

# Making Mission Month count in October!



**MISSION MONTH** is a time to raise awareness of the role of mission in our lives, in our schools and in our parishes. Here are some suggestions that may assist you during Mission Month.

**FORM** a small group to discuss the theme of mission. Reflect on Pope Benedict XVI's "World Mission Day Message" for 2012 and on the theme of mission in Sacred Scripture and in Church Documents.

**INVITE** a missionary to the parish or school as a guest speaker to share their personal testimony and experience of mission.

**PLAN** a vibrant liturgical celebration for World Mission Sunday, October 21, 2012. Invite a missionary to speak.

**INCLUDE** mission intentions in the Prayers of the Faithful on all the Sundays during October.

**FIND** out more about the Missionary Society of St Columban and how you

can support their work as they proclaim the Gospel and seek to witness to it.

**MAKE** a contribution to the work of the Missionary Society of St Columban.

**READ** Columban articles at [www.columban.org.au](http://www.columban.org.au)

**CHOOSE** one or more of the countries where Columbans work. Find out how missionaries seek to respond to the spiritual, social, economic, educational and health needs of the population. How do they promote the care of God's creation? How is the Kingdom of God becoming present in this country and what are the forces that oppose it?

**INVESTIGATE** some of the new missionary frontiers that Columbans and all disciples of Jesus Christ must encounter in today's world. Find out more about the following: the care of God's creation; dialogue with people of other religions; promoting justice and peace; the promotion of the family; respect for human life in all its stages; dialogue with the scientific community; support for migrants and refugees;

opposition to the trafficking of people; overcoming poverty and opposing discrimination.

**PRAY** for missionary vocations before all parish meetings or classes.

**PROMOTE** subscriptions amongst your family and friends to a mission magazine such as The Far East and the Columban eNews to help spread awareness of the importance of mission.

**JOIN** the Columban Partnership Programme that seeks to establish a partnership of cooperation between parish and school groups at home and those of other countries where Columbans work.

**BECOME** familiar with the great missionary women and men of Church History.

**PRAYERFULLY** discern the pastoral and missionary needs of your parish or school. In what concrete ways can you respond to these needs?