



MISSIONARIES OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

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April 8, 2019

Dear Friend,

Our Missionaries from the American Province of the C.P.P.S. first went to Chile to establish a mission there in 1947. Back then, each Missionary made a five-year commitment to serve in Chile. It could take a month for a letter to reach their families in the U.S. and for an answer to come back to them.

I remind myself of this when I am grumbling about getting through the Dallas airport to catch a connecting flight to Latin America.

Travel is part of the territory for me. As provincial director, I'm responsible for visiting each of our ministry sites and Missionaries, including in Latin America. From the beginning of our Congregation, our founder, St. Gaspar, knew that it would be important for his Missionaries to stay connected, and to know that they were part of something larger. That's important for all of us—even as we gather every Sunday to worship in our parish church, we know that we're part of a worldwide Church, brought together by Jesus.

In the past few months, I've been privileged to be with our Missionaries in Guatemala, Chile, Peru and Colombia. It's been enlightening for me and, I hope, energizing for them. You probably know from your

own family that there's no substitute for a face-to-face visit. It's the same in our religious congregation.

I'm writing to let you know some of the things I've learned on these trips, because you're an important part of our missionary work. Our Missionaries' ministry in Latin America is making a difference in the lives of the people they serve. Often, they're working in an area that is remote, even in this day and age. It may still take a few weeks for letters to get back and forth! That may be hard for us to picture—an area with muddy, rutted roads, where people are without the most basic services that we take for granted. They'd be hard to find by satellite – but our Missionaries find them, and serve them.



Fr. Jorge Gomez, C.P.P.S., presides at Mass in rural Chile.

(Please detach from letter and return with your gift in the envelope provided.)

Yes, I would like to be a part of the mission work in Chile, Peru, Guatemala and Columbia.

Enclosed is my gift of \$_____.

I would like to pledge \$_____ a month a quarter

We will send you pledge forms and envelopes.

Please make your check payable to: **Society of the Precious Blood**

To make a donation by credit card, please use the reverse side of this form.

All gifts count toward the *Missionary Hearts* Mission and Ministry Society membership levels.

I ___ have or ___ wish to include the Missionaries in my estate planning.

ACCOUNT

I sat with our Missionaries as they told me about setting out for rural villages to lead missions for people who may not see a priest for months on end. In Peru, there's a team of Missionaries, seminarians and lay people who go into remote jungle areas where they celebrate Mass, lead catechetical classes and conduct Bible studies. These are things that most of us could take part in every day if we chose to. Imagine the feeling in that village when the Missionary team arrives, struggling through the jungle or up the mountainside. When you live in a remote area like that, you know what it takes for someone to come to visit you. It means that they were willing to make the effort. It means you were worth it.



Fr. Felipe Caal Coy, C.P.P.S., leads a procession in a mountain village in Guatemala.

Our Missionaries stay in these places for up to a month. Imagine giving up your own home and familiar bed to sleep out in the jungle for a month! That's a real commitment. And it helps the people feel connected to something larger than themselves. It shows them that they are loved and valued by God and by their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Will you help us show people that they're worth the effort? As you support our Missionary work, you will be walking with us as we seek out the lonely and the lost here in this country and in Latin America. Listening to the stories of service from our Missionaries in Chile, Peru, Guatemala and Colombia, I could see that common theme. Jesus shed his Precious Blood for all of us, not because we were already nearby, not because it was convenient, and certainly not because it was painless. It was not any of those things. But it was necessary to convince us that we have worth, that God loves us and will make any sacrifice to draw us near.

That's at the heart of Precious Blood spirituality, and that's what our Missionaries offer to the people they serve. Maybe

there was a time in your life when you felt lost and alone, and someone made the effort to come to you to convince you that you were loved and valued. Do you remember the comfort of feeling reconnected to the God who loves you? Do you remember the joy of feeling once again that you were part of the family?

That's what we strive to bring to the people we serve. The geography doesn't matter. The people do. Will you help us reach out to them? Will you help our Missionaries in Latin America bring people into the circle that our Church offers to all? Your support means everything to our Missionaries—it means that they are not alone, that others travel with them on the road.

Please join us in praying for people everywhere who feel lost and abandoned—and please consider supporting our efforts to let them know they are not alone, that they, like us, are the sons and daughters of a loving God.

Sincerely in the Blood of Christ,

V. Rev. Jeffrey S. Kirch, C.P.P.S.

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Provincial Director

I would like to make a gift of \$ _____ by credit card.

Please charge my gift to: Visa Master Card

Account # _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Expiration date: _____ / _____ Security code: _____

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cpps-preciousblood.org

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