



PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES

2018 MISSIONARY COOPERATION PLAN APPEALS PARISH WEEKEND GUIDELINES

Parishes are assigned one Missionary Group as part of the annual Missionary Cooperation Plan [MCP] Appeals. PLEASE REMEMBER - *it is the only time in the course of the year that **a parish is obligated** to have a Missionary Speaker, Appeal and Collection.*

SCHEDULING:

- MCP Appeals can now be scheduled **anytime through 12/31/18, EXCEPT for in the MONTH of October.** [*October is for World Mission Sunday and its collection.*]
- **Missionary representatives will contact the parish to arrange a suitable MCP Appeal weekend.** Call Michele Meiers at 215-587-3944 if you have not been contacted by **Friday, March 30, 2018.**
- Return the MCP Appeal Scheduling and Order Form to our office by **Monday, April 16, 2018.**

PROMOTION/COLLECTION:

- To encourage the best results for the Mission Appeal Weekend, please use all parish communication vehicles, including bulletins, email, pastoral letters, etc. preceding the collection.
- Our office will provide MCP Appeal promotional materials to arrive one month prior to the Appeal.
- The MCP collection can be taken up either the weekend of the appeal or after. Please inform your parishioners to give generously and provide envelopes [*which can be ordered free from our office-see scheduling form*] or through your envelope company. Mission groups are not permitted to hand out their own envelopes.
- ***The Missionary speaker DOES NOT take the collection.*** It is sent to the *Pontifical Mission Societies* at the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, 222 N. Seventeenth Street-8th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103.
- Missionary speakers may not solicit magazine subscriptions, envelopes, memberships or in any way gather names and addresses at the MCP appeal weekend. Visiting Missionaries are not permitted to organize small local Mission Groups to solicit funds. Notify our office if this happens.

APPEAL WEEKEND:

- The Missionary speaker is **never permitted to request any funds or stipends** from the host parish. However, if a Mission priest is asked to celebrate a Mass the Missionary priest should be provided the Mass stipend, as dictated by Canon Law.
- The following conditions are to be observed when a non-clerical representative speaks for MCP:
 - The presentation is to be made after the prayer after communion of the Mass.
 - The presentation is not a substitute for a homily [*but perhaps the homily can be direct so that there is time for the Missionary to speak.*]
- Missionary speakers may wish to stay in the parish where he or she is making the appeal. It is the responsibility of the speaker to contact you, in advance to make sure that the parish can provide lodging. You are *not obligated* to provide lodging and lodging may be limited to a three-day stay. Speakers should talk with the pastor well in advance to determine if the parish is able to provide meals.
- Included in this mailing is information about your Missionary's Ministry. This should provide an understanding of the Missionary group's work and how the MCP collection will be used to help.

Please make copies of the Appeal Weekend Guidelines and share them with everyone at the parish who will be involved in making this a *successful* Appeal weekend.

Contact Michele Meiers 215-587-3944 or pofaith@archphila.org with any questions.

Thanks for helping to make the 2017 MCP a success!