

THOUGHTS ABOUT THE MISSIONS

Today is Mission Sunday. It is a day on which we pray with special intentness for the missions. For many of us, that is the total explanation of what Mission Sunday means to us!

It is just not enough!

Mission Sunday is not just a day of special prayer for the missions. It is a call to each and every one of us to consider what the missions are; what they try to accomplish; why we owe it to God, to the world and to ourselves to support the missions; what are the missions we should support; and how we can support them.

First, let me realize that God has not re-opened Heaven to mankind for my own sole benefit. He wants it filled. True, He has given me the great gift of faith but He has given it to me so that I will help to share it.

There are three major mission fields: the foreign missions, the home missions, and our own personal mission field.

The foreign mission field includes all those areas outside our own country, where the Church is working to bring all the benefits (spiritual, cultural, social, physical, economic, etc.) of the Redemption to those areas' peoples.

The home mission field takes in all the mission areas within our own country. The more affluent parishes across the country come to the aid of those mission areas which are unable to support themselves.

The personal mission field is the scene of your own daily living. Everyone you meet in the course of a day is affected in some way by that contact. What influence do you try to make? Every one of these should carry away an impression of our Christian kindness, courtesy, honesty, patience, etc. We have a duty too to speak to others about the Christian life; we aren't trying to ram our beliefs down everyone's throat, but we should try tactfully to be an apostle for the welfare of others.

Summing up: we can help the missions by our prayers, our financial help, our personal dedication. And, if you are still eligible to do so, you might consider entering the novitiate or seminary so as to devote your life to this world-shaping work.

With whom can I share it? There's no difficulty finding an answer to that question. Of the world's some three billion people, about two billion have not yet had the privilege of Baptism. God wants these people to have the privilege.

Generous missionaries are devoting their lives to this task. They need support to keep them there: not merely support to build churches but support to help their people build a better way of life in every respect. (If we were to see sick, starving people on our own streets, we would certainly make personal sacrifices to help them. Sickness and hunger are no less bitter by the fact of being out of our sight.) These people need hospitals, schools, sanitation, food, etc., etc., etc. Even the dollar devalued here can do so much there.

OUR PARISH BULLETIN

TWENTIETH WEEK AFTER PENTECOST - (MISSION SUNDAY)

OCTOBER 20-26, 1963

What is it that plays a tremendously important part in our lives, but which we cannot see, cannot smell, cannot touch, cannot taste, cannot hear?

It is something that we have right now but can't be sure how long we shall continue to have it. Once it is gone, it vanishes, never to return to us.

Give up?

The answer is: time.

Time is a very important element in our lives. We begin our lives in time but when we end our lives, time ends for us. Time itself goes on for those who



remain on earth, but each individual comes at death "to the end of his time". Time belongs to earth, eternity is timeless.

It's interesting to reflect on our attitudes towards time. There are time-savers, and there are time-killers. Probably, all of us fit, at various times, into both classes. I saw a good example of that, a short time ago: a driver who was travelling far above the speed limit, obviously in a hurry, obviously trying to save time. We caught up to him about an hour later in a middle-size town, trying to "kill" the very time that he had saved on the highway, at the risk of killing people.

There is no need for us to go into detail about the working world's attitude towards time. So many bills we get, spell it out: so much for materials, so much for time. Time-saving appliances and devices are part of our daily routine.

In all our recreation, "have a good time" is our objective.

Who, then, can blame St. Paul for advising us to "make the most of your time"? St. Paul, however, is putting it in proper perspective for us. He is reminding us that we, you and I, have each of us been given a limited measure of time in which to prepare ourselves for eternity.

Our little measure of time is precious. Once it is gone, it vanishes, never to come again. What we have of it now, we can't be sure how long we may be permitted to have it. We have it now, *only now*. Are we using it as it is to be used: preparing ourselves, right now, for timeless eternity?



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Immaculate Conception Church

Rexton, N.B.

Rev. Herbert Grattan, Pastor

Mission Churches: South Branch

Chapel Point.

20th Sunday after Pentecost Oct. 20, 1963

Catechism classes this afternoon at 1 p.m.

Beads and Benediction this evening at 7 p.m.

Our Fall Supper will be held in the Parish Hall on Wednesday, October 23rd, Supper will be served between the hours of five and seven. Since this is a parish endeavor we ask for your co-operation and support.

There will be a meeting of the Home and School Association in the School on Tuesday evening, October 22nd at 8 o'clock.

Today is Mission Sunday. The collection taken up at today's masses is for the Propagation of the Faith.

Next Sunday, the last Sunday of October, is the Feast of Christ the King.

High Masses for the Week

Today at 10.30 Joseph L Murphy - Family

Mon. Mrs Wm Robichaud - Mr & Mrs Vincent Richard

Tues. Hubert LeBlanc - Mr & Mrs A.J. Richard

Wed. David Fournier - Mrs David Fournier

Thurs. Ronald Murphy - Raymund Thibodeau

Fri. Mrs George O'Leary - Mr & Mrs James Hanrahan

Sat. Judge H.O. McInerney - Evelyn & Ray McInerney

Server this week: Donald Thompson

There is a promise of marriage between Terrance Beers, son of Stanley Beers and Mildred Reid;

and

Theresa Carol Hudson, daughter of William Hudson and Beatrice Woods.

Third and last publication.

This marriage will take place in South Branch on Saturday, October 26th at 10 o'clock.

The Campaign for the Blind realized \$100.00. Our sincere thanks to all who worked and contributed to this Campaign.
