

A Letter from the Director

Dear Friend of the Missions,

The reason Cardinal Joseph Ritter sent the first 3 St. Louis priest missionaries to the Archdiocese of La Paz, Bolivia in 1956 was to respond to a request by the Papal Nuncio to Bolivia. He requested Cardinal Ritter to share some of his priests since the Archdiocese of La Paz had so few native Bolivian priests. It is my joy to share with you the good news that in all three areas of Bolivia where our missionaries serve (the Archdiocese of La Paz, the Apostolic Prelature of Corocoro, and the Vicariate of the Pando), there were native priests ordained in 2010 and 2011. Our missionaries are helping to make missionary disciples in these native Bolivian priests.

There is also progress being made among the Bolivian laity in making missionary disciples. Carrying out the theme of the Great Continental Mission of the new evangelization in Latin America, our missionaries are helping to implement the new evangelization by making missionary disciples in the laity of Bolivia. All the baptized are called through faith to become disciples of Our Lord.

While important steps are being taken in making missionary disciples in Bolivia, nothing would be possible without the support of Catholics in the Archdiocese of St. Louis. The annual collection for our Latin America Apostolate will take place in all parishes on Sunday, August 7, 2011. Thank you for your generous support for our St. Louis priest missionaries and the people they serve in Bolivia.

Gratefully in Our Lord,

Monsignor Francis X. Blood

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Director, Latin America Apostolate

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