



MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF SAINT PAUL
477 Royal Parade, Parkville Vic 3052

LINK

**between relatives, friends, benefactors
and Paulist Missionaries**

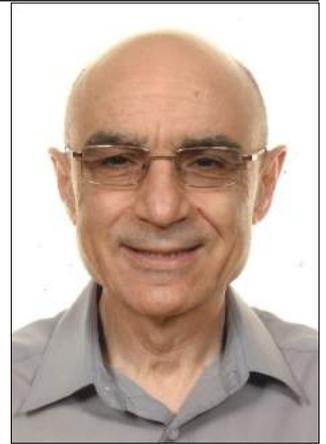
Dear friends, relatives and benefactors of the Paulist Missionaries.

I am pleased to introduce this newsletter to you all. In this issue we would like to share with you some information about the ministry Paulist Missionaries are doing in Peru together with our local news and some good news from the formation houses in the Philippines.

In future we aim to stay in touch with you by sending out newsletters talking about the different ministries Paulist Missionaries are involved in.

On behalf of the Paulist Missionaries in Australia and overseas, I thank you for your generosity.

Fr John Taliana mssp
Provincial Superior



Dear Relatives, Friends and Benefactors

Saludos! Greetings from Arequipa, Peru

Thank you for your continued prayerful, psychological and financial support for our many activities in our mission in Peru.

Our area has been very badly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic and many people have already died. In the two hospitals in Arequipa, an average of fifty deaths are being reported every twenty-four hours, and this does not take into account those who die at home! We are very busy trying to save as many lives as possible, and trying to support the survivors as best as we can. We are worse off now than when the pandemic started a year ago. With your support and generosity we can look into the future with some hope. There are always many needs in our ministry, and these have multiplied due to the present situation.



At present we are running various activities directed at helping to better the lives of those living around us. We have organized a small school giving secondary education to about three hundred students from disadvantaged backgrounds.



We also run a feeding programme. This programme was already running before the pandemic when we ministered to around four hundred people. Now, due to the pandemic, our programme has been expanded to feed about two thousand people from Monday to Friday each week. A chain of eighteen kitchens has been set up for this purpose.

Apart from preparing and distributing food, we also regularly give out food hampers

to people who cannot come to the kitchens. We distribute about two hundred hampers every two weeks.

We have recently created a *Compassion Fund* to help people, for whom our mission does not have a specific formal programme, in their various needs. This new Fund helps people pay for their education, medical bills, infrastructure, buying pots and pans, starting new small businesses, paying services bills and covering a long list of situations where the disadvantaged need a helping hand. At times this also included organising and paying for funerals of people who lived alone with no one to look after them.



Another important activity is a legal office through which we can protect the rights of the disadvantaged and marginalized. Through this office we defend the rights and the ownership of land, women's and children's rights, especially looking after single mothers, and also educate people on their rights and duties.



Another programme trains people, especially women, to develop their abilities and to start initiatives that can help them generate an income. Our aim is to help people to stand on their own two feet and not remain dependent on our handouts. For this purpose we organize different training programmes including production, management and marketing skills.

This year we celebrate twenty years from the opening of a small health clinic which has now grown to be the most important health center in the area. This clinic started in one very humble room, with one nurse and one doctor. Today this clinic looks after more than 30,000 annually. Our clinic now also operates a mobile clinic that visit settlements where people find it difficult to come to the centre.



There is also a group of *Well-being Promoters*, made up of people from different settlements and who have been trained in different skills, including health. One example of the work of this group is their fight against anemia. Due to inadequate nutrition, especially in pregnant women and in the first years of childhood, anemia is still a big issue in the settlements. We have managed to improve this situation by instructing groups of women, teaching them how to prepare nutritional, non-expensive, healthy meals. *Well-being Promoters* also teach hygiene, accident prevention and first response in cases of emergencies. We are very proud of the achievements of this group since most of



the members of this group could hardly read and write, but we saw their energy and leadership qualities and today they have become leaders in their community.

We are now looking preparing to build a new clinic to replace the one we are working in, as this has now become too small to cope with the demand. We have acquired the land, employed the personnel, bought the equipment and prepared the plans, but we still need more funds as a project like this can be very expensive.

Once again thank you for your generosity and, in return, we always keep you and your loved ones in our prayers; we offer prayers for our benefactors daily and we are very grateful for all the support to help the needy we minister to every day.

Blessings and take care.

Fr Alex Busuttil mssp
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Paulist Missionary News

Foundation Day of the Paulist Missionaries.

On June 30 1910, our Founder, the Servant of God Joseph De Piro, accepted the first two members of his Missionary Society. Joseph Caruana, a Lay Catechist, was to become the first missionary, spending almost fifty years in Ethiopia, Africa; John Vella studied for the priesthood. These two young men were welcomed by De Piro in a small and humble first residence in Mdina, Malta.

Every year the members of our Missionary Society come together to thank God for his many gifts to our Society over the years. This year, Paulist Missionaries in Australia came together at St James the Apostle Parish, Hoppers Crossing North, for a celebration of the Eucharist and a fraternal meal.



TWO NEW NOVICES AND TWO NEWLY PROFESSED PAULIST MISSIONARIES.

Earlier this year our community in the Philippines celebrated the end of one novitiate and the beginning of another. Novices Linh, (Vietnam) and Rush (Philippines) finished their novitiate and made their First Profession of Vows, for one year; Nikko (Philippines) and Luan (Vietnam) started their novitiate. The novitiate year is a time during which the foundation of our religious consecration are laid.

Let us pray for Linh, Rush, Nikko and Luan as they continue their journey as Paulist Missionaries and faithful disciples of Jesus.



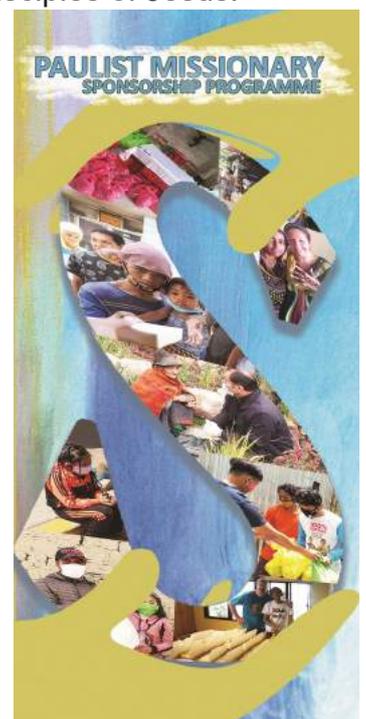
Luan as they continue their journey as Paulist Missionaries and faithful disciples of Jesus.

YOU CAN BE PART OF OUR MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES.

The most effective way of participating in our missionary initiatives is through prayer to God the Father, through the intercession of the Son and by the power of the Holy Spirit. In our prayers we also invoke the intercession of our patron saint, Mary Assumed into Heaven, and of St Paul the Apostle, our Father. Please continue to pray for us that we may remain faithful to our commitment of preaching the Good News among those peoples who are still waiting to encounter Christ in their lives.

You can also assist us by contributing financially to our projects. The Paulist Missionary Sponsorship Programme helps our missionaries in their various outreach programmes among children in Cuba, Pakistan, Peru and the Philippines. You can also assist us by asking relatives and friends to offer donations to our missions in lieu of flowers at funerals of loved ones or as gifts. This way you will be building a treasure for yourselves in heaven!

You can also consider remembering the missionaries of the Society of St Paul (MSSP) in your will.



Paulist Missionaries Australia—follow us on web (aust.paulistmissionaries.org), Facebook (facebook.com/msspaustralia), Instagram (instagram.com/mssp.aus). Contact details: missions@mssp.org.au / 0429 145 569.

A tax deductible receipt can be provided for your donation upon request.