

The excerpt below has been provided by the *Missionary Childhood Association* in **Mandeville, Jamaica**. Share with your students how these children are a perfect example of living the **MCA** motto of children helping children and, *“Everyone has something to give and to receive.”*

How might your students benefit from the prayers and example of these Missionary Children?

MISSIONARY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION

Since 2014, Sr. Lucy Kamene, A.S.N, Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) Coordinator, has been working with educators and children in the schools and parishes of the Diocese to recruit children and animators to become members of the worldwide Missionary Childhood Association. The MCA, one of the Pontifical Mission Societies which constitute the official Missionary arm of the Catholic Church, is charged with the work of evangelization and charitable works throughout the world.



MCA Children of St. Thomas More Prep School wear the colours of the Missionary Childhood Association as Sr. Lucy Kamene, ASN, MCA Diocesan coordinator, explains the colours' significance to St. Thomas More Prep School students.

The Missionary Childhood Association seeks to engage children and challenge them to live out their baptismal call to be a missionary. The motto, “Children Helping Children” illustrates the goal of teaching children how to be missionaries through love, witness, prayers and sacrifices.

In a very tangible way, the children are taught that they can make a real difference through their actions. As Missionaries, they are united in prayer with other children all over the world. Through the children’s donations, the Association is able to carry out projects to promote the education and health of the world’s most vulnerable children, particularly those in orphanages, homes for the disabled, refugees and the homeless.

Here in the Mandeville Diocese, our children have been doing their part. Each year, the students in our nine basic schools and six prep schools have been participating in an annual Calendar Poster Competition. Thirteen winners are featured in the MCA Calendar which is published and sold to raise funds for the Association. The winners were also given prizes.

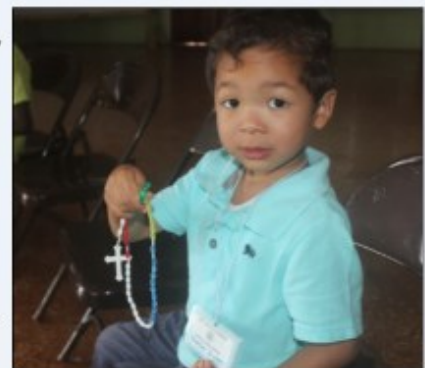


St. Robert Bellarmine Prep School MCA Children place their donations in the MCA Collection box

MCA Leaders/Animators in the various parishes have been meeting with the children on a regular basis. Through discussion and activities, the children are taught about the Sacraments and Liturgy, Prayer and Christian Living.

The World Mission Rosary which is given and taught to the children, is designed for them to pray for the needs of children in all areas of the world. Each area is symbolized by one of five colours: *green* for *Africa*; *blue* for *Oceania*, the islands of the Pacific; *white* for *Europe*, the seat of the Holy Father; *red* for the *Americas*; and *yellow*, the morning light of the East, for *Asia*.

Archbishop Fulton Sheen, national director for the Society for the Propagation of Faith from 1950 to 1966, said in a radio broadcast that “Praying this rosary would aid the Holy Father and his Society for the Propagation of Faith by supplying him with practical support, as well as prayers, for the poor mission territories of the world...When the Rosary is completed, one has... embraced all continents, all people in prayer.”



MCA Member of St. Paul of the Cross Cathedral leans to pray the World Mission rosary