

SPECIAL ISSUE: *Vocations*



*Scarboro Missions welcomes
Fr. Shawn Daley!*

*"Love and service to God is not love and
service to self but to the 'other' and all
that the 'other' offers towards growing in
love and union with God."*

Fr. Shawn Daley, ordained to Scarboro Missions on July 11, 2013

Dear friend of Scarboro Missions...

Thank you for your faithful prayers and generosity to us. We will continue to be good stewards of all your gifts as we put ourselves at the service of others. Please note our Thanksgiving envelope inside this issue for your convenience.

We welcome enquiries about Scarboro's priest and lay missionary programs.

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COVER: Frs. John Carten and Ron MacDonell bless Fr. Shawn Daley at his ordination Mass. July 11, 2013. Saint John, New Brunswick.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



By Kathy Gillis

An invitation to mission

We open this issue with a story from Fr. Mike Traher about his visit to Lishui, China, earlier this year. There he met several small, faith-filled Catholic communities, a result of the efforts of Scarboro's early missionaries and the Grey Sisters of Pembroke who accompanied them. The missionaries' work in China ended in 1949 when the Communists came to power and expelled all foreigners.

Fr. Mike learned from elders in the communities that when the soldiers came they punished any Chinese who worked for or assisted the missionaries. This was especially true for Paul Kam, a Chinese national who had become a Scarboro missionary priest. Fr. Kam suffered eight years of harsh confinement and died just months after his release. He was 61 years of age. To me his story is one of martyrdom.

Scarboro Missions honours the effort and sacrifice of those early missionaries, but since those years, the lived experience of missionaries has contributed to a profound transformation in the Church's understanding of mission. In his article, Fr. Jack Lynch explains how this change came about and what mission means today. "When we were founded, geographical boundaries were of great importance," he writes. "Serving God's mission today involves crossing boundaries, borders, and barriers, most of which are not geographical but rather represent divisions among people."

Mission is about participating in building the Reign of God as described in the Beatitudes. And the Spirit continues to invite us to take part in God's

mission—to be people of peace, to be merciful, to hunger for righteousness, to walk with the poor, to be a voice for the voiceless, to reach out to those on the margins of society, and to see all creation as sacred.

This summer, Fr. Shawn Daley accepted this invitation and was ordained for Scarboro Missions. New lay missionary Donna Joy Tai also accepted the invitation. Both Fr. Shawn and Donna are missioned to Guyana and Donna writes of her experience as a new missionary there.

Mary Olenick remembers mission life in Malawi and her friend Fr. Edmond Nyoka, a Malawian priest,

gives us a glimpse of his life in service to the people of God in Malawi.

Former lay missionaries Maxine Bell and Dorothy Novak also recall their experience of mission and the ways in which their lives have been irrevocably changed.

Yes, mission may not be as it was for the early missionaries to Lishui, China, but it continues to be a life-changing journey and all are called, whether we stay here at home or go to another land and culture. In this issue of the magazine, Scarboro Missions is inviting you to walk with us. As Pope Francis has said, "It is worth saying yes to God."∞



As people of the Beatitudes, we respond to the Pope's call for prayers for peace in Syria and his call to all peoples to act for peace:

"All men and women of good will are bound by the task of pursuing peace. I make a forceful and urgent call to the entire Catholic Church, and also to every Christian of other confessions, as well as to followers of every religion and to those brothers and sisters who do not believe: peace is a good which overcomes every barrier, because it belongs to all of humanity!"



Surprised by the Spirit

When I was a boy, two Scarboro priests visited our grade six class at St. Joseph's School in London, Ontario. En route to their first mission assignments, they invited us to support the work of their mission Society by buying a subscription to *Scarboro Missions* magazine. We were fascinated by their readiness to go out to the world to share the Good News of God's love. I began reading their magazine, which included stories of the original Scarboro missionaries who had served among the people of Lishui, China, particularly Monsignor John Mary Fraser, their Society's founder. Never did I dream that one day I would visit Lishui as a Scarboro priest.

Formerly known as Chuchow prefecture, in the early 20th century the name was changed to Lishui, meaning "beautiful waters," after the graceful river flowing through the city and area. The new Canadian priests and sisters nurtured the seeds of faith originally planted by European missionaries, producing much fruit throughout the area. Their work came to an end when the Communist government came to power in 1949 and China was closed to all foreign missionaries. Only in recent decades have a few of our missionaries managed to visit Lishui again, to the place of our Society's beginnings.

The Dragon at Close Range

Two years ago, I received an email from a university professor by the name of Renying in Lishui, China, asking for photos of Scarboro's Monsignor William McGrath, author



Monsignor McGrath

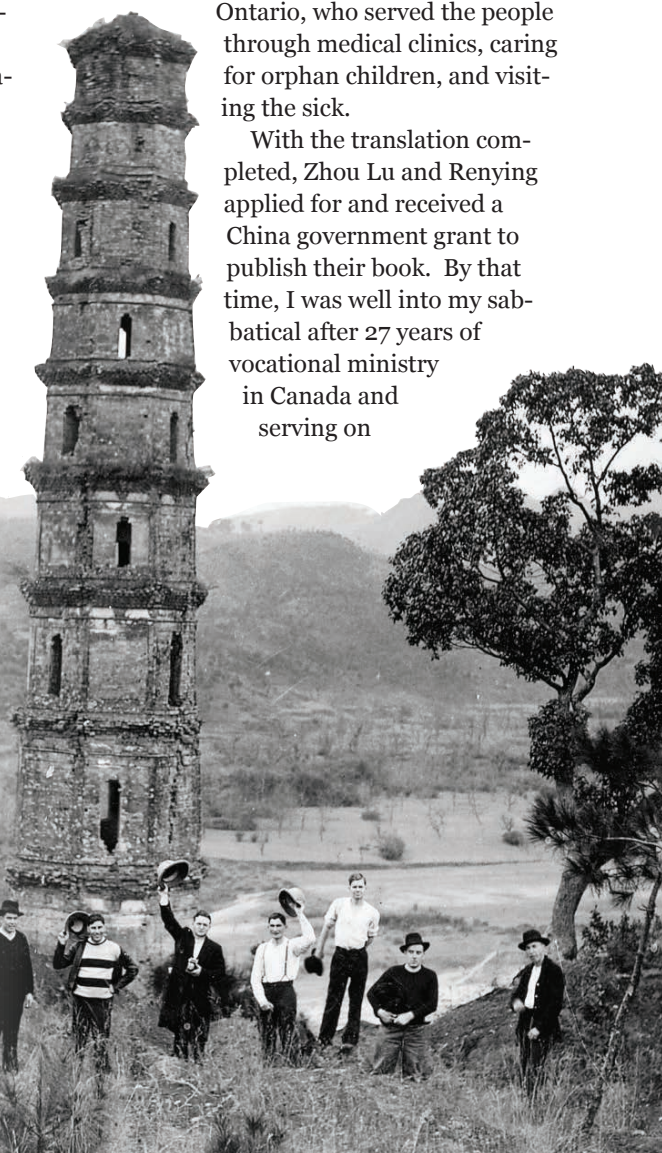
of the book, *The Dragon at Close Range*, published in 1935. A gifted writer and observer, Monsignor McGrath had written an interesting and informative description of the people and culture of Chuchow Prefecture. Almost forgotten here at home, the book was rediscovered by Zhou Lu, a young man in Lishui with a passion for history. While browsing the Internet he stumbled upon this treasure and immediately ordered two copies. Apparently very little recorded history exists about Lishui during the first half of the 20th century.

Zhou Lu placed an ad in the local newspaper asking for help in translating the book into Chinese. The ad was answered by Renying, a university professor of English, who volunteered to help

with the project. Renying and I continued to correspond while the book was being translated. She also asked if we could send a selection of the book's photos depicting the daily life of the people of Lishui at that time. Among them were pictures of Scarboro priests and also

of the Grey Sisters of Pembroke, Ontario, who served the people through medical clinics, caring for orphan children, and visiting the sick.

With the translation completed, Zhou Lu and Renying applied for and received a China government grant to publish their book. By that time, I was well into my sabbatical after 27 years of vocational ministry in Canada and serving on



Walking in the footsteps of Scarboro's early missionaries to Lishui, China, and finding friendship and faith

By Fr. Mike Traher, S.F.M.

Scarboro's General Council.

I asked Renying if it was possible for me to come to Lishui for a visit. She agreed to welcome me and even offered to connect me with the local Catholic community. I invited Louise Malnachuk to accompany me. As a Scarboro missionary Louise taught English in China for many years and was fluent in Mandarin.

Arriving in Lishui

Renying met us at the bus station accompanied by Ms. Mei, the lay leader of Lishui's Catholic church committee. After dropping off our luggage at the hotel, we were taken to see their new church. Still under construction, it is scheduled to be finished in a year's time and will be surrounded by a scenic park also under development. Lishui has been designated a tourist destination and has benefitted from government-sponsored projects to beautify the city. Our hosts pointed out the area a short distance away where the original church, priests' house and sisters' convent had been located overlooking the beautiful Lishui River.

When we met Zhou, the history buff who initiated the translation of *The Dragon at Close Range*, he informed us that he had arranged for the large quantity of photos we sent him to be displayed in the Lishui Historical Museum down the street from the new church. The exhibit was scheduled to open just after we returned to Canada.

On Sunday we attended the 9:30 a.m. Mass, celebrated in Mandarin, and were welcomed by the lay leaders and Fr. Paul Ma, the pastor. Sacred Heart



L-R: Historian Zhou Lu, English professor Renying and Fr. Mike Traher at the Lishui pagoda, the same pagoda as shown on the facing page. In the 1930s the first wave of Scarboro missionaries arrived in the city of Lishui (formerly Chuchow prefecture) in the province of Chekiang (Zhejiang), China. Fr. Mike writes, "Perhaps a thousand years old, this ancient landmark is perched on top of a large hill overlooking the Lishui River where the river divides into two branches. When returning from their mission stations, the early Scarboro missionaries looked for the familiar pagoda to know that they were almost home."

Parish does not have a resident priest, so each Sunday Fr. Ma comes from the city of Wenzhou, an hour away, to celebrate Eucharist with the community. Inside the church was a picture of Scarboro missionary Kenneth Turner, appointed the first bishop of Lishui in 1948.

The pastoral care of Chuchow Prefecture had been assigned to Monsignor Fraser and his young China Mission Seminary by the bishop of Hangzhou in 1926. Today, as a gesture of friendship reconnecting Scarboro to the Catholic community of Lishui, we presented Fr. Ma with a framed picture of Monsignor Fraser. He intimated that Scarboro Missions would receive an invitation to attend the formal opening of the new parish church next year.

Louise and I felt like family coming home for a visit after being away for a long time.

After lunch with Fr. Ma and the parish committee, the lay leaders invited us to visit the graves of Scarboro missionaries Frs. James MacGillvray and Aaron Gignac located on a hillside on the edge of town. Fr. James died in 1935 and Fr. Aaron in 1940. Mr. Li, whose father had worked with these missionaries, explained that it was his responsibility to care for the gravesites of these two servants of God, which he saw as a great honour. Everything about the site spoke of his dedication.

That evening we were invited to dinner with Mr. Li's family and the occasion was filled with laughter and stories. In their day, our China mis-



sionaries would no doubt have experienced the same Chinese hospitality.

The next day, after an early breakfast of rice porridge, steamed dumplings, and a “boiled tea egg,” we were met by Srs. Zhang and Yu who serve the Catholic communities connected to Lishui. Together with Ms. Mei of the parish committee we drove to the smaller city of Qingtian, south of Lishui, where we caught sight of the majestic profile of the local Catholic Church, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception.

Sister Gua, the youngest member of the community of sisters, does pastoral ministry among the 50 seniors living in the parish, as well as catechetical ministry and home visits to parishioners. Over a glass of tea, they shared memories of the Scarboro priests, including Fr. Paul Kam who was buried nearby. They enjoyed seeing our photos of Fr. Kam, the first seminarian of the China Mission Seminary (precursor to Scarboro Missions) founded in 1918 by Fr. Fraser in Almonte, Ontario.

After his ordination in 1925, Fr. Kam returned to China with Fr. Fraser to serve among the people. In 1950 when the Communist government came to power, Fr. Kam was imprisoned and our Society lost all contact with him. The parish leaders told us the rest of his story. Released from prison



Members of the Catholic community in Lishui accompany lay missionary Louise Malnachuk and Fr. Mike Traher at the grave of Fr. Paul Kam (photo above left), the first seminarian of the China Mission Seminary (precursor to Scarboro Missions).

“As we gathered to pray at his burial site, I thought of the agony he endured alone during his years of imprisonment, and the decades during which our Society had no news of him and knew nothing of his whereabouts.”

in 1958 after eight years of harsh confinement, he was never able to recover. He returned to the parish house and lived almost as a recluse until his death a few months later. One of the senior residents told us that he cared for Fr. Kam as best he could until he died. This man was delighted to be reconnected with Scarboro missionaries after so many years and asked for a blessing, which I felt privileged to offer him and his family.

During lunch in the parish rectory we were told stories about the history of the parish and the work of the Scarboro priests and Grey Sisters. We were then taken along winding streets and up the far side of a large hill to Fr. Kam’s grave. As we gathered to pray at his burial site, I thought of the agony he endured alone during his years of

imprisonment, and the decades during which our Society had no news of him and knew nothing of his whereabouts. It was not until 2005 that Scarboro missionaries Fr. Jack Lynch and Cynthia Chu visited Lishui and by chance learned of his gravesite and were taken to see it.

While driving back from Qingtian to Lishui, the sisters stopped at the farming village of Da Lu, a mission station once served by Scarboro priests. The village elders welcomed us warmly. The news of our surprise visit soon drew a small group of Catholics who proudly showed us their newly renovated church, St. Theresa of the Little Flower, which had originally been built by Scarboro priests. On my iPad, I showed them a photo of the original



Left: In the village of Bihu, elders look at historical photos on Fr. Mike’s iPad, recognizing some of the Scarboro priests and Grey Sisters they knew as children, among them Sister St. Angela (photo right).

church when it was just built in 1936, along with other historical photos. They recognized the faces of a few Scarboro priests and Grey Sisters they knew as children, among them Sister St. Angela and Sister Genevieve. They were happy to know that one of the sisters, Sister Susan Daley who served in the town of Lungchuan from 1947 to 1951, was still alive and residing with her community in Pembroke, Ontario.

The next day, the sisters drove us to the village of Bihu, another mission station served by Scarboro priests. The people there eagerly awaited us with a tasty meal of meat and fish, complemented by vegetables and fresh fruit from their gardens. They showed us their newly renovated Canadian Martyrs church and the treasured church bell brought from Canada by the missionaries. The could not remember the name of the Canadian priest who built their church and parish house in 1933, only that he was quite tall. Inside the church, the sisters led everyone in a prayer and in singing of a familiar hymn in thanksgiving for our mutual roots in faith.

The Grey Sisters’ presence

This little group also looked at my iPad collection of historical photos. One of them recognized Sister Catherine who had taken care of him

when he was sick as a child. Another remembered Sister St. Angela as very kind, and picked out Sister Juletta, the superior of the community, who had a reputation for being very strict. We also learned about the Grey Sisters’ medical clinic and hospital in Lungchuan where they often treated several hundred patients a day. The impact of the sisters’ medical care, education of the children, and their solicitude for orphaned children are remembered and revered.

The people of both Da Lu and Bihu reminded me of the biblical *anawim*, God’s little ones. As more memories bubbled forth, we heard of the suffering their parents endured during the country’s transition to a Communist government in the early 1950s. Some of their fathers were punished and received harsh treatment from the soldiers for having worked with the foreign priests and sisters as catechists, drivers, and cooks. Yet, here were the children of these parents, holding steadfast in their faith and optimism about the future of their joy-filled faith communities. Their strength and determination continues to keep them together as communities focused on Christ their Shepherd.

As we drove back to Lishui, I was beginning to feel the weight of history making itself present. We had stood among the descendants of people who



so inspired Monsignor Fraser and his priests to live in a strange land, adapt to a new culture, and struggle to learn the local Chinese dialect and customs. The Canadian priests and sisters had worked to build up the local Church, to convey the faith as best they could, to love and be loved by the people, to endure together with them the violence of World War II, followed by a civil war, and finally to be expelled from their mission never to return. Such however is the price they willingly paid to answer the call of Christ and his mission among the people of China.

On our last morning, our hosts arrived to see us to the bus station. With typical Chinese hospitality, they gave us fruit for the journey, lest we get hungry along the way. At the station while gathered around us to say goodbye, the little group asked for a blessing. As I quietly offered the blessing, I realized how fitting a way this was to conclude our visit. We had arrived as strangers and were leaving as friends and members of the extended Catholic family of Lishui, a family whose faith was nurtured by Scarboro priests and Grey Sisters all those years ago. I could only marvel again at how this came to be, through a nearly forgotten book written by a Canadian missionary priest and discovered by a young man in Lishui, China, with a passion for history. The whole experience was truly one of being surprised by the Spirit.∞

Fr. Mike Traher is now missioned to Guyana.

MISSION...*Participating in God's dream for creation*

By Fr. Jack Lynch, S.F.M.

In the two thousand year history of our church, religious communities have come and gone. Many were founded to evangelize in a particular historical context. Many of them made great contributions to the church and many of these same communities passed out of existence not because they did not fulfill an important role in their day and age, but because new challenges emerged in different historical situations. New communities were born that responded to the new realities and challenges to evangelize—to make known the reality of the Incarnation and the teaching of Jesus.

Such was the emergence in 1918 of the China Mission College known today as Scarboro Missions. We were founded by Father John Mary Fraser of Toronto who went to China in 1902, profoundly aware that there were great possibilities there to evangelize, and returned to North America to found a seminary to send missionary priests to China.

There have been many changes over the 95 years of our history. A Scarboro colleague did us all a service when he wrote a paper entitled, “The Mission Today”, inviting us to reflect on some of the important developments in the 95 years and to look forward. The following list of changes includes some of his observations as well as my own:

- The painful realization that the missionary enterprise has been closely associated with Western colonialism and that missionaries were often insensitive to the cultures and religions of other peoples.

- Vatican II in its *Decree on*

“Our vocation is to be open to the Spirit of God who is the source and author of mission...We are called to give life while at the same time questioning practices, traditions and customs that are neither inclusive nor life giving.”

Missionary Activity assumed that the local church was responsible for evangelizing non-Christians. Prior to that, missionary institutes like Scarboro were responsible for the evangelization of non-Christians in other lands.

- After China was closed to missionaries in 1949, mission was to the South. Today, however, the South is home to more than half of the world's Christians and more than half of the world's Roman Catholics.

- Immigration has had a profound effect on our Canadian reality. Within a five kilometre radius of our central-house in Scarborough is a Buddhist temple, a couple of mosques, as well as Hindu temples. Diversity of faith communities and pluralism are our new reality.

- In 1957, 53 percent of Canadians were attending religious services every week. By the year 2000 this had dropped to 21 percent. The Church has lost credibility due to the sexual scandals, abuse of authority and many additional factors.

A New Evangelization

In the early 1980s, Pope John Paul II began to speak earnestly about the need for a new evangelization. In 1983 in Haiti he urged the Church to a new evangelization with a new fervour in both its methods and its expres-

sion. Just as our founder and others responded faithfully to the movement of the Spirit of God in their historical and ecclesial context, so too it must be for us as we go forward. Our vocation is to be open to the Spirit of God who is the source and author of mission. Like a midwife, we must be about birthing life. We trust in God present in history and we trust in the words of Jesus who said, “I have come that they may have life and have it in abundance.” We are called to give life while at the same time questioning practices, traditions and customs that are neither inclusive nor life giving. We need to evangelize in a new reality always faithful to Jesus and his teaching.

When we were founded, geographical boundaries were of great importance. Serving God's mission today involves crossing boundaries, borders, and barriers, most of which are not geographical but rather represent divisions among people. For us, the Reign of God is our focal point. I particularly like the descriptive phrase “companionship of empowerment” to describe the Reign of God or God's dream for creation. Missionary theologian Fr. Michael McCabe SMA expresses it best: “Christ's vision of a world transformed by the Reign of God remains the most noble and exciting vision the world has ever known.”



Fr. Jack Lynch during a visit to Scarboro's mission in Thailand.

While in Brazil for World Youth Day this past summer, Pope Francis reflected on missionary discipleship and observed that neither the missionary nor the church is the centre: “The centre is Jesus Christ who calls us and sends us forth.” He said that when the church makes herself the centre she makes herself merely functional. He went on to say that “we need a church capable of rediscovering the maternal womb of mercy. Without mercy we have little chance nowadays of becoming part of a world of ‘wounded’ persons in need of understanding, forgiveness and love.”

I am greatly encouraged by Pope Francis. His pastoral approach and vision of a renewed church that is compassionate, merciful and transparent makes me feel both gratitude and a profound challenge. My personal hope is that we can move forward and be the church that we are called to be. In spite of my years, I feel energized.

Toward the future

This year, I celebrate 45 years of priesthood which in itself is sufficient material for reflection. As Scarboro Missions looks to the future, we find ourselves like the majority of religious communities in North America and Europe experiencing aging and a

decline in our membership. In the last few decades, there have been very few candidates for priesthood.

Yet, I feel called to be both realistic and hopeful. I trust in the Spirit of God present in history. In prayer I constantly try to discern how I, we, can best participate in God's mission, a project that comes from God and belongs to God. I am challenged to integrity and give witness to my belief in Jesus and his teaching.

Recently I read a short reflection, with which I heartily agree, by Fr. William Marvee on the occasion of his 50th anniversary of ordination. He recalled that the most important thing in his ministry is not the number of years of priestly service but rather how well he has heard the Word of God and kept it. He said, “I treasure the priesthood today even more so than 50 years ago. But in all honesty, there is a nagging question that has surfaced for me over the years: how faithful a disciple of Christ am I in the exercise of my priestly ministry?”

That question is the key to our ministry. We became disciples at baptism and later were ordained to serve in ministry. We have to keep before us constantly the words of Jesus: “Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it.”

The values by which Jesus lived and died are not based on the world and its values but rather on what Jesus calls the Kingdom or the Reign of God. The Kingdom of God is the in-breaking of God into the world in unsuspected places and among undeserving people. The Kingdom of God is the new world that God is creating today, even now. A priest friend expressed it this way: Jesus is a role model for society but not society as we know it. Jesus is a role model for society as God dreams society to be. The life of Jesus is a radical reversal of the values of our world. Those values are best articulated in the Beatitudes but are heard as well in all of Jesus' teaching.

For us, the Spirit of God continues to invite us to be witnesses and collaborators in God's mission for creation. We need disciples and ministers who are creative and daring in their service to God's Reign. I encourage others to pick up the challenge to be generous servants of God's word. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we must celebrate Jesus and make known his teaching in changing times and in new realities. As Scarboro missionary Fr. Buddy Smith once said, “It is a vocation worthy of a lifetime.”∞



By Fr. Ron MacDonell, S.F.M.

Scarboro welcomes Fr. Shawn Daley

This summer, our mission Society received a wonderful blessing. On July 11, the Feast of St. Benedict, Shawn Douglas Daley was ordained for Scarboro Missions by Bishop Robert Harris in Saint John, New Brunswick. The ceremony took place at Our Lady of Assumption, Shawn's home parish where he had been baptised. Before the Christian community, Shawn made a commitment to serve Jesus Christ and the people of God.

More than 20 diocesan priests concelebrated at the ordination Mass, as well as a number of priests from Toronto, Ireland, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, and Nigeria. Abbot Bede of the Cistercian-Trappist Monastery of Our Lady of Mount Calvary in Rogersville, New Brunswick, was also present. Scarboro Missions was represented by General Council members Frs. Ron MacDonell and John Carten, along with Frs. Jack Lynch and Pat Kelly. Both Fr. Carten and Fr. Kelly are native sons of Saint John Diocese.

Shawn chose July 11, the Feast of St. Benedict, because it was on that feast day many years ago when he first heard God calling him to monastic life. He entered the Trappist Monastery in New Brunswick where his time was spent heeding the words of St. Benedict: *ora et labora*, "pray and work." After 16 years of monastic life, Shawn felt another call, this time to the

"Love and service to God is not love and service to self but to the 'other' and all that the 'other' offers towards growing in love and union with God."

Fr. Shawn Daley, S.F.M.

missionary priesthood. God led him to the Dominican Republic where he served as a lay volunteer, helping Jesuit missionaries and then working with Scarboro priests, particularly veteran missionary Fr. Joe McGuckin, who was a mentor to Shawn. Together they served the poor and learned from them.

After his experience in the Dominican Republic, Shawn entered

Scarboro's formation program to complete his theological and pastoral formation. On May 19, 2012, Shawn was ordained a deacon by Bishop William McGrattan in a celebration in the main chapel of Scarboro Missions. Then followed a year of pastoral service in St. John the Evangelist parish, in Weston, Ontario, under the guidance of the pastor, Fr. Michael McGourty.



A proud, happy family. Fr. Shawn Daley with his parents, Nyles and Joanne, and sister, Lisa, at his ordination.

"Do not be afraid of what God asks of you! It is worth saying 'yes' to God."

Pope Francis to World Youth Day volunteers July 2013



Bishop Robert Harris ordains Fr. Shawn Daley for Scarboro Missions on July 11, 2013. Saint John, New Brunswick.

Father Shawn is now missioned to Guyana where he will work alongside Scarboro missionary Fr. Mike Traher in serving the church in the city of New Amsterdam and surrounding communities. They join Scarboro lay missionaries Bev Trach and Donna Tai who live and work in Georgetown, the capital city. We give thanks to God for Fr. Shawn and we pray for him and the other members of the Guyana mission team as they endeavour to partake in the mission of Jesus: "I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full." (*John 10:10*)∞



Scarboro invites you to respond to the call of the Spirit and join us as a priest missionary. It will change your life. Scarboro priests serve through teaching, dialogue, prayer, celebration, and the witness of our person and lifestyle. Through the celebration of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, Scarboro priests worship with the community, giving thanks to God who nourishes, forgives, heals, and renews us. We have tasted the "goodness of the Lord" and are challenged to be active in sharing Christ's mission.

Through dialogue and friendship, Scarboro priests develop a deep respect for peoples of other religious traditions and cultures. We are at times like bridges between their culture and religious belief and ours. We learn to witness humbly to Christ and to discover the Spirit of God at work among the people we serve. We are called to be advocates for justice and peace among the poor and marginalized. We witness to how the oppressed, when brought together and guided by the ideals of the Gospel, are able to employ their gifts for their own common good and for the future. We also witness to the sacredness of the Earth and invite all people to care for the gift of creation, which sustains us.

Requirements for application as a Scarboro priest missionary:

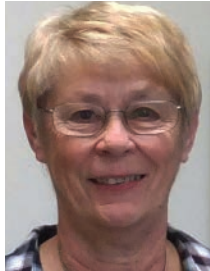
- 21–40 years of age, with a college or university degree (academic records will be required for acceptance into the seminary for studies)
- Canadian citizenship or Landed Immigrant Status
- Good physical and mental health
- Active involvement in the Catholic Church
- An open mind and heart

The process begins with the application, an autobiography, an interview, providing of personal references, and initial acceptance by an Admissions Committee. Later requirements include a full medical report, psychological testing, and further interviews prior to recommendation and acceptance.

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www.scarboromissions.ca



By Mary Olenick

The road less travelled

Serving Christ as a lay missionary overseas is a life changing experience

By our Baptism, we are all called to be missionaries, signs of God's healing love for the world. In our daily lives, we witness to that love through service to others in our families, communities, and churches. However, God continually calls some of us to leave behind the familiar and go out into the unknown, to other cultures in other lands. When we hear this call, we may feel inadequate, but we trust that God will use our ordinary talents to do extraordinary things.

Scarboro lay missionaries have been leaving their footprints in mission overseas since the 1970s. We have worked alongside Scarboro priests, each complementing the other, in many mission countries. From time to time religious sisters participate in our four month lay formation program and work with us in mission overseas.

Admission Requirements

To become a Scarboro lay missionary, you must be:

- ✓ Catholic, active in the Canadian church, and expressing your faith in service to others
- ✓ A Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- ✓ Adaptable and in good physical and psychological health
- ✓ Willing to make a three-year commitment without home visits, except for a family emergency (life threatening illness or death)
- ✓ Age 23–55 years (exceptions are considered)
- ✓ Committed to trying to learn a foreign language when your mission work calls for it
- ✓ College or university educated or have specific professional training and/or work experience
- ✓ Single, or a married couple with independent adult children. Both married partners must be Catholic.
- ✓ Debt free and free from student loan obligations.

Volunteering and placement

As a new missionary, every effort is made to place you according to your skills, matched with the needs of the overseas community. You may be asked to be open and adaptable to working in areas where you may not feel as proficient. However, you will be placed where there is adequate support, preferably with a Scarboro team already present.

Financial

Lay missionaries are expected to live a simple lifestyle in mission. Scarboro provides financial support for travel to and from the overseas placement, as well as housing, food, and transportation related to the work. You will also receive health insurance, a small stipend, and a yearly retreat.

Length of service

Scarboro Missions requires a minimum three year commitment, which includes the four months of formation. After the three years, some people have renewed their contracts and stayed on. This year we are also running a one-year short term lay mission program as a pilot project that is targeted to young adults.

The application process

When you enter the application process, there is a two-way discernment that takes place and continues throughout the process. This gives you and Scarboro Missions the opportunity to discern if our program is a good fit for you.

The process begins with the following steps:

1. The application (providing personal information, skills, education, work experience, references and personal reflection)
2. Writing a short autobiography
3. Interviews at Scarboro with a team of both Scarboro priests and lay members
4. Vocational assessment at a professional facility
5. Notification regarding acceptance into the program

During the four month formation program you will live in community at Scarboro and all expenses related to the program are looked after by Scarboro. You will be responsible for your personal expenses only.

Classes are Monday to Friday but occasionally spill over into evenings and weekends. Spirituality for mission, working as a team and being part of a community are important aspects of formation. In mission overseas, we strive to work not as lone rangers but as a team, collaborating together.

Formation studies include Emotional Wellness in Mission, Cultural Adaptation, Missiology, Scripture, Justice

Photos top to bottom:
Formation class 2013 in Toronto with Fr. Russ Sampson, formation program facilitator; Carolyn Doyle, short term lay mission coordinator; Kathy Murtha, Mission Centre coordinator; and lay missionary Donna Joy Tai.

Scarboro lay missionaries Cynthia Chu in China, Kate O'Donnell in Guyana, and Sister Ann MacDonald, CSJ, in Malawi.



When you go to mission overseas, you do not need a lot of words. What you need is openness, a listening heart, and the willingness to lend a hand to another and to be witnesses to Christ's love for all. You need to be a person of faith, prayer, and humility, and have a sense of humor. You will be a stranger in another land and culture, learning to adapt, maybe learning a new language, and making mistakes. You must be able to laugh at yourself!



and Peace, Team Building, Social Analysis, the History of Scarboro, Myers Briggs/Enneagram, Spirituality, World Religions and Interreligious Dialogue.

At the end of the program, a missioning ceremony and mass are held at Scarboro with your family and friends joining in the celebration. At this time, you will read your commitment statement, sign a contract, and be officially presented as a Scarboro lay missionary.

A second missioning ceremony is held in your home parish with a member of Scarboro's General Council and Lay Mission Office attending. This parish missioning helps to raise the awareness of the parish community that they too have a part in your journey. They will have the opportunity to support, learn about, and share in your overseas missionary vocation while you are in mission.

You will be able to spend time at home for a couple of weeks to say farewell to family and friends before returning to Scarboro to embark on your mission placement.

The process of becoming a lay missionary with Scarboro is a wonderful experience of personal and spiritual growth and of life in community that will add to the foundation of faith and commitment that you already have. As you journey out in mission, we trust that God will give you whatever you need to do your part in furthering the Reign of God.∞



Experiencing God's love in mission

A new missionary discovers the beauty and warmth of Guyana and its peoples

By Donna Joy Tai

***Dear land of Guyana, of rivers and plains,
Made rich by the sunshine, and lush by the rains,
Set gem-like and fair, between mountains and sea,
Your children salute you, dear land of the free.***

The first verse of the national anthem of Guyana describes the geography of this young Commonwealth nation that only gained independence from Britain in 1966. As our plane approached the Cheddi Jagan International Airport, I could see acres and acres of verdant green, striped with rivers and tributaries and dotted with small settlements.

Guiana is an Amerindian name meaning “land of many waters,” and the country benefits from 16 major river systems. Only about 25% of Guyana is settled, mostly in small villages along the rivers and coastline, with the largest concentration in Georgetown, the capital, with just over 250,000 people, representing one third of the total population.

Although located on the South American continent, sandwiched between Venezuela to the west, and Brazil to the east and south, Guyana identifies more with its Caribbean neighbours with a similar colonial, socio-political and economic history, and is a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). Unlike the islands, however, Guyana cannot boast of white beaches and clear blue water, but rather sports muddy brown coastline because it is below sea-level.



Donna Joy Tai with some of her Bosco boys from the St. John Bosco Orphanage and Bosco Academy where she teaches Spanish and assists with after school reading.

In fact, if not for a Dutch-engineered seawall with a system of trenches and dykes, and the cultivation of mangroves, the entire coastal area could be flooded at each high tide. Even the rivers have black “Coca-Cola” water.

Guyana is the only English-speaking country on the continent. The common language is a Creolese sister to the English dialects spoken on other Caribbean islands. My Jamaican heritage and upbringing helped me adapt quickly to the local lingo, especially useful at the market when buying *balanjay* (eggplant) and *paupaw* (papaya), and ensuring I get off the bus at the proper stop: “*nex kawnah deh*” (the next street corner or intersection).

Rich in diversity

Guyana is a land of many heritages and creeds. Its colonial history includes the Spanish, French, Dutch, and British who encountered Aboriginal peoples—

the Warrau, Arawak, and Carib. The era of slavery brought Africans, and post-slavery brought East Indians, Chinese, and Portuguese from the island of Madeira as indentured workers to replace the emancipated African slaves. With these peoples came their various languages and religious practices—Christian/Catholic, Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist—to add to the Aboriginal traditions. Mandirs (Hindu temples), Christian churches of all denominations, and a growing number of mosques are present in all villages and towns.

Guyana is proud of its six-nation heritage: African, East Indian, Chinese, Portuguese, other European (mainly British, Dutch, French) and Amerindian—with some people having all six in their family tree. Freedom of religion is an intrinsic right of Guyanese society, with interfaith unions more the norm than the excep-



tion. The biggest social divide exists between the rich and the poor.

In search of ministry

As a new foreign missionary in search of ministry, I began volunteering my time at St. John Bosco Orphanage, home to 51 boys aged five to 16. I assist some of them after school with reading and have also begun teaching basic Spanish to the Grade Six boys one morning a week at the adjoining Bosco Academy. Two mornings a week I visit seniors at The Palms Geriatric Centre and St. Joseph Mercy Hospital hospice. And every other Saturday for a few weeks I went to the village of Unity to assist the priest in preparing young people for confirmation. Variety is the spice of life and sometimes of mission as well.

The Bosco boys won my heart from the first with their eager and enthusiastic welcome. They see a parade of volunteers, some for a few weeks, some for a few months, and each boy tries to become the favourite during that limited time, to be showered with attention, affection, and gifts.

Most of the boys, if not all, come from traumatic home environments with little or no parental guidance and without good role models; some have physical or intellectual challenges. Building relationships is difficult. After sharing some of my frustrations with my fellow missionary, she declared what I was already concluding: “Just love them!”

Whatever the challenges, they each have their own unique gifts and talents, which I hope to help each boy discover

and nurture. A local charitable foundation funds music lessons, especially for steel pan. The best students join the Bosco Steel Orchestra and perform at public and private events. Several boys demonstrate true artistic talent, others excel in football and table tennis, while many enjoy the national sport of cricket. Some have expressed big dreams—whether to own or live in one of the mansions they see around them, or to find cures for diseases, or to help bring about world peace. Children are the future of our world and need guidance, encouragement, love, and opportunity. For the Bosco boys, I pray that I will be a positive way station on their life journey.

Just as the boys are in need of attention, so too the seniors, many with family who are physically or emotionally distant. At the Palms, the residents look forward to our visit, sharing candy, Scripture, and hymns. One man plays his harmonica while some of the women go into impressive harmonies. The Spirit is truly at work in the sharing of God's praise and worship among Christians and non-Christians alike. We all feel the love during these weekly encounters.

At the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital hospice, I share and discuss Scripture readings and sing hymns, with clapping and sometimes dancing. I witness once again the movement of the Spirit in the presence and participation of these women, despite their various ailments. I am very grateful for this ministry that allows me to share my love of music and singing, honed by many years as a parish music minister.

At her missioning ceremony on March 16, 2013, Donna Tai made her one year commitment as a Scarboro missionary. Photo left: Donna with her mother, Fr. Brian Swords and lay missionary Mary Olenick. In her statement, Donna said:

“With joy and gratitude for the many blessings of God and for the working of the Holy Spirit in my life, I stand before God, my Scarboro family, and my family and friends. In this sacred place I commit to one year of service as a Scarboro missionary, to walk in solidarity with the peoples of Guyana and to share in their struggles and aspirations. I trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit to make use of my gifts and talents where they are most needed. With your prayers and support, may I succeed in showing and bringing forth among the Guyanese people the fruits of the Spirit: “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” (Galatians 5:22)

After only four months, I am still discovering the beauty and the gifts of Guyana and its people, while discovering my own gifts as a missionary in service to them. There have been and will be moments of discouragement, but there are many more moments each day which feed my enthusiasm: rainbows reflected in rain puddles; the cacophony of migrating wild parrots at dawn followed by the soothing and joyful twittering of songbirds; a graceful hawk gliding overhead; a flock of white ibises like sentinels in a freshly mown field; trenches filled with blossoming lotus flowers or water lilies; the smiling faces of curious children; succulent tropical fruits; the shimmering sound of rain on rooftops and the refreshing coolness that the rains bring; looking up at thousands of stars in the sky, now visible because of a blackout; the flickering lights of fireflies at night; random acts of kindness by strangers; and *limin’* (hanging out) and *gaffin’* (chatting).

As their anthem says, “Your children salute you” Guyana, and so do I.∞



An option for women

Marymount Secondary School in Mzuzu, Malawi, offers young women hope for the future

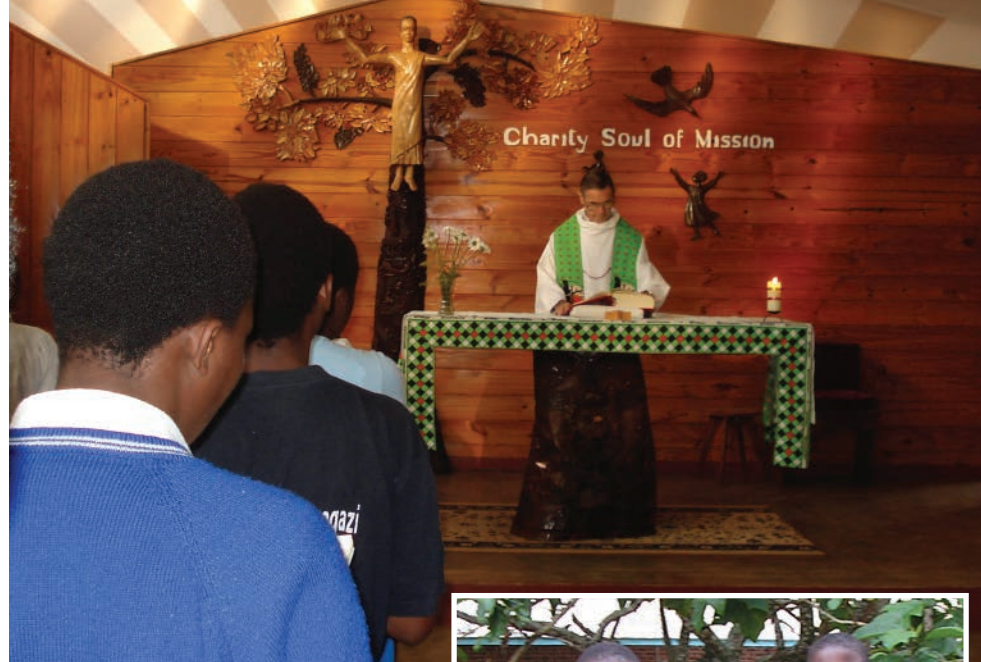
By Fr. Jim McGuire, S.F.M.

After 46 years of priesthood, 30 of those years spent in mission in the Philippines and the remainder in Canada, I was invited by Bishop Remi Ste-Marie, a Canadian and a Missionary of Africa (White Fathers), to be part of the Church in the township of Dedza, central Malawi. At that time there were four Scarboro missionaries serving in Malawi.

In 2005 I was asked to serve as chaplain at Marymount Catholic Secondary School in the city of Mzuzu where the other members of the Scarboro team were present, some 450 kilometres north of Dedza.

As an older missionary priest I was delighted to be working with young people. In Mzuzu I lived with two senior Missionaries of Africa, Frs. Richard Deschenes and Piet Van Hulten, who are likewise involved with youth. Fr. Piet helps young men and women decide their future by directing retreats and providing counseling and guidance to those who are considering the religious life. Fr. Deschenes works tirelessly with various youth associations in Mzuzu encouraging young people to believe in themselves and strive for the development of their country.

More than half of Malawi's 15 million people are under 19 years of age. Many of them are like sheep without a shepherd—out of school, not working and discouraged. Fewer than 35 percent of Malawian children have a chance to attend secondary school and the figure is much lower for girls, many of whom are unable to continue their studies after primary school as they are required to help at home, working in



Fr. Jim McGuire celebrates the Eucharist at Marymount Catholic Secondary School, an all girls boarding school. Malawi.

Right (L-R): Tereza Ng'ambi and Agnes Ntaba, two of the 650-member student body striving to better their lives.

the fields and caring for younger siblings. Most of them marry at an early age. A private, well-equipped school like Marymount helps address these problems.

Marymount is a boarding school for girls founded some 50 years ago with the help of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (MIC) from Montreal. The school has more than 650 students. Its mandate is not only to provide a good education for girls, but also to promote gender equality.

Tereza and Agnes were two of



the young women who attended Marymount while I was there and whose stories are similar to many of the other students. Tereza and her siblings became dependent on their grandmother after their parents separated. The 70 year old grandmother pleaded with me to find a sponsor for this bright young girl so that she could study at Marymount. With the help of friends in Canada, Tereza graduated last year with flying colours and has dreams of becoming a doctor.

Agnes lost both her parents to the dreaded HIV/AIDS virus. As an orphan with poor relatives, her future was not bright. However she was accepted at our school and graduated, thanks to sympathetic donors. Now she is free to find a suitable job to help her siblings and live her own life.

My mission at Marymount was a tremendous blessing to me. As chaplain I was in a position to share the beauty of the Gospel with students and teachers of all faiths. They affectionately called me *Agogo* (Grandpa) and like most grandfathers, they could do no wrong for me. These kids will always be in my heart.∞

This summer, after celebrating his 80th birthday with his friends in Malawi, Fr. Jim McGuire retired from active mission and returned to Canada.



Lay missionary Maxine Bell with members of an Amerindian community in Guyana.

Rewards of mission

By Maxine Bell

A little more than six years ago, filled with a deep sense of sadness, I left my mission home in Guyana where I had been living with the Amerindian people in the village of Kurukabaru in the Pakaraima Mountains. Coming back to Canada, back to life in the fast lane, was a big challenge for me mentally and spiritually. I moved to Niagara Falls soon after coming home and got a job very quickly. I picked up a secondhand car for a song and was all set. Or so I thought.

In truth, the transition didn't go so smoothly. I fought to get on track, but spiritually I continued to struggle. Then my sister Joanna in Northern Ontario told me about seniors living in the North where the houses were more affordable. I investigated this option and ended up buying a house in Terrace Bay, a scenic town on the north shore of Lake Superior.

That was four years ago and I haven't looked back. I have a small business doing sewing and alterations for people in our community and I've joined a quilters' guild, a new hobby I picked up after returning to Canada. I'm an active member of our busy seniors club and a member of our church, St. Martin of Tours, singing in the choir, helping with liturgy, and chairing Christian Family Life in our Catholic Women's League.

Other activities also enrich my life, such as reading spiritual books, listening to the series of Lighthouse Catholic Media CDs and reading the bible in the course of a year, every year, which is something my mother always did.

When I was sent to Guyana as a new missionary, I was told to take time to discover where and what was the best work or service for my talents in serving God among the Guyanese people. I did this on a continual basis. It took me a while to learn to apply this lesson to my life in Canada as well.

I had often heard returning missionaries say that they got so much more out of mission than they gave. I now know what they meant. The Amerindians in Guyana taught me to slow down, to sit and be silent, to meditate on the goodness around me and truly enjoy the moment. I learned to be grateful for things that I took for granted at home, such as electricity, running water, a stove, and even flooring. It is a joy to seek a life of humility and to find blessings in all that we encounter. I attribute this joy to the examples and teachings of the Scarboro priests and lay missionaries and to my journey with the Amerindian people of Guyana.∞

In the service of God

Finding joy and hope in the mystery of priesthood

By Fr. Edmond Nyoka

Edmond Nyoka was a student of Scarboro lay missionary Mary Olenick when she taught English and Life Skills to young men studying for the priesthood at Christ the King Formation Centre in Rumphi, Malawi, in 2003. Mary says, “Edmond is a quiet, gentle and humble person. I admire his faith in God and the love and dedication he has for his family.” Fr. Edmond is now a priest at St. Peters Cathedral, Mzuzu Diocese, Malawi, Central Africa.

My journey as a priest began on July 16, 2011. There is a saying here in Malawi: “However long the night might be, there is always dawn.” For me, such a saying does not offer false hope, but real hope in the possible outcome of my labour in the service of God.

My calling to the priesthood remains a mystery and I have learned to listen to the voice within. When I face problems, I sometimes question if this is the vocation God wanted for me. I have been to Christian communities where people have said that I am too young to be a priest and should be lightly trusted. Such moments have been difficult, but God helps me to show the people that I am fit for God’s service.

Many priests in Malawi are living under economic hardships. Our country is very poor so any work in the service of God is a challenge. We have huge parishes and long distances to travel on dirt roads. After ordination we are given a motorbike for easy travel and maintenance considering the terrain of most of our regions. In the rainy season the roads are slippery and



Fr. Edmond Nyoka with his friend, Scarboro lay missionary Mary Olenick.

sometimes rocky. Each day, however, by the grace of God I continue to serve my brothers and sisters.

I am uplifted and encouraged to see the many happy faces at Mass, the gifts offered in support of the priests, the listening spirit of the local church leaders, and the numerous people coming back to church. For me, this reinforces the need for priests and affirms my ministry as a priest.

I believe the big challenge today is with the youth in Malawi and in other parts of the world. They need to know that the Church is both human and Divine. The human part is guided by the Divine, but being human we also make mistakes. Taking up vocations in the church remains as relevant as before. We cannot be swayed by the

voices that always speak of the dark side of the object with two faces.

I feel great joy that God has given me my heart’s deepest desire—to be a priest. I know that following the Lord can be a challenge as it requires me to carry my cross, but there is always hope and faith that I am not going through this alone. The reality is that there are both good and tough times. When tough times come, I remember the words of Jesus that he will always be with me. When the road seems narrow and dark, when I doubt my capabilities, yet things turn out okay, I am filled with wonder knowing God’s hand was guiding me.

However long the night might be, there is always dawn.∞

A life changing journey

Stepping back in time to remember mission in Malawi and treasured visits to the market

By Mary Olenick

It has been six years since I left mission in Malawi, Africa, and returned home to coordinate Scarboro’s Lay Mission Office. The best part of this interesting, fulfilling and often challenging work has been preparing others for overseas mission, sharing in their excitement and watching them overcome their uncertainty and fears before starting out as new missionaries.

Once you have served in mission overseas, the experience never leaves you. Part of me will always belong to the people of Malawi, giving thanks for their friendship, for what they taught and shared with me, and for the ways they challenged me to see with new eyes. I learned to embrace the simple way of life, to accept people as they are, to look for the good in everyone, to listen to others whose opinions and ways are different from mine, and to accept the people’s love and caring when I was lonely and missing family and friends in Canada.

One of my special memories is of visiting the markets. Markets were not just places to buy fresh vegetables and fruit, they were also gathering places to catch up on the local news and gossip. I did not need a sign to point me there; I let the noise of the busy, crowded marketplace lead me.

Row upon row of tables stood loaded with vegetables and fruit of every color, shape and size, all making a beautiful artistic pattern. Some were stacked in perfect little pyramids and I wondered if one accidental push would bring them all tumbling down, like dominoes.

Every table had a simple roof from which hung bunches of plastic bags of various sizes and colors to contain shoppers’ purchases. The clusters of bags made a rustling sound in the breeze. Behind each table was the vendor wearing a big smile, calling customers to buy. Little children sat among the vegetables and babies slept there too while their mothers took a break from carrying them. Older children played beneath the tables as people milled around, some visiting, some bargaining, some buying and of course sampling the delicious foods.

Besides fruit and vegetables, you could also buy fish, live chickens, eggs, rice, beans—I had no idea that so many different colours and kinds of beans existed. Charcoal and other household goods were also available, as well as clothing, fabric for *chitenjis* (the wraparound skirts worn by Malawian women), shoes, flip flops, artisans’ work, and hundreds of other items. If you could not find something in the stores, you could go to the market and most likely find it there.

Now that I have allowed myself to step back in time and revel in this sometimes insane, noisy, but wonderful



A rice vender greets shoppers at the market in Mzuzu, Malawi.

market of my memories, I hope I was able to give you a glimpse of another people and culture and their wonderful way of life in a country so far away. As a Scarboro missionary, you too can make this journey—a journey that will change you forever and give you memories to last a lifetime.∞



Faithful stewardship

Financial Report 2012

By Fr. John Carten, S.F.M.

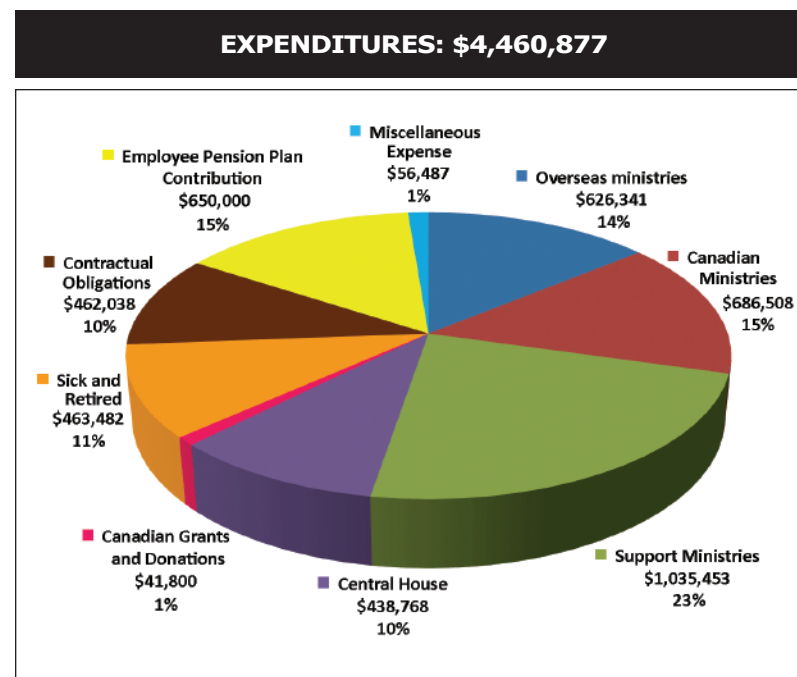
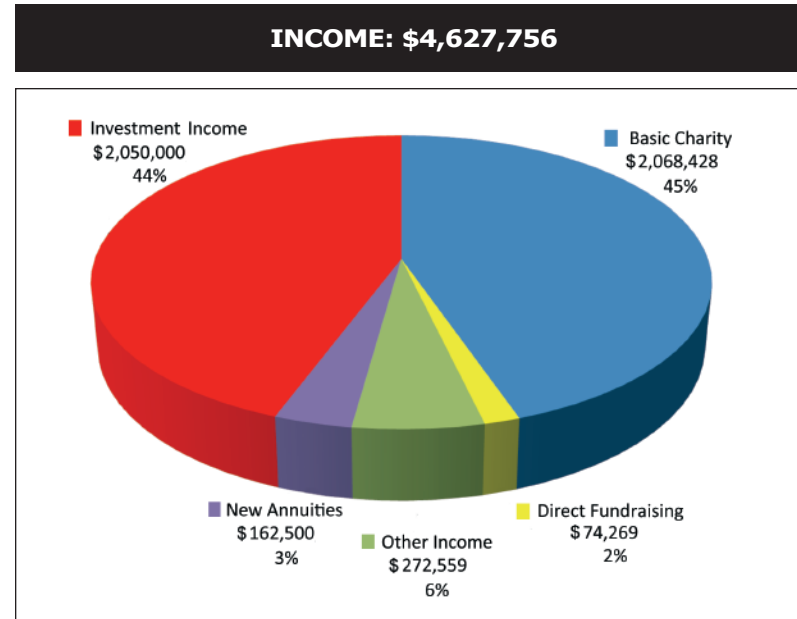
Our audited financial statement for 2012 was submitted to the Canada Revenue Agency in June 2013 after it was approved by our Board of Directors. As always, this is a time to give thanks to you, our benefactors, for your continued support and trust. We also give thanks to God for the blessings we have received.

As the number of our priests and lay missionaries decline, we are retiring from some areas of mission work such as in Thailand and the Bahamas. At the same time, we give thanks for the new shoots of life that have also become visible. Both our diminishment and areas of growth continue to challenge us to journey on in faith, remaining open to wherever the Spirit leads.

Income

Our total income in 2012 was \$4,627,756. Of this amount, \$2,577,756 came from outside sources and \$2,050,000 was withdrawn from our investment funds in order to balance our books as a result of unexpected expenses. Under Basic Charity, in the amount of \$2,068,428 (45% of revenues), we included general gift donations of \$669,759 from our benefactors. Another large part of Basic Charity, \$933,350, came to us through bequests that people left to Scarboro Missions in their wills. We also received \$247,708 from diocesan collections and \$212,975 in designated donations, which is money for specific projects or for the work of specific individuals overseas. The remainder of what is calculated under Basic Charity, \$4,636, came through interfaith work and mission co-operative income.

Direct Fundraising amounted to \$74,269 (2% of revenues) and included \$55,070 generated from the sale of our calendars, enrollments, spiritual greeting cards and posters, and revenue of \$19,199 from subscriptions to our magazine. Other Income of \$272,559 (6% of revenues) was comprised of \$58,301 from chaplaincy work carried out by many of our priests, \$29,728 from miscellaneous income, and \$184,530 from the operation of our Mission



Centre. The Centre welcomes many guests each year, including diocesan vocation retreat groups, general weekend retreatants, AA groups and a Zen meditation group, and provides facilitation for more than 4,000 Catholic high school students on retreat. Another category, New Annuities, totaled \$162,500 or 3% of revenues.

Expenditures

Our total expenditures for 2012 amounted to \$4,460,877. Of these expenses, 14% or \$626,341 went to support our missionaries overseas and their ministries. This figure was lower than usual because we have closed several overseas missions. Some of our priests have retired due to age or illness, and a number of our lay missionaries who served with us faithfully for many years have returned to Canada to be with their families. Of the expenditures, \$151,944 was used to help in the ongoing formation of mission priests from other missionary communities. Another portion, \$261,443, was used for living expenses for our missionaries overseas and \$212,954 was used for specific projects overseas.

From the time of our founding in 1918, the Church's understanding of mission has changed significantly. Mission is still seen as crossing boundaries to reach out to people of other cultures and faiths, thus witnessing to Christ's love for all peoples and helping to proclaim the Reign of God. But mission is no longer seen only in terms of geography. Mission can and does take place here in Canada as well. As more and more people of other cultures come to live here, it is important that as witnesses of Christ we reach out to them and enter into dialogue with them. Therefore, more of our resources are being used here in Canada.

These Canadian ministries received \$686,508 or 15% of expenses and included the following: work in promoting interreligious dialogue (\$131,139), justice and peace initiatives (\$41,301), the production of our magazine (\$162,786), and the work of our Mission Centre (\$313,916). Last year we held a General



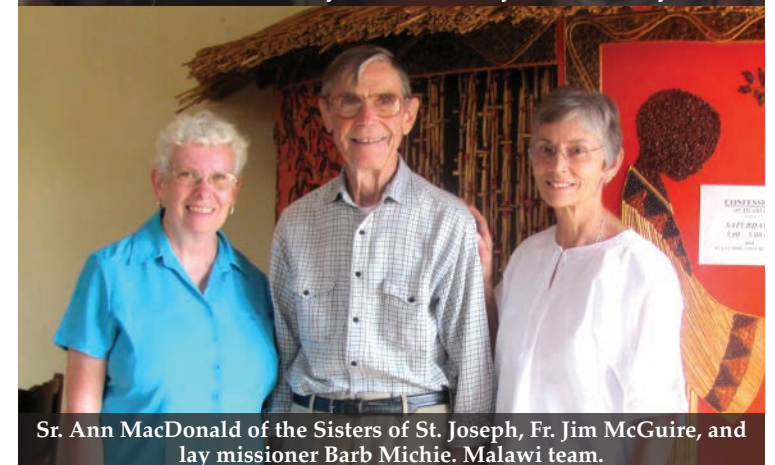
Frs. Vince Heffernan and Ambie MacKinnon at Scarboro's 2012 General Chapter meetings, Canada.



Formation team members Fr. Frank Hegel, Fr. Ron MacDonell, and Carolyn Doyle, Canada.



Our Lady's Missionary Sr. Mary Gauthier, lay missionary Bev Trach, and Fr. Mike Traher, with Guyanese friend Kay deFreitas, Guyana.



Sr. Ann MacDonald of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Fr. Jim McGuire, and lay missionary Barb Michie, Malawi team.

Chapter at our central house to elect a new leadership team and to decide on policies that will determine our direction for the next five years. We closed our Mission Centre during that time to accommodate Chapter delegates, so room and board costs were up and income from the Centre was down. The final expense in the Canadian ministries category was \$37,321, allocated to our website and audiovisual work.

Support Ministries amounted to 23% of expenses. These included various areas of administration: \$98,587 for the training of two seminarians studying to be priests for Scarboro Missions, \$102,476 for support staff, and \$92,929 for the recruitment and training of lay missionaries. Two of our priests who worked in leadership and administration for more than 15 years had well deserved sabbaticals and participated in renewal programs, which amounted to \$48,353. There were also additional costs of \$18,510 for the General Chapter meeting. The largest item in the administration category was the cost of the office of the General Council and the Treasurer's Office, amounting to \$674,598. Of this, \$300,000 was paid out for a legal settlement. This money was withdrawn from our investments instead of using money received from our benefactors.

Our central house at 2685 Kingston Road serves as the base for most of our activities here in Canada. Operation costs for 2012 were \$438,768 (10% of total expenditures). Scarboro missionaries who serve in leadership and administration live and work here and we welcome many visitors. This amounted to \$177,344 of central house expenses. Maintenance costs for the buildings came to \$261,424.

We are an aging community and thus expenses in Canada have increased in order to care for our senior members who have served faithfully for many years overseas. For medical needs and support for our infirm and retired members, and for funeral expenses, we spent \$463,482 in 2012.

Contractual obligations amounted to \$462,038 or 10% of expenditures. These expenses included annuity payments of \$271,464, as well as pension payments of \$100,829 for former Scarboro workers in Japan and Guyana. Another \$89,745 was used to help lay missionaries resettle in Canada at the completion of their mission service.

Among our unforeseen expenses mentioned earlier was the sum of \$650,000 that we put into our Employee

Pension Plan in 2012 to keep it viable. As a community, we speak out on issues of justice and we believe that trying to provide security to our staff after they retire is a matter of justice. Instead of using money we received directly from our benefactors for this expense, we made the choice to withdraw money from our reserve funds to cover this deficit. Thankfully, the Pension Fund is now on a much more secure financial footing.

Again all of us at Scarboro Missions, both priests and lay missionaries, are extremely grateful to you, our Partners in Mission, for your continued prayers, financial support and encouragement. We remember you and your intentions each day as we celebrate daily mass. May God bless you for your continued generosity to us.∞

Scarboro Missions magazine subscriptions

When you receive our magazine you not only share in our missionary journey, you also help us seek and explore vocations, bless us with your prayers, and financially support us.

Scarboro Missions magazine is a non-profit endeavour that we hope will help you better understand the struggles and desires of peoples of other cultures and faiths, so important in our world where justice and peace are the hope of all nations.

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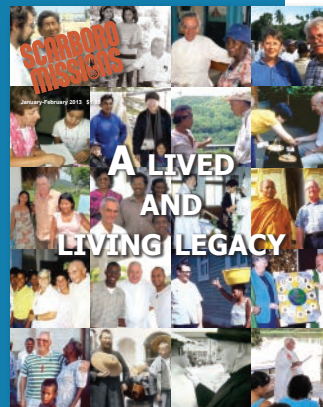
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Tel: 416-261-7135 or toll free: 1-800-260-4815



A beautiful life story

By Dorothy Novak

Many of us today are living in the fast lane and busy seems to be a way of life. I can certainly relate to this. Before going to mission with Scarboro, I was a very busy woman. I would have told you it was called survival. I was raising three children alone and I owned and operated a few homes for special care. I had employees to look after and I worked a hundred hours a week. My life was about managing time.

Once my children were grown and on their own, I was ready for mission. I wanted to fulfill a long held desire to give time to God through mission work. I joined Scarboro Missions and spent nearly five years in Thailand, mostly working in a home with young, single mothers. I was a house mother, sharing household duties, teaching them basic lifeskills including how to budget their earnings, and teaching them English. I was always open to helping out wherever the need.

These years were both challenging and blessed. To serve people when we cannot speak the language is to live knowing that our actions speak louder than words. You begin to understand the universal language called love. I lived a life of love in Thailand. I loved the people and received their love in return. I saw in action the power of love and the difference even a smile can make.

My experience in Thailand prepared me to live my life as mission, no matter where I am. Not being able to speak and understand the language for the first years gave me time to be silent and make room for God to speak. My

“My experience in Thailand prepared me to live my life as mission, no matter where I am.”



Lay missionary Dorothy Novak, house mother at a home for young, single mothers in Thailand.

mission became listening to God with an open heart. This continued when I returned home and I continue to ask God each day to lead me where I can best serve.

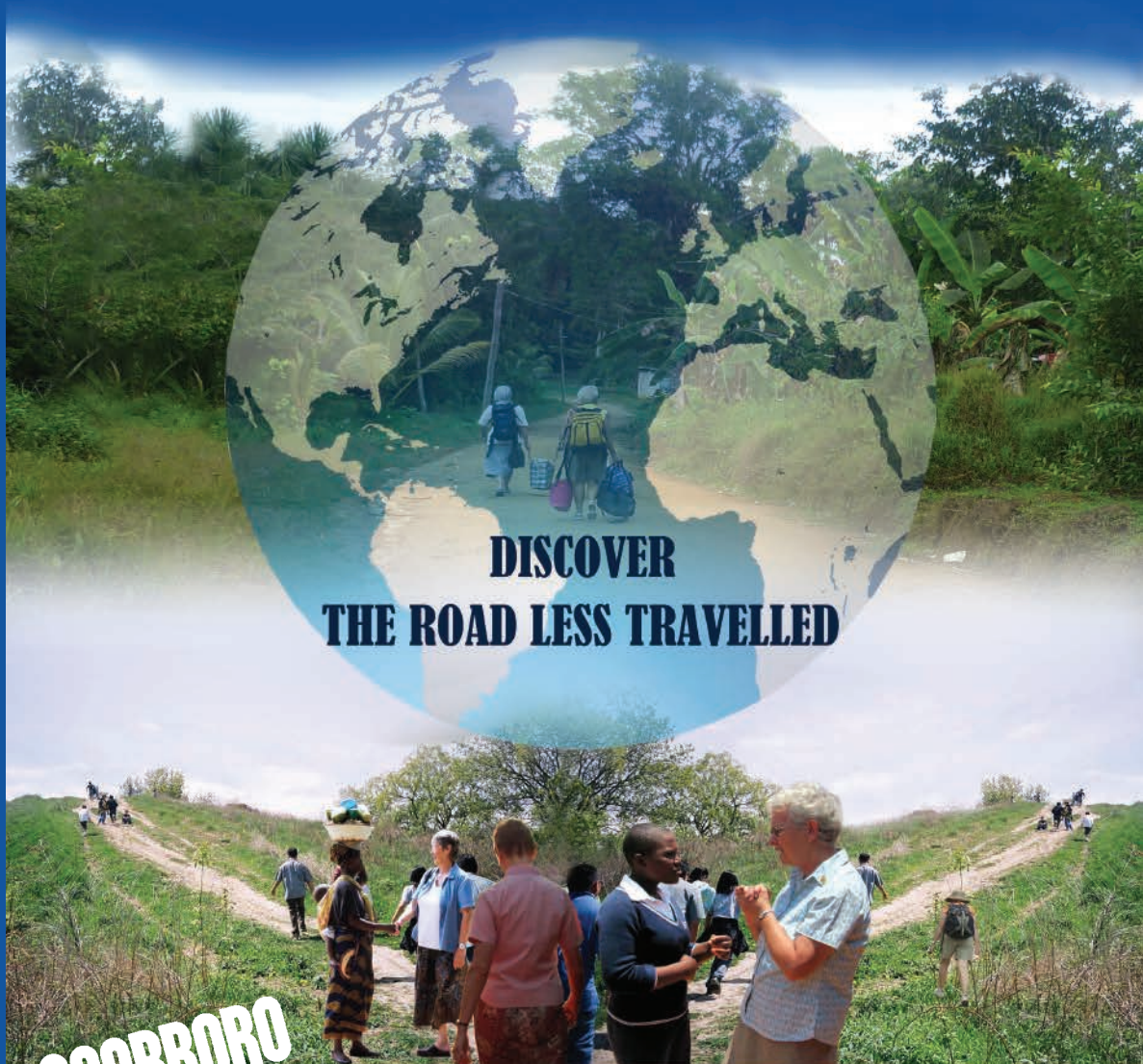
In the years since my return I have been privileged to accompany many friends, most with cancer, on their final journey. It is a humbling experience to walk with someone who is preparing to leave this life. I have been blessed to accompany people struggling with illness, or dealing with the loss of a loved one, or simply struggling to cope with everyday life.

I believe that we are all called to create a beautiful life story. Scarboro Missions gave me the opportunity to bring much beauty into my life through my journey with the people of Thailand. Today my life belongs to God and time management is about discovering how I can best serve in this present hour. The present moment is all that is real and it is God who manages my time. I will continue my mission each day, listening to God and moving forward as my heart or intuition directs.∞

Scarboro Missions Vocation Fair

World Mission Sunday
October 20 11am - 3pm

Mass at 11:00, followed by a buffet lunch.



**SCARBORO
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