



COLUMBAN MISSIONARIES

Photo: ©iStock.com/sihasakprachum

MISSION News & Views

Summer 2016

Christmas Appeal 2016

"The poor do not need our compassion or our pity, they need our help."
St Teresa of Calcutta

In the Christmas appeal letter we are reminded of how helping others makes a difference. In Myanmar, children are receiving an education, adults are learning life skills and communities can look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ with hope and optimism.

Stepping up to the challenge

The Myanmar Mission Unit consisting of four Columban priests and three Lay Missionaries are stepping up to the challenge for mission in a country undergoing monumental change.

The list of challenges are enormous: poverty, education, human trafficking, drugs, protecting freedom of expression, constitutional reform, religious conflicts, the economy and health care.

But there is some good news

Following the devastating floods last year in Myanmar, with Columban benefactor support, Columban Fr Neil Magill was able to rebuild the classrooms at the boarding school, set up a small computer room and purchase bags of rice for the students.

Students in Grade 10 (around 17 years old) are helping to teach the students in Grade five (around 11 years old). These orphans now have food and educational opportunities.



*Students from the boarding school in Myanmar.
Photos: Fr Neil Magill SSC*

Donate online

www.columban.org.au

ST COLUMBAN'S MISSION SOCIETY

In this issue

- Stepping up to the challenge
- Columban Pilgrimage 2017 'In the Footsteps of St Columban'
- Fantastic news
Fr Kevin Mullins
- Our little mate
Farewelled with a Columban presence
- A first in Pakistan
Palliative Care
- On sale NOW - Booklet
Ten things everyone needs to know about Islam
- Baker boys back in town
- Regular donation
Get involved in mission on a regular basis



Columban boarding house, Myanmar.

Columban Pilgrimage



Book NOW!
IRELAND. FRANCE. AUSTRIA.
SWITZERLAND. ITALY

2017 'In the Footsteps of St Columban' Pilgrimage

21 days departing August 13 - September 3, 2017

Pilgrimage led by Columbans,
Fr Tommy Murphy SSC & Fr Gary Walker SSC

Pilgrimage journey

- Dublin - Ireland
- Luxeuil - France
- Bregenz - Austria
- Disentis & Olivone - Switzerland
- Bobbio, Milan & Rome - Italy

Pilgrimage cost

Twin share: \$8,790.00 (AUD) est. Per person
Single supplement: \$1,650.00 est. Per person

Price estimate is based on minimum of 35 full paying participants. Conditions apply.

All inclusive: Return airfares from Australia, visits, entrances, accommodation, breakfast, dinner and internal flights.

Pilgrimage booking inquiries

Contact: Olive Tree Travel
Contact Name: Katrina Maggs
Address: Suite 1, Level 1 230 Balaclava Rd,
North Caulfield VIC 3161
T: 61 3 8488 9696 or 1300 55 08 30
E: katrina@olivetreetravel.com.au
www.olivetreetravel.com.au

For further Pilgrimage information
Visit: www.columban.org.au OR
Contact: Janette Mentha Ph: 03 9375 9475

Fantastic news

On receiving a recent donation from a benefactor in Australia, Columban Fr Kevin Mullins, Parish Priest of Corpus Christi in Anapra, Mexico wrote to Columban Mission Centre in Essendon and said,

"This is fantastic news. We are building a new Parish Centre where we can meet, pray and study. It will be will be called Centro Biblico San Columbano.

We have completed the main structure which includes a three classroom block, but have yet to finish the floor, purchase three air conditioners, buy tables, chairs and paint.

The parishioners have worked hard to provide the funding and building materials thus far, but it is a poor community. At this point, they have done all that they can possibly do.

Thank you so much for thinking of our poor Parish and it's noble people."

*Blessings,
Fr Kevin Mullins SSC*



Columban Fr Kevin Mullins with one of the parishioners, Mexico.

Our little mate

Farewelled with a Columban presence

Michael Lane, brother of Columban Fr Bernie Lane (Peru) was farewelled from St Columbans Chapel, Essendon on July 9, 2016.

Michael had a close association with the Columbans in Essendon where he and his mother Kath volunteered for many years.

The Chapel was packed to capacity - a great tribute to our little mate, as Bernie called him.

Bernie also said *"that the memories and recollections of so many happy moments and the significance of his life, outweighed the sadness and sense of loss. Mick is definitely smiling again and at peace; reunited with Mum with a huge motherly hug. And how beaut that Mick's life was celebrated from the Chapel*

there in Essendon. He was indeed an evangelizing influence for all of us who knew him."

May he rest in peace.



Michael Lane, 09.07.1960 - 01.07.2016

A first in Pakistan

Palliative Care

Through its home-based palliative care St. Elizabeth Hospital, Pakistan expresses the Catholic commitment to the dignity of life even in the presence of the reality of death. Palliative care manifests compassion and mercy in a practical and outstanding way in Pakistan where society is fragmented by violence and mistrust.



Nurse Patras Inayat caring for a terminally ill patient.



Patras Inayat (palliative care nurse) with Fr Robert McCulloch.

St. Elizabeth Hospital is the pioneer in Pakistan in providing home-based palliative care for the terminally-ill and continues in this very special way to offer the best possible care at the lowest possible cost to people in need.

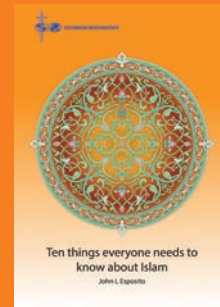
Its palliative care team cares for 20 terminally-ill cancer patients at any one time. The background of the patients is varied. They are Muslim, Christian and Hindu and have included teachers, a doctor, labourers, and children.

Our team members have undertaken clinical training in Singapore, at Calvary-Bethlehem Hospital and Cabrini Hospital in Melbourne and at the Children's Cancer Hospital in Karachi.

The governor of Sindh, himself a doctor, cut through official red tape and bureaucracy in May 2016 to speed up the release of medicinal morphine for pain relief.

Columban Fr Robert McCulloch was in Pakistan for 34 years and initiated the Palliative Care Unit when he was Chairman of the St Elizabeth Hospital, Administrative Council. He is the Procurator-General of the Missionary Society of St Columban, Rome.

On sale NOW



Ten things everyone needs to know about Islam

By John L Esposito

\$8.80 each
inc. GST & postage

The 36 page A5 booklet, beautifully illustrated and answers the most commonly-asked questions about Islam.

It dispels the stereotypes and misrepresentation that too often prevail in the secular press.

Available for purchase ONLINE:
www.columban.org.au
Ph: 03 9375 9475



Its palliative care team cares for 20 terminally-ill cancer patients at any one time. The background of the patients is varied.

Columban News

Baker boys back in town



Fr Pat Baker (left), Fr Leo Baker (centre) and Fr Chris Baker (right).

Brothers and Columban priests, Frs Leo, Chris and Pat Baker recently met up in Essendon to set off once again on a family reunion. Fr Leo travelled from Colac where he is living in retirement whilst Fr Chris travelled from Peru and Fr Pat from the Philippines.

Each time the brothers come home, they organise a driving holiday through Victoria to catch up with family and friends and to see the beautiful countryside, which Frs Pat and Chris particularly miss.

It is great to see the Baker boys looking so well and youthful.

Regular donation



Become a regular donor

- Get involved in mission on a regular basis
- Stand in solidarity with the poor
- Promote justice and peace
- Ensure that mission continues

"He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free and to proclaim the Lord's year of favour". (Lk 4:18)

If you are interested in becoming a regular donor of St Columbans Mission Society, please fill in your details on the coupon below and return to the following address:

PO Box 752 Niddrie VIC 3042

OR Ph: 03 9375 9475 E: info@columban.org.au

Photo: The 'Pedalling to Live' programme in Ozamis City, Philippines was founded in 2005 by Columban Fr Oliver McCrossan. Your regular donations allow us to continue to support Columban programmes.

Photo: Fr Oliver McCrossan SSC



ST COLUMBANS MISSION SOCIETY
PO Box 752 Niddrie VIC Australia 3042
info@columban.org.au

Regular donation to Columban Mission

Please fill in your details below:

By providing your details below you have indicated that you are interested in becoming a regular donor of St Columbans Mission Society. After we receive this coupon we will send you further information, with a confirmation letter. Thank you for supporting our mission.

Title: _____ First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ State: _____ P/Code: _____ Ph: _____

 Email: _____



COLUMBAN MISSIONARIES



COLUMBAN MISSION CENTRE

PO Box 752 Niddrie Victoria Australia 3042

Email: info@columban.org.au

Ph: (03) 9375 9475 Fax: (03) 9379 6040

Web: www.columban.org.au

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'.