

Pallottine Mission Appeal 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I am Fr. Joe Koyickal, from the Pallottine Fathers and Brothers, based in Milwaukee, WI.

I thank you and the Pastor and the diocese for inviting us to your Parish to make this appeal for the support of our missions. Pallottine Fathers and Brothers is a Religious Congregation founded by St. Vincent Pallotti in 1835 in Rome. At present there are over 22,000 Pallottine Priests and Brothers doing various apostolates in over 57 countries all over the world. I am representing the Pallottine Missions in India and Zambia. Pallottine priests arrived in India nearly 70 years ago and we would like to introduce you to our new mission there known as '**Arunachal Mission**', bordering China and to our Mission in Zambia, in the African Continent. These missions though young, are very vibrant and growing Missions of the Pallottine Fathers. These two Missions are supported by the Pallottine Community in Milwaukee, WI.

Arunachal Mission, in India is a challenging mission among the tribal people living in the mountainous terrain in the North East of India bordering China. Though the people are poor, they are very eager and enthusiastic to know Christ and to grow in Christian faith. Our apostolate mainly consists in evangelization, pastoral ministries, education ministries, providing hostel facilities for students and involving in socio-charitable apostolates among the poorest people of Arunachal Pradesh. Priests, Sisters and Catechists go for 'Bible tour' during the time of Easter and Christmas from village to village preaching and teaching the Word of God and imparting Christian faith to the people who had never heard of Jesus Christ. The eagerness and enthusiasm of the people to receive Jesus and his message is a great source of inspiration, motivation and joy for many in the region. Education of the new generation is another important apostolate, because a lasting development and transformation can be realized only by educating the children of the place. We request your assistance and support for the educational and evangelization ministries such as building up schools, hostels, orphanages, clinics, and churches as well as providing the basic necessities for many.

Pallottine priests began their Mission in the African country of Zambia in 2005. **Zambian Mission** focuses on the four prerequisites needed for a Mission: Parish apostolate, education apostolate, health apostolate and socio-charitable apostolates. Zambia Mission has laid its foundation on these four pillars or ingredients of a Christian Mission. Pallottine Priests take care of two big parishes with eight sub stations. We have also two primary schools and they are being upgraded every year with additional classes. Many students are coming from far remote villages. We also provide scholarship for poor university students. The Primary health Centre we run plays a major role for the better health of the people especially for the poor in the remote areas. There are many cases of HIV/AIDS patients and they are provided with medicine, nutrition as well as some simple professional training to earn a living.

Last year we opened a Seminary to train students from Zambia to Priesthood. The Possibility of local vocations from Zambia gives much scope and hope for the future of the Pallottine Mission in there. One of the priorities of Zambia mission is the formation of these Seminarians. We recruited the first batch of students in 2019. At present we have facility to accommodate only six students. As a result we are not able to recruit a second batch in 2020. We are looking forward to buy a plot and construct a seminary for the future Pallottine students. In order to purchase a plot and build a seminary we estimate about \$300,000.00 In addition, the tuition fee, food and accommodation of a seminarian per year would cost over \$1800.00.

The eight substations of the two big parishes are simple huts with no basic facilities. Almost all of them are of thatched roof and many do not have even walls. We need at least over \$ 25,000.00 to build a small prayer hall /Church for the faithful to gather for prayers and Holy Eucharist.

Education apostolate is an effective and lasting means of apostolate. We need to build an additional class room every year and it requires \$8,800.00 to build a classroom. In addition to it we need to create other infrastructural facilities for the school. Supporting poor orphan children for higher studies also is a major expense.

Further, the present clinic in Zambia Mission is functioning in one of the rooms of the Pallottine Sisters' Convent. During the last two years, it had become a solace for more than six thousand patients. As the number of patients is increasing we are forced to relocate it from the convent, and for this we need to construct a new building. The estimated cost for the clinic would be around \$62,525.00

Dear brothers and Sisters in Christ, we request your partnership and collaboration in support of these missions. Let us become hands, feet, mouth and tongue of Jesus for the people of Arunachal and Zambia by extending our financial and support and offering our prayers. I thank you in advance for your generosity and May God Bless you in Abundance. Amen.