



**CONGREGAZIONE DELLA MISSIONE
CURIA GENERALIZIA**

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SUPERIOR GENERAL

Rome, 19 October 2025
Mission Sunday

To all the confreres of the Congregation of the Mission

**MISSION APPEAL 2025 “THE REVITALIZATION OF OUR IDENTITY IN THE
YEAR OF THE 400TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE
CONGREGATION OF THE MISSION”**

My dear confreres,

May the grace and peace of Jesus be always with us!

We are immersed fully in the year when we celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the foundation of our Little Company, that will officially conclude on 17 April 2026.

In 2019, during the audience of the members of the General Curia with Pope Francis, **we promised the Holy Father** that, on the level of the Congregation, we will do all we can to send **1% of the members of the Congregation to the missions *ad Gentes* every year**, which comes to around 30 confreres per year.

On 4 September 2025, during an audience with Pope Leo XIV, I had the opportunity to share with the Holy Father **our deep desire that, what we promised to Pope Francis, we would like to continue under his leadership**, mentioning also to the Holy Father that, if bishops from mission countries approach him with requests for missionaries for their dioceses, he can send us the requests without hesitation, and we will do everything possible to respond to his desire. Pope Leo replied to our availability with deep gratitude.

One of the signs of our revitalized identity is that we keep opening, year after year, new missions in countries where our Little Company is not yet present: missions inspired and opened by provinces, vice-provinces, and regions. Another sign is that we continue sending missionaries to already established missions, which are still in need of personnel.

In a special way, I would like to invite once again those provinces, vice-provinces, and regions, which presently have large numbers of confreres, to reflect with their Councils and the confreres in general, and choose a country where they could open a new mission. However, I also want to invite those provinces and vice-provinces, which presently have fewer confreres, to respond positively to the mission appeal. I am convinced that the reward will be a hundredfold!

Please send your reflections to me at segreteria@cmcuria.org for the General Council to consider how we can help you to open the new mission *ad Gentes*. I also would like to thank deeply the many provinces, vice-provinces, and regions that are very open about encouraging confreres to go to the missions *ad Gentes*, to the international missions coordinated by the General Curia, or to the missions coordinated by the individual provinces, vice-provinces, or regions. **As every year, I would like to invite all confreres of the Congregation who feel the call to serve in the missions *ad Gentes* to volunteer as Jesus's much-needed collaborators in announcing the Good News to the ends of the earth.** This could be in the international missions, regions, or houses coordinated by the General Curia or in the missions coordinated by individual provinces, vice-provinces, or regions. If, after prayer, discernment, and discussion with your Visitor, you wish to volunteer to go to one of our many missions around the world that are so much in need, or to be part of opening a new mission in a country where we still are not present, **please write to me at segreteria@cmcuria.org.**

I have the tremendous joy to announce that this year, 2025, new missions *ad Gentes* were opened in: **Congo-Brazzaville, Togo, and the northern part of Congo in the city of Goma by the Province of Congo, as well as in Pakistan by the Province of Vietnam.**

If Providence will so desire, in 2025-2026, the opening of some new missions *ad Gentes* is underway, some at their final stage, others at their initial steps: **South Korea, Ivory Coast, Mauritius, East Timor, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Burkina Faso, and Gabon.**

The General Council is also in dialog with the respective provinces and vice-province, which already are accompanying the four remaining International Missions: Angola, Bolivia, Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea to become part of their structures.

Here are the missions that, at this moment, need special attention and volunteers:

1) **CAMEROON**

Our Lady of the Rosary Parish in Mabanda (Douala)

The vice-province **needs a confrere** to strengthen pastoral work in this parish located in Douala, the country's economic capital. The language spoken is French. Some knowledge of English is required too in this bilingual country.

Saint John Paul II Parish in Belita II (Batouri)

The vice-province also wants **to strengthen this community**, which works in a relatively poor area. This community likewise has a school that is growing. The language spoken is French.

2) **MADAGASCAR**

Saint Vincent de Paul Scholasticate in Fianarantsoa

The province **needs a confrere** to help with the formation of our own candidates. He will be part of the formation team. His presence will be an asset to this formation house. If this confrere is not a formator, the province would not be opposed to him teaching in the Major Seminary where our confreres study.

The language spoken is French.

Farafangana

The province **needs a confrere** for pastoral work in Farafangana. It would like to add **another confrere** to form a community with the confrere who lives alone in Tangainony. The pastoral work is done in a relatively poor environment.

The language spoken is French, but for the effectiveness of the mission, this missionary confrere will have to learn Malagasy too.

3) **CONGO**

Internal Seminary in Ekata (Bikoro)

The province **needs a confrere** to join the formation team at the Internal Seminary in Ekata (Bikoro) and **another confrere** to serve as spiritual mentor for the group of 20 young men in formation and five candidate brothers during the 2025-2026 formation year. There are many vocations and these young men need appropriate accompaniment.

Opening of new missions in Congo

With this in mind, I am requesting **two missionaries** to enable us to respond to the need that is currently being felt.

The language spoken is French.

4) **TOGO**

The Province of Congo has just opened a new mission in Glitto, Togo. It is a mission in an area where there are problems with electricity and water. The Christians are very committed. The presence of priests is seen as a relief and brings great joy to all the inhabitants of the region because it gives them hope of coming out of the isolation in which they live. The mission **needs another confrere** for youth education and ministry in the parish with two other confreres.

The language spoken is French. For the mission to be effective, the missionary also will need to learn the local language.

5) **PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

Father Jacek Tendej, CM, Rector of Holy Spirit Seminary in Port Moresby was appointed as the new Bishop of Alotau, Papua New Guinea. We need a replacement for him, not necessarily as Rector but to be a formator (spiritual director

or pastoral director). He can also teach at the Catholic Theological Institute which is nearby.

Another need is **for two confreres**. One is to serve in a parish in the Diocese of Aitape, Papua New Guinea. The bishop has repeated his request for a confrere because of the lack of priests in his diocese. The other is to take care of an island parish in the Diocese of Alotau.

The language is English.

6) **VICE-PROVINCE OF MOZAMBIQUE**

The mission needs **four missionaries**, two of whom are urgently needed for formation, one formator for the formation house of the propaedeutic seminary and another for the philosophy and theology house. We would be grateful to confreres who can offer two or three years of service as formators, while the confreres of the region take the courses for formators or spiritual directors, and then will continue their service in this area. Two missionaries would be for the missions that are located in poor areas, in the peripheries, among the suffering and abandoned people. Portuguese is spoken in Mozambique.

7) **ISTANBUL - TURKEY**

The Istanbul mission, due to the global ecclesial responsibility for our Christian presence in an Islamic-shaped country, is very important. Presently the Province of Austria-Germany has two confreres in the community in Istanbul. **The community needs at least two more confreres** to strengthen it and try to answer to the growing needs of the mission. In the city of Istanbul, besides the local population, there are many immigrants and students from various countries, for whom pastoral accompaniment, as well as social help, are much in need. The confreres, who may volunteer for this mission, need to be open to an ecumenical, intercultural, and Christian-Muslim dialogue. Regarding languages, it would be important for the confrere first to learn the Turkish language and later also the German language. The Province of Austria-Germany will facilitate the language courses in Istanbul itself.

8) **MISSION OF BOLIVIA**

With many hopes, but with no less difficulties, we continue to support the Bolivian Mission. **The mission needs four new missionaries**. This Mission is now composed of two major missionary areas:

- a) *The Parish of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in Huayllani, Cochabamba*, is large in area and has three different missionary levels: one is located very close to the city; another part is in a campesino zone; and the third in the Altiplano part, where there are a good number of indigenous populations whose evangelization has just begun. This parish has a fairly well-organized pastoral program. It is quite easy to attend to the first two zones. Older missionaries could be placed in this community and would form a good team with some younger missionaries for the difficult areas. Because we believe that God will bless us with local vocations, we also need a missionary with some experience in formation.

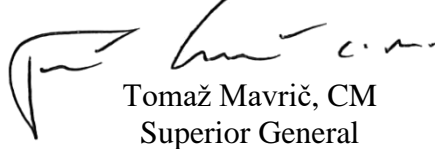
b) *The strength of the Beni mission lies in the river region*, inhabited by various indigenous ethnic groups, some of which have had very little contact with the Church. The pastoral needs are urgent because it is an area in continuous colonization and the situations in which the communities find themselves so far into the jungle. This ministry will be done in conjunction with the Daughters of Charity and the other branches of the Vincentian Family present in the region, which are increasing. The language is Spanish.

9) **REGION OF CUBA**

As always, this portion of the Congregation has many needs. It **requires at least three more confreres**. At this moment, the entire Region of Cuba has five missionaries and among the most needed areas of service are those of vocational promotion, support for formation, and popular missions. The language is Spanish.

May Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Saint Vincent de Paul, and all the other Saints, Blessed, and Servants of God of the Little Company intercede for us!

Your brother in Saint Vincent,



Tomaž Mavrič, CM
Superior General