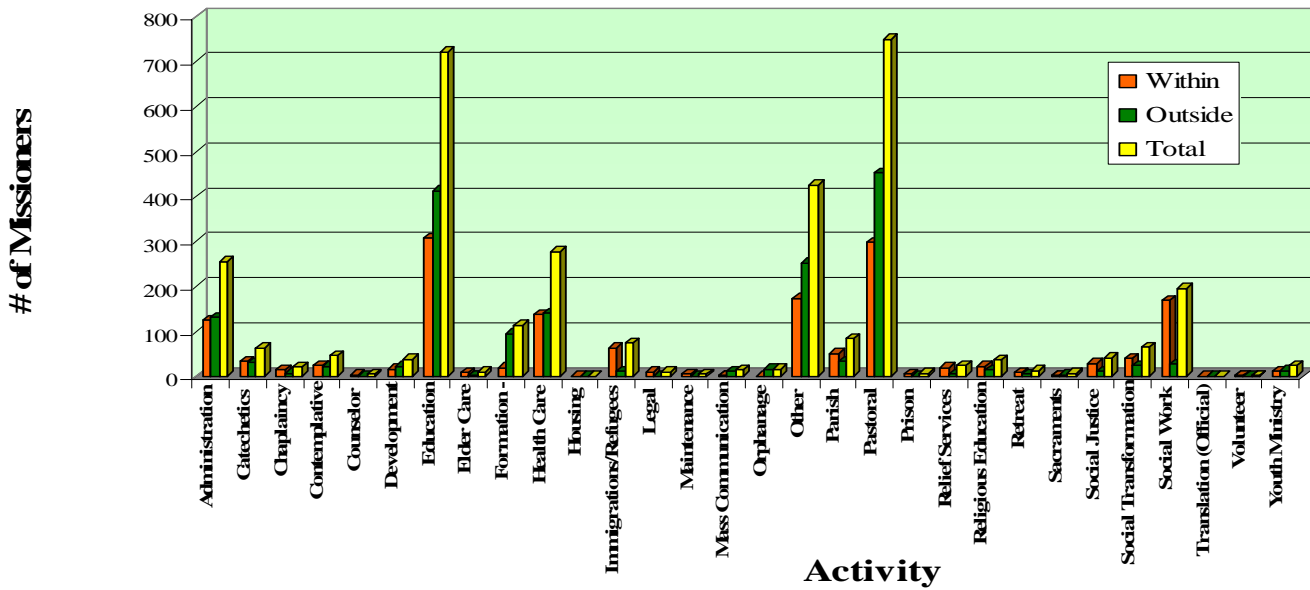
Primary Ministry Outside U.S. Borders



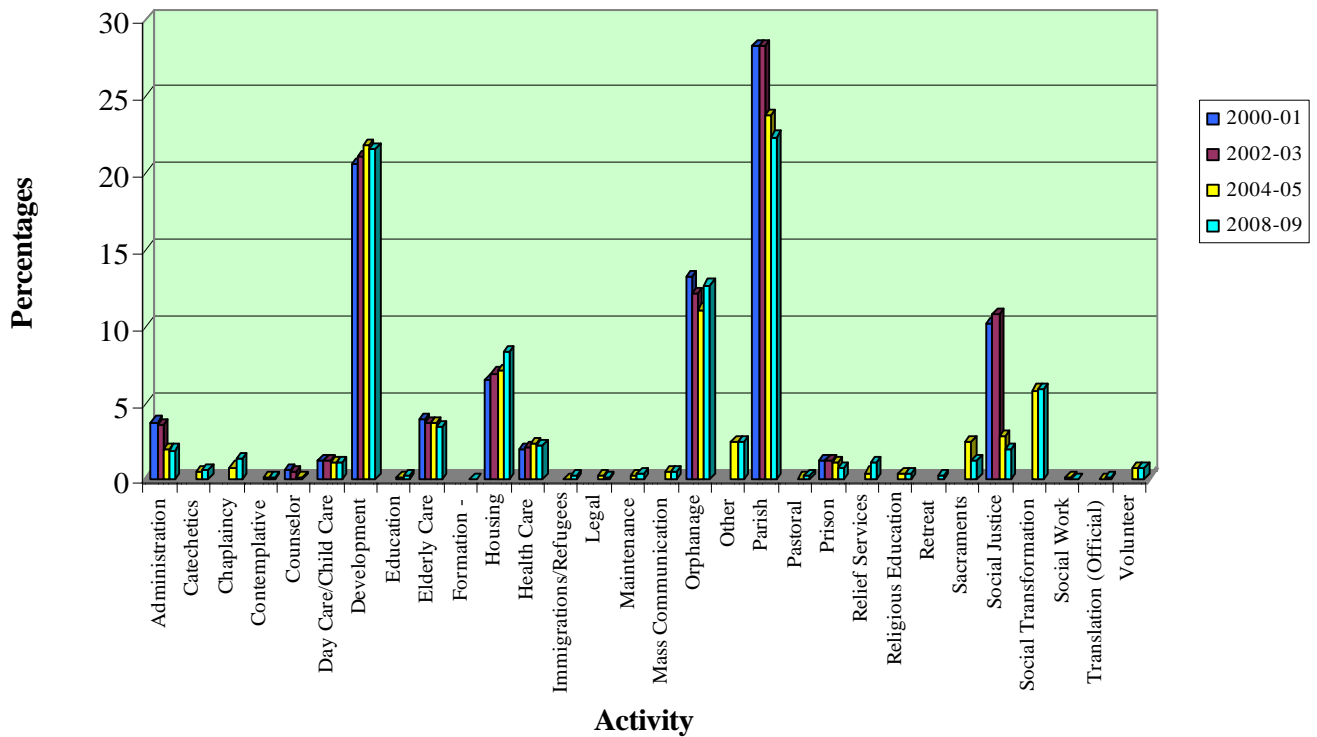
Primary Ministry Within U.S. Borders



Primary Ministry - Within/Outside U.S. 2008-2009



Missionary Activity Comparison - All Missioners - 2000-01, 2002-03, 2004-05, 2008-09

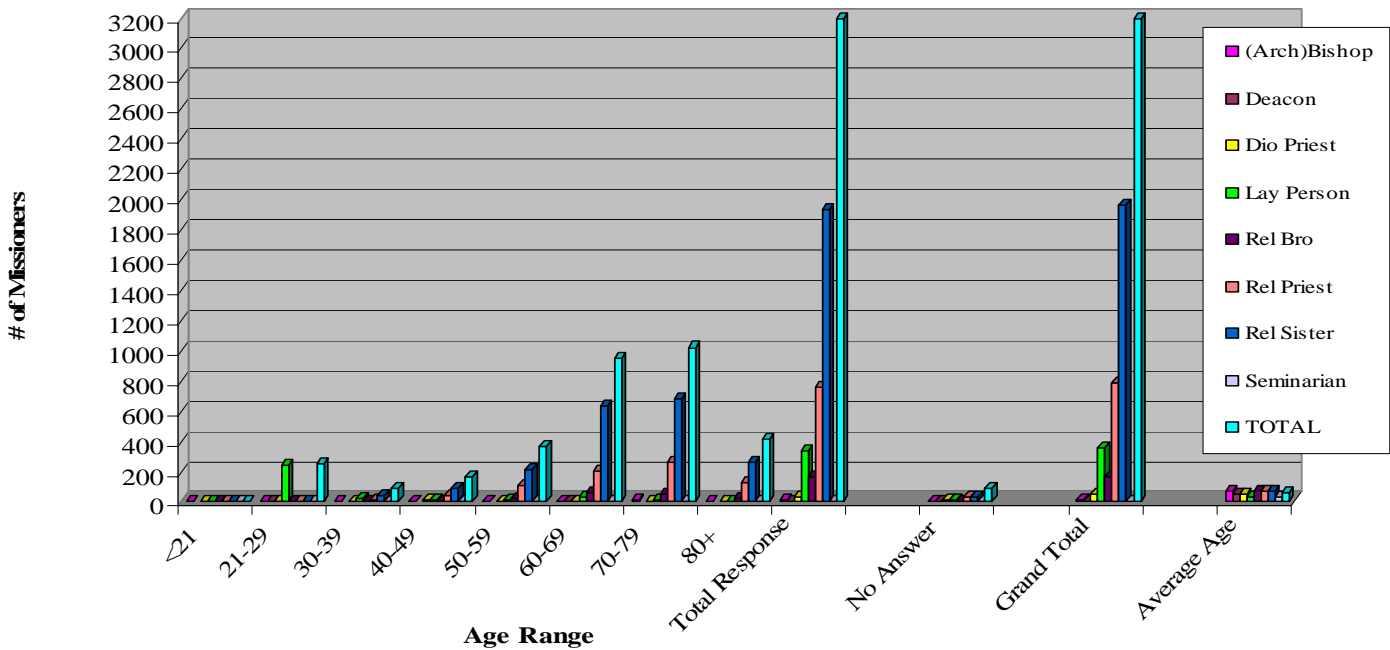


Missionary Ministry Comparison					
All Missioners					
2000-01,2002-03,2004-05, 2008-09					
Category	Percentages	2000-01	2002-03	2004-05	2008-09
Administration		7.83	7.71	7.74	7.61
Catechetics		3.75	3.58	2.02	1.91
Chaplaincy				0.53	0.63
Contemplative				0.81	1.40
Counselor				0.09	0.15
Day Care/Child Care		0.59	0.46	0.13	
Development		1.29	1.27	1.16	1.13
Education		20.55	21.1	21.81	21.51
Elderly Care				0.14	0.30
Formation - Priestly/Rel.		3.9	3.69	3.69	3.40
Housing					0.03
Health Care		6.45	6.93	7.11	8.29
Immigrations/Refugees		1.98	2.14	2.31	2.21
Legal				0.06	0.30
Maintenance				0.28	0.18
Mass Communication				0.28	0.42
Orphanage				0.53	0.48
Other		13.18	12.13	11.09	12.68
Parish				2.44	2.51
Pastoral		28.31	28.27	23.74	22.34
Prison				0.08	0.21
Relief Services		1.2	1.21	1.08	0.75
Religious Education				0.44	1.10
Retreat				0.42	0.39
Sacraments					0.21
Social Justice				2.49	1.22
Social Transformation		10.13	10.74	2.86	1.94
Social Work				5.83	5.85
Translation (Official)				0.09	0.03
Volunteer				0.02	0.09
Youth Ministry				0.72	0.75

U.S. CATHOLIC AGE DISTRIBUTION BY CHURCH ROLE

Age Group	(Arch)Bishop	Deacon	Dio Priest	Lay Person	Rel Bro	Rel Priest	Rel Sister	Seminarian	TOTAL
<21	0		0	2	0	0	0	0	2
21-29	0	1	0	243	0	1	8	2	255
30-39	0		5	26	3	10	39	5	88
40-49	0		12	11	6	42	91	1	163
50-59	1		4	14	24	109	214	1	367
60-69	3	2	7	33	63	204	635	0	947
70-79	10		7	11	50	261	683	0	1,022
80+	1		2	1	23	128	262	0	417
Total Response	15	3	37	341	169	755	1,932	9	3,261
No Answer	1	0	12	16	2	29	31	0	91
Grand Total	16	3	49	357	171	784	1,963	9	3,352
Average Age	71.2	53.7	55.6	32.2	71.9	68.5	68.5	37	64.6

AGE DISTRIBUTION BY CHURCH ROLE - 2008-2009





MISSION CONGRESS 2010

*God's Mission, Many Faces
A Portrait of US Catholics in Mission*

OCTOBER 28-31, 2010

Albuquerque Marriott

2101 Louisiana Blvd. NE

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

www.missioncongress.org

KEYNOTES

God's Mission, Many Faces:

A Portrait of U.S. Catholics in Mission

REV. GARY RIEBE ESTRELLA, SVD, PhD
President of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic
Theologians in the U.S. (ACHTUS)

**Turned Upside Down: Learnings and Challenges
(A Missioner's Journey in Southern Africa)**

SR. JANICE MCLAUGHLIN, MM
President of Maryknoll Sisters

Continental Mission in Light of Aparecida

CARDINAL OSCAR RODRIGUEZ MARADIAGA

Archbishop of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, President of
Caritas International and former President of Consejo
Episcopal Latino Americano (CELAM)

FACILITATORS:

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Catholic Charities USA

Kim Smolik, PhD
Franciscan Mission Service

RESPONDENTS:

Emerging Directions in Mission

Tom Frieberg (CNVS Board Chair)

Teresita Gonzales de la Maza (USCMA Board President)

New Faces, New Opportunities, New Challenges

Dr. Kim Smolik, PhD

Rev. Clarence Williams, CPPS, PhD

DIALOGUE SESSIONS/WORKSHOPS

- 1. Mission USA: The Many Faces of Mission** – Bishops Gerry Kicanas and Michael Warfel, facilitated by David Suley
- 2. Educating for God's Mission: An Assessment of the Effectiveness of Immersion and International Programs for U.S. Catholic Undergraduates** : Rev. Michael Lee, SJ, PhD (Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles)
- 3. Formation of Volunteers for Mission – Domestic & International Perspectives**: Jesuit Volunteer Corps
- 4. Immigration Issues in Mission: People, Policy, and Practical Response**: Ann Marie Gibbons (USCCB-CLINIC)
- 5. Parishes and Dioceses in Mission: Mutual Partnership in a Global Context**: Dr. Michael Gable, Rosanne Fischer and Michael Haasl
- 6. Global Trends that Impact Ad Gentes Mission**: Sr. Madge Karecki, SSJ-TOSF, DTh (Chicago Mission Office) & Rev. Linh Hoang, OFM, PhD (Sienna College)
- 7. Mission in Other Traditions: Catholics and Muslims in Dialogue** – Dr. Scott Alexander, PhD (Chair of Department of Intercultural Studies and Ministry and Director of Catholic-Muslim Study Program, CTU)
- 8. Mission as Shared Spirituality: Learning from the Native American Experience**: Mike Valdo (Acoma), Josie Montoya (Sandia) and Rev. Michael Fitzpatrick, SJ (Missioner to the Native Americans): Sr. Kateri Mitchell (Director of Tekakwitha Conference) - Facilitator
- 9. I, too, have a mission... to the U.S.! – International missionaries serving in the U.S.**: Sr. Joanna Okereke - Nigerian (USCCB), Mr. Symeon Rendall Yee, MDiv – Fijian (multicultural parishes – Los Angeles, California), Rev. Anselm Malonda, CICM- Congolese (Missionhurst Provincial)
- 10. Bringing Order to the Mission: Funding, Governance and Accountability** – Michael Brough (National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management)
- 11. Earth: A Special Partner in Mission (ecological perspectives)**: Dan Misleh (Catholic Coalition on Climate Change) and Sr. Joan Brown, osf
- 12. Ecumenical Perspectives on Mission: Blessings and Challenges of Working Together** Panel – TBD
- 13. With Christ in Mission: Mission Identity and Call (the baptized, the vowed, the ordained)** – Alisa Macksey and TBD
- 14. Missionaries to One Another in a Culturally Diverse Faith Community** -- Alejandro Aguilera Titus (U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops)
- 15. Stewardship in Mission** -- Dr. Carolyn Young (Koch Foundation)

MEETING THE NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES
Conversations with the Native Americans in the New Mexico area will add depth and color to our perspectives of mission. Participants will be bused to different locations.

Four Guatemalan Human Rights Defenders Murdered in January and February 2010



2009 was the most violent year in the past decade for Guatemalan human rights defenders, with 15 defenders murdered; 2010 is proving to be even worse, with 17 attacks on defenders, among them 4 dead.

The Guatemala Human Rights Commission respects and promotes the work of Guatemalan human rights defenders and their right to continue their work without threats, attacks, or assassination.

GHRC condemns the murders and demands the immediate and thorough investigation of the crimes, and prosecution of those responsible.

We insist on protection for the families and other threatened defenders in accordance with their wishes.

Evelinda Ramírez Reyes was attacked and killed while driving home to San Marcos from Guatemala City on the evening of January 13, 2010. Evelinda was a community leader and member of FRENA (Resistance in Defense of Natural Resources and People's Rights) and the CUC/Farmer's Union. She had just attended a series of meetings with government officials on public access to electricity; she and other FRENA members filed complaints about the excessive rates charged by service provider DEOCSA-Unión Fenosa and also advocated for the public management of electrical energy distribution. She leaves behind a four year old son.

German Antonio Curup was kidnapped with a colleague on February 11, 2010, by men waiting for them outside of the workplace. On February 14, his body appeared in Barcenas, 10 miles south of San Juan, with his throat slit and other signs of torture. German worked for the defense of land and natural resources. He was the son of Abelino Curup, community leader of San Juan Sacatepequez who was sentenced to 50 years in prison for a murder that he did not commit.

Octavio Roblero, member of FRENA, was shot with 17 bullets at 6pm on February 17, 2010, in front of his shop in the market in Malacatán, San Marcos. Octavio was the brother in law of Victor Galvez, also a FRENA leader who was killed in Malacatán in October 2009. Both leaders organized a movement against the abuses and illegal actions of the electric company DEOCSA-UNION FENOSA.

Juan Antonio Chen, Mayan lawyer, was shot dead in his car, by a man in a pickup truck, at 7pm on February 17 in Coban, Alta Verapaz. Chen worked with ODHAG (Human Rights Office of the Archdiocese of Guatemala and the National Reparations Program). (Taken from CMSM J/P Alert March 2010)

REST IN PEACE

Sr. Barbara Bowe, RSCJ.

Barbara is known to many religious communities for her writings and for the talks she has given in the past. Barbara was a beloved member of CTU's faculty, an excellent scholar and a superb teacher. Her gentle and loving presence, her generosity of spirit, and her leadership within the faculty of CTU will be sorely missed.

Sr. Mary Daniel Turner, SNDdeN.

Mary Daniel was a former executive Director of the Leadership Conference of Women religious (LCWR). She was known throughout the world as a tireless advocate for human dignity and an influential thinker who worked to bring about change in the Church and in religious life.

Africa Faith and Justice Network with the Center of Concern

2010 Conference & Lobby day.

Justice in Africa: On Whose Terms?

Keynote Speaker: **Fr. Peter Henriot, S.J.**

**Saturday April 17 & Sunday April 18, with
Monday, April 19 Lobby day**

This year's Conference includes a panel discussion on Restorative Justice, featuring the professors contributing to the AFJN book on that theme, as well as a wide variety of workshops - Restorative Justice, US Africa policy (including both the trend of militarization and Obama administration's Africa policy), Great Lakes Region, Food Security (including GMO's), College AFJN Chapters and Advocacy on Campus, and Parish twinning.

We will follow our discussions with a Lobby day Monday, April 19, arranged by AFJN staff, giving you a chance to have your voice heard by those who shape US policy on the issues you care about!

For more information, go to: www.afjn.org

Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Events!

April:

Incarnational Mission in a Troubled World
April 13-16, 2010; More information and registration online at www.OMSC.org/seminars

AFJN National Conference
"Justice in Africa - On Whose Terms?" April 17th - 19th
Arlington, VA; register at www.afjn.org

Models of Leadership in Mission
April 19-23; More information and registration online at www.OMSC.org/seminars

From Mission to Mission Re-Entry Weekend Workshop;
April 22-25; Chicago, IL; more information at www.missiontoomission.org

Pontifical Mission Societies National Meeting
April 27-29; Chicago, IL; more information at www.pmsnatmtg.org

May:

Catholic Cultural Diversity Network Convocation
"It's Better Together"
May 6-8; Notre Dame, IN; For information contact the
USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church

Haunted by Grace: Celebrating the Workings of God's
Spirit; May 9-14; more information at www.maryknollsisters.org

June:

Centenary World Mission Conference
"Witnessing to Christ Today"
June 2-6; Edinburgh, Scotland; more information at www.edinburgh2010.org

From Mission to Mission Transition Retreat Workshop
June 8-15; Oldenburg, IN; more information at www.missiontoomission.org

"Behold! I am Creating Something New" Religious life in the 21st
Century; June 6-11; more information at www.maryknollsisters.org

Walking Humbly, Living Justly: Globalization, Spirituality and
Human Transformation; June 13-18; more information at www.maryknollsisters.org

American Society of Missiology Annual Meeting
"Colorful Initiatives: North American Cultures in Mission"
June 18-20; Techny, IL; more information at www.asmweb.org

"A Spirituality of Speaking Out: Discipleship and Risk in the
Gospel of Mark"; June 20- 25; more information at www.marknollsisters.org

Out of Chaos: Evangelization in a Postmodern, Globalizing World;
June 27- July 2; more information at www.maryknollsisters.org

July:

From Mission to Mission Re-Entry Weekend Workshop; July 8-11;
Chicago, IL; more information at www.missiontoomission.org

The Gospel Mandate: Right Relationships and Economic Justice;
July 11-16; more information at www.maryknollsisters.org

Healing the Wound: Mind, Body, Soul and Earth; July 18-23; more
information at www.maryknollsisters.org

Religious Brothers Conference Annual Convention
July 23-26; St. Louis, MO

71st Annual Tekakwitha Conference
"Walk in Beauty with Kateri in the Land of Enchantment"
July 28-August 1; Albuquerque, NM; more information at www.tekconf.org

August

CMSM 2010 National Assembly
"Ephphata! To Hear and to Proclaim"
August 4-7; Long Beach, CA

2010 LCWR Assembly
"Hope in the Midst of Darkness"
August 10-17; Dallas, TX

Go Green

Sign up to receive the *Mission Update*
electronically! Email us at
uscma@uscatholicmission.org



This light is entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly.
Receive the light of Christ!

Happy Easter!!!

FROM THE BOARD AND STAFF OF USCMA

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