



Mission Saint of the Month: DAMIEN OF MOLOKAI



Born Joseph de Veuster in Belgium, St. Damien was forced to quit school at the age of 13 in order to work on the family farm. At age 19, he entered the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. When his brother, a priest in the same congregation, fell ill, Damien quickly volunteered in his brother's place to go to the Hawaiian islands, as a missionary.

In 1864, he was ordained in Honolulu. In 1873, he went to the Hawaiian government's leper colony on the island of Molokai. Damien's compassion for the lepers led him to volunteer to remain there permanently, caring for the people's physical, medical, and spiritual needs. With Damien's help, the settlement grew with new houses, a new church, school, and orphanage—all of which contributed to a rise in morale among the colony's inhabitants. Damien contracted the disease and died of its complications at age 49. He never lost sight of his life's purpose despite the sufferings and difficulties he faced. It was his faith that enabled him to endure and continue with his life's work. He was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2009.

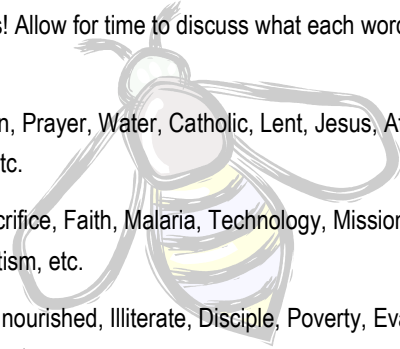
Activity of the Month: MISSION SPELLING BEE

Have a spelling bee with your students using some of these suggested words! Allow for time to discuss what each word has to do with MISSION!

Easy: Mission, Prayer, Water, Catholic, Lent, Jesus, Africa, Poor, Bible, Asia, etc.

Medium: Sacrifice, Faith, Malaria, Technology, Missionary, Hunger, Orphan, Baptism, etc.

Difficult: Malnourished, Illiterate, Disciple, Poverty, Evangelism, Resurrection, etc.



**By example
as well as by words,
evangelizers
must be
teachers of love.**

***Blessed* John Paul II**

Mission Country of the Month: SRI LANKA

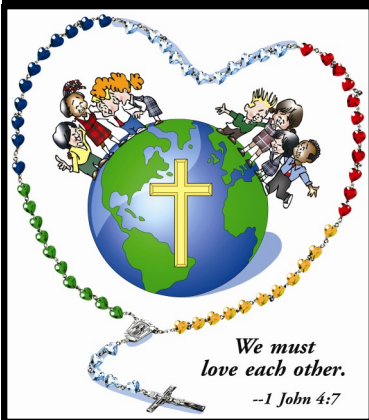
Sri Lanka is an island off the southern tip of India, in Asia. Sri Lankans are 69% Buddhist (6% Christian) and speak Sinhala and Tamil. At Saint Agnes Convent and Boarding School in Matale, Sri Lanka, young girls gather for schoolwork and emotional support. The majority of students who attend this school come from very poor families. Your prayers and support of HCA help the Sisters who run the school to provide a safe and happy home for these girls! You help provide food, school supplies, and uniforms! All of the children who attend are members of HCA and pray for you!



THANK YOU...

To all of our **HCA Lent** participants this year! Thank you to the children at these schools: **St. Clement Mary Hofbauer school, St. John School in Frederick, St. Thomas Aquinas school**; and to the children at these parishes: **St. Bartholomew, St. Brigid, St. Francis Xavier, St. Augustine, Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, St. Timothy, St. Joan of Arc, and St. Mary of the Assumption.** Your prayers and sacrifices will truly make a difference for children all over the world!

The HCA 2011-2012 School Year Theme is...



HCA around Baltimore

Be a Part of HCA around Baltimore!

As this newsletter takes its summer hiatus, take some time to check out [HCA's programs](#) and see how you can incorporate them into your school or parish curriculum! Consider programs such as...



Our **MEMBERSHIP** program comes with these award-winning newsletters, 3x a year!

The **WORLD MISSION ROSARY** allows for you to embrace the whole world in prayer, one decade at a time!



Have your students enter into the **HCA CHRISTMAS ARTWORK CONTEST!**

Join us for **ADVENT** and/or **LENT** and offer sacrifices for kids in more than 110 developing countries!

