

**St. Cloud MISSION OFFICE/Society for the Propagation of the Faith  
GUIDELINES FOR MISSIONARY COOPERATION PLAN (MCP)**

- The Missionary Cooperation Plan (MCP) is an arrangement agreed upon within every Diocese of the United States whereby parishes are assigned mission presentations through their Mission Office/Society for the Propagation of the Faith. When a parish receives a mission representative, it is a wonderful opportunity to be exposed to and supportive of, a specific current mission activity within our global church. The mission appeal is intended to be a time of mutual blessing for the missionary and the parish/es.
- The annual selection and approval occurs in January of the mission organizations to be invited by the Bishop and the Mission Office Board of Directors. ***These organizations have been researched thoroughly and are found to be Catholic based organizations, maintaining status in the church and are canonically sound in their message.*** Once approved, letters go out to the organizations as well as the pastors notifying them of who is assigned and who will be making contact. **The mission organization then contacts the Pastor/Parish Life Coordinator directly and as soon as possible, to arrange a weekend to make their presentations. Ideally, this will take place as early in the year as possible but before September 1<sup>st</sup>, so as not to coincide too closely with the World Mission Sunday collection in October. If the Pastor/Parish Life Coordinator is leaving the parish before July 1<sup>st</sup>, the presentation should please, be made before their departure.**
- Ideally the presentation should be made as an integral part of the liturgy, using the Sacred Scriptures of the day and as part of the reflections on these readings. *Please note that if the missionary organization is represented by a lay person or non-ordained Religious, it is permissible for him/her to share a reflection after a brief homily by the celebrant.* This canonical clarification has been provided by our Vicar General and is helpful in allowing you to make the mission presentation integral to the liturgy. **Please assure that the collection to support the missionary group visiting your parish is made on the same weekend as their presentation, not a week or two later.**
- ***Missionary Appeals are not to be used for individual gain or benefit.*** We encourage any other opportunities for the mission representative to tell their mission story, such as after Mass at a parish gathering/reception as well as in the parish Faith Formation programs/Catholic school classes.
- **All funds collected after the mission presentation are transmitted by parish check to the Mission Office within one month of the appeal. Please note on the check "MCP", along with the name of the mission organization. Please do NOT send the funds to the mission organization. Please do NOT give the funds to the person making the presentation.**
- **Second Collections work best for these appeals but if the mission organization do not have their own envelopes, the Mission Office has generic envelopes which can be picked up/delivered/mailed if you please notify us at least 2 weeks in advance. Please note that ALL the envelopes will be collected by the parish and NOT be sent/given directly to the mission organization.**

- **We ask that any envelopes turned in where people have included their names and addresses for further contact, please be sent to the Mission Office along with the funds.**
- Since this is an opportunity for your parishioners to connect directly with our global church and its missionary efforts, our expectation of these organizations is that a current or recently returned missionary, who is able to speak clearly and enthusiastically, will make the presentation in the parish/es.
- The Mission Office, the Diocese of St. Cloud and the parish/es to which you are assigned is NOT responsible for transportation to/from the airport.
- We ask that MCP funds please be forwarded on to us by **September 30th**, or as stated above, **best within one month of the appeal.**

Our sincere thanks to all of you participating in this opportunity to live out the unity we celebrate with the global church through the Eucharist. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any comments, suggestions or questions about the Missionary Cooperation Plan. (320) 251-1100

Elizabeth M. Brown  
Director

1/2025