

# RNDM Mission Promoters Team



UK & IRELAND

## Newsletter



October 2018

Dear Sisters, Associates, Donors, Schools, Parishes, and Friends

As we enter the mystery of earth's circle of life in this Autumn season, often referred to as the golden season, we glean wisdom from the turning of the leaves, their letting go, the crumbling foliage waiting to become rich soil again after the abundance of harvest. Life does not stand still and Autumn invites us to ponder change in our own lives and to let transformation flow out into some new form just as the earth is modelling these changes for us.

“What challenge you engender through your painful twists and turnings”  
(Joyce Rupp – Falling Leaves)



October, month of the Rosary, with the Feast of the Holy Rosary celebrated on October 7th, commemorates the victory of Christians over the Turks in 1571, when Pope Pius V established the feast of Our Lady of Victory. It was later renamed Our Lady of the Rosary. By praying to Mary we call on her intercession.

*“Because of the mission she received from God, her life is closely linked with the mysteries of Jesus Christ and there is no one who has followed in the footsteps of the Incarnate Word more closely and with more merit than she “. (Mediator Dei 142)*

Today the Rosary is experiencing a new springtime. In our current world of violence, war, disasters and confusion, this Marian prayer helps to put Christ at the centre of our life, of our time, of our city and of our world, through contemplation and meditation on God's holy mysteries of joy, light, sorrow, and glory. During this month, we pray for peace, healing, and reconciliation for ourselves and for all people.

For Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, Mary has a special place in our spirituality. Our RNDM Constitutions states: “What Mary is at the heart of the Church, Euphrasie Barbier wished her to be at the heart of the Congregation: a presence of enduring faith, profound love, total openness, and generous service. It is for this reason that Euphrasie Barbier chose Mary of the Visitation and Pentecost as a model for living our religious missionary life.” (Article 7)

**Elizabeth Hartigan**

## UK & Ireland Mission Promotion Team

Mary Toner, Edith LeRiche  
Maria McMahan,  
Elizabeth Hartigan  
Mary Higney,  
RoseMarv Harbinson



The Team enjoyed a lively and fruitful reporting and planning meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup>. We are very grateful for the money raised for 2017 Christmas projects with the total of £8,700 sent to support: orphans in Chittagong Bangladesh; indigenous children in Ming Hung Vietnam; nutrition and education for children in Almel, South India; and health care for Lepers families in Thayet Myo Myanmar.

As a Province, we sent £30,000 from our Central Mission Fund, (a fund accumulated over the year from donations received, money not earmarked for a specific purpose). This helped to support the following projects: Solar Panels in Davao, Philippines; Farm development Kulaman, Philippines; Women's project in Muuo, Kenya; Disability help in Karakomo, Kenya ; Wheelchairs to Tei Wa Nghi, Kenya; Meals for the poor in Rakhine State, Pyay, Myanmar.

Other money explicitly earmarked by donors, was also allocated, with £10,300 sent for projects in Bangladesh; £2,300 to South Sudan; and £1,500 to Myanmar. Seven children, four in Bangladesh, two in Myanmar and one in Kenya, are sponsored each year for education by individual donors or groups of donors

Our RNDM International Newsletter September 2018 has some reports which you will enjoy reading.

## Thank you

What an amazing achievement for 2017/18. We are thankful to schools, parishes, associates, individual donors, those who knit, make cards, make jewellery, organise bring and buy sales and do so much; those who donate to our Christmas projects and throughout the year. We are very grateful for your continued support and ask God to bless you and your families abundantly.

The following are our Christmas projects for 2018:

- Give Hope - empowerment of indigenous children, giving them access to education in Vinh Trang, Vietnam
- Give Education – faith and social development of you in rural districts Bihar, India South
- Give Dignity – to women who struggle to make a living by setting up a weaving centre in Pyay Myanmar
- Give Life – mother and child care to indigenous Dulangan tribal people in a remote, unreachable area in Kulaman Philipnes.

Within the coming few weeks you will receive more information.

## **WORLD MISSION SUNDAY** - October 21<sup>st</sup> 2018

*Together we can build a better future*

World mission Sunday - a day set aside throughout the world to renew our commitment to praying for and supporting the Missions. Pope Francis says:

‘Life is a mission. Every woman and man is a mission; that is the reason for our life on earth... to live out fully our responsibility for the world is a great challenge ... the fact that we are not in this world by our own choice makes us sense that there is an initiative that precedes us and makes us exist. Each one of us is called to reflect on this fact: “I am a mission on this earth: that is the reason why I am here in this world” (Evangelii Gaudium 273). (Extracts from Message of Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2018)

‘I am mission’, ‘I am a missionary’, whoever I am, wherever I am, whatever I do; young, old, active, inactive, I am a mission. Together we can build a better future.

Solidarity mission in South Sudan celebrates ten years this year. Many Congregations of women and men in Rome ten years ago saw the need to provide training for teachers so that better education is available; training nurses and midwives for better health care; training pastoral agents for better social services, including healing from trauma and training agriculturists for better farming. The newest country in the world is struggling with more than half the population without food, provision of basic social services is at a bare minimum, and the economy has collapsed. The volunteer missionaries continue to journey with the people in this war torn country to help build a better future.



Mary Dunne and her dog Tilly from Manchester, knitting blankets for the missions. Thank you Mary

A family outside their home in Rimensii South Sudan





Join in Pray for:

The people of Sulawesi Indonesia and the numerous people who lost their lives during the latest earthquake and subsequent tsunami

Peace with justice in Syria, South Sudan and all the other troubled places in the world

Families especially those who are ill and who are in need of prayer.

God, our Father,  
We are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son,  
One family, in the Spirit of your love.  
Bless us with the joy of love.  
Make us patient and kind, gentle and generous, welcoming to those in need.  
Help us to live your forgiveness and peace  
Protect all families with your loving care, especially those for whom we now pray:

(Pause and quietly remember family members and others by name)

Increase our faith, strengthen our hope, keep us safe in your love,  
Make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share.  
This we ask, through Christ our Lord, Amen.  
(Prayer for the year of the Family)

Thank you once again for your continued help, support, and prayer. We are grateful for your partnership and do remember you, your families and friends in our prayers.

Mary Toner, Edith LeRiche, Rose Mary Harbinson, Mary Higney, Maria McMahan.  
Liz Hartigan

UK & Ireland Mission Promotion Team

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If you wish to be part of our RNDM Mission - to receive the Newsletter, hear more about the life and mission of our RNDM Congregation and/or donate, please contact;

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