



Verbum Dei Missionaries

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Feb/Mar 2017

Editor Says

On April Fools' Day, it is a norm for people to play harmless tricks and pranks on family members and friends. It is A-Ok to be a foolish stooge and be admired for tricks that are well carried out on that one special day.

As Christians, we are not just called to be fools for one day in a year. We are, in fact, full-time fools for Christ's sake. As St. Paul wrote to the believers in Corinthians, "For Christ's sake we are fools" (1 Cor 4:10)

Are you a fool for Christ?

It is in the small daily moments of each day that we can choose to be fools for Christ. When we choose to be honest in business deals, when we continue to forgive instead of holding onto resentment, when we stand up for the truth despite being scoffed at by friends, when we spend time to help those in need, etc., we are not acting according to the social norms and expectations. We are, instead, acting according to our conscience as formed and guided by the Holy Spirit.

Recently, I watched "A man for all seasons" which is a movie about St. Thomas More. He was a faithful husband, a loving father, a prominent lawyer who was later promoted to be the chancellor of England during King Henry VIII's reign. This man stood for his Catholic values and refused to approve King Henry VIII's divorce and remarriage as well as the King making himself as the Supreme head of the Church of England. He was thrown to prison and later beheaded for his belief. Just before, he was decapitated, Thomas More proclaimed these final words which summed up his life, "The king's good servant, but God's first."

It is not easy to be fools for Christ because we try hard sometimes to blend into this dominating world which regards self-giving, loving, forgiving, faithfulness, etc. as stuff for losers. Many of us are frightened to stand out like a sore thumb and be different from the rest of the crowd. Yet, if we do take our faith seriously, we must be willing to live according to our conscience as directed by the Holy Spirit even if the world regards us as wrong and misguided.

Let us desire to be fools...happy fools for Christ, and not idiots.

St. Vincent De Paul Parish

Lectors' group

18th February

“Making the Word as the centre of our lives”





Regional Biblical
Commission Meeting
Malaysia-
Brunei- Singapore



@Kuching, Malaysia

22nd to 23rd February

*seeds of the
Living Word
session
5th March*





Lenten Retreat

for young adults

“The Love of Christ impels us...”

11th March

Holy Trinity Parish Charismatic Prayer Group

28th Feb: "Christ's Mission, our Mission"

21st March: "Living Christ's Mission in our community"



Divine Mercy Parish Lectors Group "Mary: Disciple to the end" 25th March





26th January 2017

Dear Friend of Verbum Dei,

We started our Project HoPe (House of Prayer and Evangelisation) fundraising since February 2013. From the target amount of \$3.5 million, we are now left with \$380,000 to raise. With your help, we know that we can pay off the balance \$380,000. We are asking you to please help us to do so.

There are 4 Verbum Dei sisters based in Singapore. We are: Sr. Maria Jose M. Egido (Spanish), Sr. Leticia Candelario Lopez (Mexican), Sr. Monika Punan (Singaporean) and Sr. Sandra Seow (Singaporean). Besides the 2 Singaporean missionaries based in Singapore, we have 6 other local vocations being missionaries in other parts of the world. They are: Sr. Elaine Seow based in Taiwan, Sr. Sue Fern Khoo based in USA, Sr. Cecilia Teo based in Costa Rica, Sr. Jeanette Kong based in USA, Fr. Noel Campos based in Colombia and Fr. Michael Cheong based in Rome. Currently, we have 1 Singaporean novice who is doing her novitiate in Isle of Wight, England. In addition, we also have 4 young working adults who are presently discerning their vocation in our community.

All these 20 years in the Archdiocese of Singapore, we have been helping to form the Catholic faith of the young and old through conducting retreats, giving faith formations/talks, doing spiritual direction, organising mission trips, publishing Prayer for Living reflection books and teaching in the Catholic Theological Institute of Singapore. In November 2014, we have been entrusted by the Archdiocese to take charge of the Archdiocesan Biblical Apostolate office where we run bible courses, the first Bible Symposium in July 2016, publication of "Jesus, the Living Word, speaks" as well as conducting retreats and talks based on the Word of God in parishes.

We do not have a stable income but depend on love offerings from kind people to help us in our daily needs. All these years, God has sent angels along our path to help us to cope with the daily necessities. For this, we are deeply grateful.

Now, we would like to ask you to help us with this loan of \$380,000 for our mission house and chapel located at 4 Sommerville Road Singapore 358228. In this way, we can truly dedicate even more time and energy to the work of evangelisation, and not to be burdened by worries about how and where to raise money.

The greatest desire for us is that we would be 'loan-free' by end 2017, and you can help us make this desire into a reality!!!

Kindly take note that your contributions do not receive tax benefits. For more information regarding Project HoPe, please call us at 62740251 or email us at verbumdeisapore@yahoo.com.sg or visit our website at <http://verbumdeisingapore.org/>

Thank you and God bless!

Yours-in-Christ,

Sr. Sandra Seow
Local Superior of the Verbum Dei Missionaries

My Contribution to Project HoPe

I am pleased to support your fundraising efforts as follow. (Please tick)

A cash contribution of _____

Cheque Number: _____

Cheque to be made to: **"VERBUM DEI LIMITED- PROJECT HOPE"**

Mail cheque to: 4 SOMMERVILLE ROAD SINGAPORE 358228

Monthly Giro/ A one-off contribution through Online Bank Transfer of _____

Name: VERBUM DEI LIMITED- PROJECT HOPE

Name of Bank: OCBC Account Number: 686 528415001

Bank code: 7339 /Branch code: 686

My details:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact No.: _____

Email: _____

