



# WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

## Celebrate The Hope That Saves!

October 23, 2011

### A Message From Our Director

Monsignor Francis X. Blood



*Msgr. Blood greets children in Kenya, February 2011*

There are thousands of missionaries worldwide who go forth to lead others to Christ and bring them “*the hope that saves*”—missionaries such as **Fr. Emmanuel Luhumbu** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, **Sr. Anila Christy, D.M.** from India, and **Fr. Akpan Enimabasi Macjoe, M.S.P.** from Nigeria.

In the coming weeks, we will be featuring these three outstanding missionaries and their heroic efforts to evangelize around the world. Their ministries could not exist without support from the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and the World Mission Sunday collection, which takes place on October 23rd. As we prepare to celebrate World Mission Sunday, **I invite you to fulfill your responsibility as a baptized Catholic for evangelizing the world by your prayer and sacrificial offering** to support the Society for the Propagation of the Faith—the Pope’s network of support for missionaries in over 1,150 mission territories around the world. Thank you for your generosity!



### Fr. Emmanuel Luhumbu

Diocese of Kole, Democratic Republic of the Congo (formerly Zaire)

Fr. Emmanuel’s diocese is 41,000 square miles and is located in a rainforest with two seasons—dry (June to August) and rainy (September to May). There are 250,000 Catholics, which is 35% of the total population. 65% of these Catholics are extremely poor.

**“The need for evangelization and trained ministers is great. The diocese has set a goal to construct more new parishes, each with a new church, rectory and convent,”** said Fr. Emmanuel. “There are presently 308 Ecclesial Communities (mission-stations) scattered throughout the diocese. They must have trained lay catechists. Many of them are so large that they have to be made into independent parishes with a resident priest.”

**Convents are also needed for Sisters who provide catechetical, educational, medical, and social ministries throughout the diocese.** They would also like to provide training in liturgy and the Bible.

“Another challenge is to provide for the education of so many very poor children from remote villages every year by providing them with lodging and boarding,” said Fr. Emmanuel.

In the diocese, there is no electricity, no running water, no cars for pastoral jobs, no maintained roads, no means of communication, no hospital, and no good schools. **The people live in dire poverty** with many still-born children and diseases. “The mission and spiritual prospects of the Diocese of Kole are bright, but its needs are pressing,” said Fr. Emmanuel.

**Your support helps missionaries like Fr. Emmanuel to serve, teach, care for, and evangelize the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.**



*Celebrate*  
The Hope That Saves

Pray and Give Generously on  
*World Mission Sunday*  
October 23, 2011  
The Society for the Propagation of the Faith | Pontifical Mission Societies

Procession to Sunday Mass, St. Joseph Church, Mutunguru, Kenya

**CELEBRATE THE HOPE THAT SAVES!** This year’s World Mission Sunday theme is brought to life by the children’s choir from St. Joseph Parish in Mutunguru, Kenya, as they dance their way into church. The parish is located 60 miles northwest of Nairobi, Kenya in a rural, mountainous area. Diocesan Directors of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith from around the United States visited Kenya in February 2011. (Catholic News Service, Nancy Wiechec)



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