



MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. COLUMBAN

Sharing Gospel Joy

MISSION News & Views

Autumn 2018

Centenary Appeal 2018

Columban Centenary
Sharing Gospel Joy

We invite Columban benefactors, friends and family to join us in celebrating our 100 year centenary and to pray that we strive with zeal, vision and faith into the future.

Centenary altar cloth



Superior General Fr Kevin O'Neill SSC celebrating Mass in the UK.

The Columban story over the past 100 years is about living the Gospel message through the lives of people and places and gives expression to our story of mission. The altar cloth celebrates coming together around the same Eucharistic table and is a reminder that no one is excluded from the table of the Lord. It also brings together the unity and diversity of the Society.

The Irish linen cloth comprises sections, each of which is embroidered with the name of a country where Columbans presently work. Each section has been signed by Columbans, lay missionaries, co-workers, supporters, family and friends.

The 14 sections of the cloth will form a single altar cloth which will be used for Eucharistic celebrations throughout 2018 when the Centenary Pilgrim altar cloth will unite all of us across the Columban world to give thanks for what has been and to look forward to our unfolding participation in God's mission into the next 100 years and beyond.

Donate online

www.columban.org.au/donations

ST COLUMBANS MISSION SOCIETY

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Help us plan for the future



*Columban Centenary altar cloth.
Photos: Missionary Society of St Columban*

Photo: SIM-Edin/Bibstock.com

Superior General Fr Kevin O'Neill



Fr Kevin O'Neill SSC

The theme for our Centenary is 'Sharing gospel joy'. The missionary spirit of God burns in the hearts of all of us wherever we live across the world and so together we celebrate our call to be missionary disciples of Jesus sharing gospel joy in our world today.

In a spirit of gratitude, we give thanks for what has been and for our mission today. We look forward to our unfolding participation in God's mission into the future with trust and hope.

We pray that people will continue to respond to the Holy Spirit's invitation to join us on mission as Columban priests, lay missionaries, co-workers, benefactors and volunteers.

We give thanks to you for your continued generosity and prayers over the years. You and your loved ones remain in the thoughts and prayers of all Columban missionaries across the world. We wish you all God's abundant blessings and good health now and in the future.

Mission THEN

Australia and New Zealand

In 1922 Frs Luke Mullany and Romuald Hayes (who later became the Bishop of Rockhampton) were the first Australians to join the Columbans. They were fellow curates in Northcote, Melbourne, in 1920 but, unbeknown to each other, they were both negotiating to join the Columban Society. Their letters of application were written on the same day, March 9, 1920. Fr William McGoldrick from Brisbane joined the Columbans shortly after.

On January 29, 1958, a ceremony took place for the ground-breaking of a new Columban seminary at North Turrumurra, NSW. The Columbans had taken another step forward in the Australian continental region and paved the way for many more vocations from "the land down under."



Back: Frs Luke Mullany, Romuald Hayes, Hugh Donnelly. Front: Frs William McGoldrick, Edward Maguire & James Hayes.

Mission NOW

100 years on...

St Columbans Mission Society continues today in the countries where it all began. The Australian and New Zealand Region has many active and retired Columbans.

Some examples of Columban Mission today.

Australia

Fr Noel Connolly SSC is a lecturer in Missiology at both the *Broken Bay Institute* and the *Catholic Institute of Sydney*. He is also a member of the Adult Formation Team with Catholic Mission Australia and has recently been appointed by the Australian Bishops to the Facilitation Team for the *Plenary Council 2020*.

Japan

Fr Paul McCartin has worked in Japan since 1979 and is the Columban Coordinator for Justice and Peace.

In his role, Fr Paul has worked with and witnessed many disasters during his time in Japan including a massive contamination clean-up in the Japanese region surrounding Fukushima, where a 2011 earthquake and tsunami triggered a nuclear power plant meltdown. The clean-up continues today.

Your Columban stories

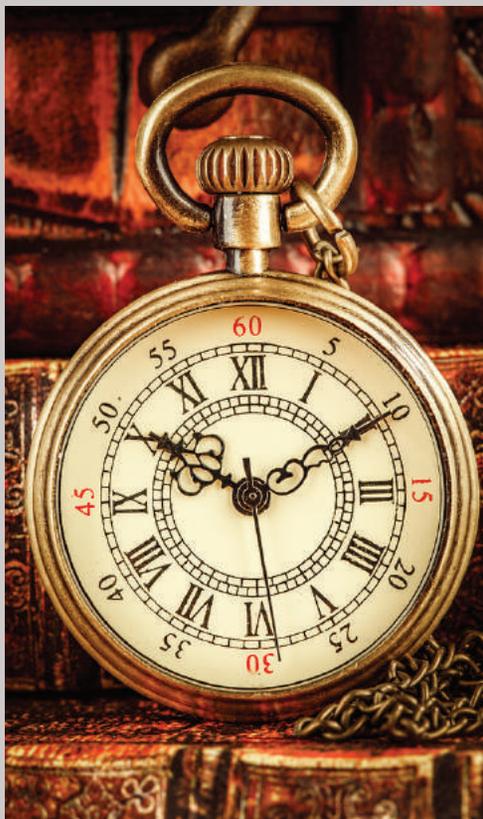


Photo: Andrey Armyagov/Bigstock.com

John from New Zealand wrote...

I first heard about the Columban Missionary Society when I was at the Christian Brothers' Secondary school in Dunedin. The Brothers introduced us to *The Far East* and this kindled in me a lifelong interest in the Society.

After I left school I took out a subscription to *The Far East* which continues to this day. Over 68 years I have enjoyed and found greatly edifying the stories penned by the missionaries whom I admire tremendously. They have been so inspirational to me in my Christian life. To them I owe a debt of gratitude I can never repay.

Thank you and may God continue to bless your wonderful work.

John.



PRE-ORDER



\$12.00

 inc. GST & postage

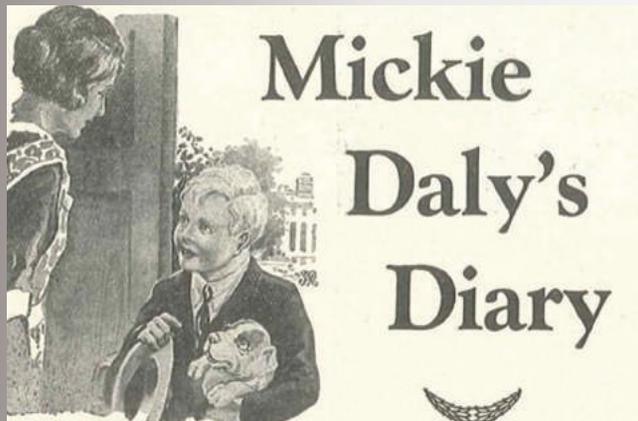
To pre-order please fill in your details on the coupon (next page) OR on the coupon attached to the Columban Centenary Appeal letter.

Jocelyn from Australia wrote...

I was given my first *Far East* when I was eight or nine years of age (1949/1950) as a reward for not talking when sister was absent from the classroom.

I probably only read 'Mickie Daley's Diary' but as time went on I started to read the whole magazine.

I was a dedicated 'mite box' collector but if I remember correctly there was a bit of high finance involved, eg. borrow and repay with interest.



Mickie Daley's Dairy, *The Far East* magazine, August 1934.

I still thoroughly enjoy each copy of *The Far East* and have the greatest admiration for the work the Columban fathers, sisters and associates are involved in for the most marginalised in society.

Blessings

Jocelyn.



YOU ARE INVITED

Centenary Celebrations in Melbourne, Adelaide and Brisbane

Centenary Mass - Melbourne:

Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral
June 24, 2018 at 11:00 am
Followed by refreshments at 12:00 pm

Centenary Mass - Adelaide:

St Francis Xavier's Cathedral
August 26, 2018 at 6:00 pm
Followed by refreshments at 7:00 pm

Centenary Mass - Brisbane:

St Stephen's Cathedral
October 7, 2018 at 10:00 am
Followed by refreshments at 11:00 am

RSVP ONLINE two weeks prior to celebration.
www.columban.org.au/centenary-events
OR Ph: (03) 9375 9475

Columban News

Regional update



Fr Gary Walker is keeping good company with Australian Fr Kevin Mullins on their sabbatical in San Antonio in Texas and will be home in time for the Centenary Mass at *St Patrick's Cathedral*, East Melbourne on June 24, 2018.

Fr Patrick McInerney has settled into the new *Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations (CCMR)* office at Blacktown, NSW.

Fr Joe Ruys of the Archdiocese of Melbourne is in Peru to begin another term as Associate Priest with the Columbans in that region.

Fr Peter Kelly retired Bursar of the Sydney based Columbans in Sydney has been appointed to Essendon and is settling in well.

Photo: andreync/Bigstock.com

Become a regular donor

Help us plan for the future

- Ensure that mission continues
- Stand in solidarity with the poor



Please fill in your details on the coupon below OR on the coupon attached to the Columban Centenary Appeal letter.

Photo: Missionary Society of St Columban



Support the Columban Centenary Appeal 2018

My gift to the Columbans:

\$40 \$70 \$120 \$240 Other \$ _____ \$ _____

I wish to donate on a regular basis

(Please charge my credit card account with this amount)

Quarterly Monthly \$ _____

The Far East Subscription (\$15.00 per year inc. postage) \$ _____

2019 Columban Calendar (\$12.00 inc. GST & postage) \$ _____

Additional Calendar (\$9.00 each inc. GST & postage)

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

PLEASE FILL IN YOUR DETAILS BELOW:

ID: _____ Title: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ P/Code: _____

Mobile: _____

I send my gift by:

Cheque Money order

(Pay St Columbans Mission Society)

Visa Mastercard

Credit card number:

Card holder name: _____

Expiry date: ____ / ____ **Signature:** _____

Email: _____

An acknowledgement will be sent by email.

Your Columban legacy:

Please send me information on Columban legacy

I have included the Columbans in my Will



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St Columban became 'A Wanderer for Christ'. One of his greatest sayings summarises his life and his work, 'Let us be of Christ not of ourselves'.