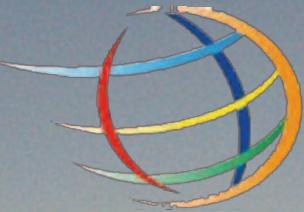


GUANELLIAN MISSIONARY PRESENCE



October 2019

EDITORIAL

ON A MISSION IN THE WORLD AS BAPTIZED AND SENT

The aim of the mission is to present to the world the need God has to encounter all men. It is about announcing the good news that God loves us and looks forward to meet with us. It is also a proposal of faith; it is a request for a free response of man to God's proposal.

The core of the Christian mission resides on feeling to be sent: every baptized individual can be a missionary, a spokesman of this proposal of God to man, an announcer of God's invitation to every man to let himself be found, so as to establish a love relation with Him.

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OCTOBER 2019

**From Rumania
Guanellian mission day 2019**

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Guanellian Missionary Presence

My Dear Ones:

To all of you in the various "Guanellian presences in the world" my fraternal wish to live with joy and enthusiasm the Extraordinary Missionary Month. Pope Francis has urged to prepare ourselves for it with constant incentives and appeals: now it is begun in the universal Church.

As a Guanellian family spread in the five continents, we want to take advantage of this time of grace to open up ourselves, individually and as a community, to the urgency of a courageous and visible "missionary conversion". This should come from the heart of each one of us, to awaken us, to open wide our fraternal relations and our way of being with the Church 'a gospel of charity' among the poor of our times, in all latitudes, even to the peripheries...

As part of the local Church, we will be attentive to assume the initiatives and the pastoral provocations suggested by it, to make them our own with an active involvement in this missionary awakening that calls personally all the baptized, making them feel to be all sent. Even our PMG humble service of animation has been activated to prepare some simple instruments in order to facilitate and support initiatives of reflection, prayer and concrete action. This will begin during October 2019, but it should not be contained just within the narrow limits of this month.

Pope Francis reminds us of this clearly: *"I am always on a mission. You are always on a mission. The missionary conversion must be constant and permanent."*

May all the incentives and instruments offered to you by our MPG help and encourage you in your creativity. May they also be a sign of a reawakened passion for our stupendous vocation and Guanellian mission in the world.

Fraternally Yours,

Father Louis
and the PMG Equipe of Animation

Rome, September 30, 2019



EDITORIAL

On a mission in the world as baptized and sent

The Extraordinary Missionary Month of October 2019 has as its own theme: *Baptized and sent: the Church of Christ on a mission into the world*, and has been launched by Pope Francis to commemorate the centenary of the Apostolic Letter *Maximum Illud* of Pope Benedict XV.

It is an invitation for us to reawake the awareness of the *missio ad gentes* (*mission to the nations*) and to resume with a new rush the responsibility of the announcing of the Gospel. Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii gaudium* has reminded us: “*The missionary action is the paradigm of every action in the Church.*” (EG 15) How are we going to live this Extraordinary Missionary Month? There are four dimensions suggested by

the Pope of how to live more intensely the journey of preparation and realization of the Extraordinary Missionary Month:

1. The personal encounter with Jesus Christ living in his Church, through the Eucharist, the Word of God, the personal and community prayer;
 2. The witness: the saints, the martyrs of the mission and the confessors of the faith, and the expression of the presence of the Churches spread in the entire world;
 3. The missionary formation: Scripture, catechesis, spirituality and theology;
 4. The missionary charity.
- Father Guanella always felt a strong missionary vocation that urged him all his life long. In a letter sent to his Bishop, in October 1881, he stated:
- “Already in the theological seminary and until I left for Turin*

in 1875, for a period of more than ten years, I begged the bishop of Como to bless me for the Foreign Missions. In 1878 I presented this request to him saying that I would certainly leave for the American missions, upon the strong invitation made to me by Don Bosco.”

The authorization was denied, yet he never forgot the missions, and tried to help them with any means available to him.

As Guanellians we feel giving out of our best to the missionary commitment by our personal witness, prayer and personal service. We are convinced that *missio ad gentes* is not a product to be sold, but a life of God to be shared with everyone.

*Father Nico Rutigliano
Vicar General
of th Servants of Charity*



OCTOBER 2019

Extraordinary missionary month

A joyous and generous contagion of evangelical solidarity

How would I like to find the words to encourage an evangelizing season that is more fervent, generous, bold, filled with love until the end and with contagious life! Yet I know that no motivation will be sufficient unless the fire of the Spirit burns in the hearts!» (EG 261)

This is an urgency, profoundly felt by Pope Francis since the first beginnings of his pastoral ministry leading the Church in the world in which we live. This is an absolute priority that resounds constantly in his teaching, in his lifestyle and service to the people journeying through the history of our days. The launching of the Extraordinary Missionary Month is not to be taken as a “total surprise”. As a com-

memoration of the centenary of the “prophetic and far-sighted” apostolic letter *Maximum illud* of Pope Benedict XV, this launching aims at switching on again and keeping awake its essential missionary identity in the entire Church.

The theme itself “Baptized and sent: The Church of Christ on a mission in the world” focuses immediately on the principal target of this event of grace: to underline the call to mission as rooted in the baptism, and therefore given to all the baptized. Through the sacramental sign of the water we have been immersed into the ocean of communion with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Thus, we have not only received a new and redeemed life, but we have been included dynamically into the family of God, a people constantly journeying with a mission to be shared, with a dream of God for humankind to be achieved together. This leads us easily to direct the attention of our hearts and minds to some provocations emerging from the message of Pope



Francis on the occasion of the missionary day nestled in the Extraordinary Missionary Month of October 2019:

- We have received the gift of faith for free, for free we share it, without excluding anyone;
- This divine life is not a product to be sold – we do not do proselytism – but a richness to be donated, communicated, and announced: this is the sense of mission!
- The faith in Jesus Christ grants us the right dimension of all things, by helping us to see the world with the eyes and the heart of God.
- The Church is on a mission in the world... A Church going out to the extreme limits calls for a constant and permanent missionary conversion.
- This is a mandate that affects us closely: "I am always on a mission; you are always on a mission; every baptized is on a mission."
- One who loves sets himself on the move, is pushed out of himself, is attracted and attracts, gives himself to others and weaves relations that generate life. No one is useless and in-

significant for the love of God. Each one of us is on a mission in the world because he is the fruit of God's love.

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you, filled with the Holy Spirit for the reconciliation of the world (see Jn 20, 19-23; Mt 28, 16-20).

To a Christian belongs this sending so that no one is denied the news of his call to be an adopted child, the certitude of his personal dignity and of the intrinsic value of every human life, from conception to his natural death. As members of the Guanellian family on a mission with the Church in today's world, don't we hear in these recalls of Pope Francis the echo of our specific vocation of service for the Gospel? Doesn't the zeal that burned in the heart of the Founder resound in the call of the Pope? How then would we be able to rouse one another in treasuring this extraordinary month and not staying at the window looking out?

A possible and concrete way will be that of keeping high

our personal and community antennas in order to pick up signals and appeals which come from the local Church and from the territory. Then, find a way to offer cooperation and responses with creativity and determination, in October and farther... It will be important and even necessary to gather with one another to listen to the Word, to pray and to share our reflections on the message of Pope Francis and on the abundant formative and informational material in regard to the extraordinary month.

This is the opportune time to let the phantasy of charity



Father

**Guanella said:
'The whole world
is your homeland'
because of this t
he cry of the poor
reaches us
and hurts
our heart.**

ottobre **6**

I domenica
dell'ottobre missionario

chiamati

« Ciascuno di noi è una missione nel mondo
perché frutto dell'amore di Dio »

(Messaggio di Papa Francesco per la Giornata Missionaria Mondiale 2019)



blossom within our own houses or apostolic and pastoral centers, giving special attention to forms of volunteering and promotion of the culture of gratuity.

As last, yet not to be under-valued, is the need to open wide ever more our windows to the availability of the Guanellian missionary service, within the religious Province or nation.

It would be good also to be opened to "take off", by leaving one's own home, coming out of one's schemes, by ex-

ceeding the fear of the unpublished so as to open oneself with a renewed trust and courage to the challenges of fraternal intercultural communion.

Or to collaborate for the missions, either within our charismatic family (consecrated / and or lay) or towards other religious communities, parish communities and civil organizations.

May the providential coincidence with the celebration of the special Synod of the Churches in Amazon arouse

within us, not only the joy and gratitude for the presence of the Guanellian charism in those regions, but also a special chain of solidarity around all other missionary presences in the peripheries ... from which the cry of the poor arises stronger and more dramatic. As a concluding provocation, let us keep in our heart the words of the Pope in his message for the GMM 2019: "No one should remain closed within his own self, in the self-referentiality of his own ethnic and religious membership. Jesus' Easter breaks all the narrow borders of worlds, religions and cultures, calling everyone to grow in respecting the dignity of a man and of a woman, toward a fuller conversion to the truth of the Risen Lord that gives the true life to everyone."

In fraternal communion, from the Guanellian peripheries

*Father Luigi
director-coordinator of the
Guanellian Missionary Center*

13 ottobre attratti

Il domenica
dell'ottobre missionario

**« Chi ama si mette in movimento,
è spinto fuori da sé stesso,
è attratto e attrae, si dona all'altro
e tesse relazioni che generano vita »**

(Messaggio di Papa Francesco per la Giornata Missionaria Mondiale 2019)



SYNOD IN AMAZON

«A test-bed for the Church and for the Brazilian society»

The initiative for a Synod in Amazon leaves from the bishops of nine Latin-American Countries in whose territory there is the largest tropical forest of the world (large three times Italy) and is supported by the Pontifical Council of Justice and Peace and by the Caritas International. The leaders among the promotor

are the Brazilian prelates, to whom Pope Francis during the GMG of Rio De Janeiro in 2013 has indicated Amazon as “*a decisive test , a test bed for the Church and for the Brazilian society,*” reaffirming that “*the Church is in Amazon not like those who have the luggage ready to leave after having exploited whatever they could have taken away.*” A dream that will accompany him in writing the *Laudato Si'*, in 2015 and when,

in the course of the visits *ad limina*, he will listen to the bishops of Latin-America pointing out the challenges of evangelization in remote regions that were being left without a spiritual assistance. A dream that, during this month of October, becomes a reality. In the presentation of the Preparatory Document we find defined the aims of the Synod: “*To locate new roads for the evangelization of that partic-*

AMAZON: NEW JOURNEYS FOR THE CHURCH AND FOR AN INTEGRAL ECOLOGY



ular section of the People of God, especially among the natives, often overlooked and without the perspective of a serene future, caused also by the crisis of the Amazon forest, a lung of capital importance for our planet," specifying that the Synod's "target is not to cover every topic, every challenge and every need of the universal Church," even though "it may have a universal, planetary repercussion,

The Church is not alien from your problems and from your life – Pope Francis has written - does not want to be foreign from your way of living and of organizing yourselves.

but the Synod has a target that needs to be pursued in order not to remain generic."

These new roads must be thought over "for and with the people of God that live in that region: dwellers of rural communities and areas, of large cities and metropolis, of populations living along rivers, migrants and refugees and, especially, for and with the natives."

Amazon is "a marvelous region, where the forest guards the water and the water guards the forest and where the original natives guarded and still guard the

preservation of this sanctuary of nature."

The Amazon forest covers a four million hectares area, that is the 40% of the surface of all the tropical forests together in the world. It is the most important one in dimension and in vital resources for humankind. It is fundamental to guarantee the existence of life on the earth. Amazon is crossed by the Amazon Rio and by its numerous tributaries. The river network is so widespread and branched that we can talk about the existence of a true sea of sweet water with an extension that varies among the dry seasons and the those of higher intensity of precipitations.

It is not by chance that Pope Francis in his *Laudato Si'* (28), explicitly mentions Amazon, defining it along with the Congo river basin one of the "*lungs of the planet full of biodiversity.*" The approaching Synod, then is something good for all the world. Then is a synod that "*is generating resistances and misunderstandings,*" from some people who "*feel being in some way threatened, because their projects will not be respected [...] of colonization of Amazon [...] of coming to exploit and then departing from it with packed luggage, leaving behind the degradation and the poverty of the local people.*"

Jair Bolsonaro, president of Brazil, has threatened to eliminate the department of the

Department for Natives in the government which is to protect the Amazon lands. The same president is accused of being a "*climate negotiator, an exterminator of the future,*" because he favors the deforestation and the introduction of new pesticides, authorizes an indiscriminate exploitation of the mines in the pluvial forest and reduces the lands of the natives in favor of multinational companies.

The early inhabitants of the Amazon region go back thousand years, while the colonial occupation of Spain and Portugal which brought Christianity to this land goes back only 500 years.

The incorporation of the immense Amazon territory into the colonial society and its subsequent transfer of property to national States has been a long process that has taken more than four centuries.

So far, the Church has committed itself to defend the human rights of the original natives through its presence in the territory. Now, through its pastoral and social creativity, the Church is called to take a step forward, considering the natives not an object to be evangelized, but a protagonist of his own experience of faith, of his culture, with his own identity: therefore, the natives themselves will be the privileged interlocutors. The road to achieve this is indicated by

20 ottobre

III domenica
dell'ottobre missionario

solidali

« Nessuno è così povero da non poter dare ciò che ha, ma prima ancora ciò che è »

(Messaggio di Papa Francesco per la Giornata Missionaria Mondiale 2018)

Cardinal Claude Hummes: “to walk together united, as friends and brothers, respecting our diversities, valuing our cultures, not only the western one, but also the cultures of the Amazon natives. This is not a threat to the unity of the Church, but is enriches it, because one culture alone cannot exhaust and represent the richness of the Gospel.” A Church called to walk together with a listening attitude. “To listen as in a synod, not just occasionally,” Father James Costa writes, according to whom “if we want to listen to the cry of the earth and of the poor, we cannot not walk together.” “To really see, it is necessary to listen: the analysis of what Amazon is, or what one or the Church do in Amazon are not enough. The reality and the cries need to be listened to.”

A phase of listening necessary to determine, as Pope Francis says, “new ways of evangelization, questioning ourselves about how the Good News can be announced among the natives, without contrasting their traditional religion and their vision of the world. It is necessary that the Good news marries the roots of

the natives to the point of fusing with and recreating both of themselves.”

“All the sacraments need to be encultured [...] but not limiting oneself only to translating the sacraments of the Church into the vernacular languages. The sacraments need a more profound enculturation.” “The ministries themselves must be certainly thought out by beginning from a specific community, from its culture, from its identity, from its history.”

To achieve that “qualified formators are needed, especially formators and professors of theology, in order to consolidate the results obtained in the field of formation of an aboriginal clergy, so as to have priests adjusted to the local conditions [...]

]. In this, please I ask you to be courageous, to have parresia! In the ‘porteño’ language of (Buenos Aires) I would ask you to be intrepid.”

Father Adriano Folonaro

We need the original peoples culturally mold the local Amazon Churches





AMAZON SYNOD

With the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence In preparation for the Synod

When Pope Francis announced in October 2017 that it was the time to hold another Missionary Assembly of the Bishops and this Special Synod for the Amazon, we were pleased with learning that the society still feels the cries of the conscience that underlines the risks our "Mother Earth", "Mother of all" is facing.

This meeting continues the journey which is taking place in Latin America, from Medellin in 1968 ("Liberation and option for the poor") to Puebla in 1979 ("Ascension/redemption"), followed by another in Santo Domingo in 1992 ("Inculturation"), so as to arrive to Aparecida in 2007 ("Mission"). The Church has entrusted Cardinal Cláudio Hummes, President of the Episcopal Commission for Amazon CNBB - National Conference Bishops of Brazil, and President of the REPAM - Pan Amazon Ecclesial Network, as the Reporter for the Synod

of the Bishops, so as to begin to accelerate the preparations for this great event in our Church.

Bishop Hummes with the Bishops of the region organized on January 2019 a meeting with the leaders of the Amazon region in Puerto Maldonado (Peru), which Pope Francis attended, aiming at establishing the foundations for an analysis of the threats of destruction of Amazon, a green lung of our planet. It is incredible to think that the major source of these threats comes from the ruling sectors of society, from national governments which look at Amazon as an inexhaustible source of richness to be exploited, looking at the natives as obstacles to development. They do not realize that if these riches have been preserved till today, it is because the people currently living there and the aboriginal natives have known how to preserve them. The natives are "the guardians" of this sacred land that contains from 30% to 50% of the biodiversity of the world.

Another observation made by the Church of our continent is that the native populations, in spite of the fact that their main merit is to have preserved their land, often have been sent away from their territories by invasions, forcing them to migrate toward cities, where they undergo discriminations, are deprived of their dignity and their right to be different.

In the tone of this Synod the art of listening will be predominant. Listening, in communicating with one another, is the ability of the heart that makes possible the approach, the acceptance of what is different, the acknowledgment of others. The evangelization foreseen by the Synod is mu-

The presence of the Church cannot be in any way considered a threat to the stability or the sovereignty of individual Nations.



OUR LADY OF AMAZON

Mary, dear mother of Jesus and ours,
We greet you with the same words of the angel Gabriel and of Elizabeth.
Hail, full of grace, the Lord be with you, blessed are you among women.
We, the dwellers of this Amazon region, beg for your intercession with God
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
in favor of the peoples to whom we belong.

Natives along the river, afro-descendants, migrants living in the cities, in
the forests and borders, we ask for the grace of respecting our diversities
and of being respected in them.

We ask for the blessing of being united
with bonds of solidarity and brotherhood.

May our diversities not separate us, but complete us!

May we carry the face of God who is one person out of three. Amen.

tual: we who have arrived there after, have to accept to be evangelized also by those who were there before us. The synodal Fathers will certainly bring the voice of the native communities, fluvial, rural and urban, and will return with a new face of the Church in Amazon. It is a new face that we in Amazon are living already in a Church where individuals meet with one another without building walls. Among us we have a member of the Committee entrusted with the preparation of the Synod: he is a native priest, Father Justin Sarmento Rezende, a Salesian, who resides here in Sao Gabriel da Cachoeira. Preparing for the Synod, our diocese has organized encounters for the study of the preparatory Document. Everyone was very interested in offering their contribution. The communities of Rio Negro in the Amazon Rio have come up with reflections with the assistance of priests and of

Sr. Lucia and Sr. Oreniza of the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence. Another important moment of study in

preparation of the Synod has been the Diocesan Assembly, held in the middle of the forest of Cachoeirinha, assisted



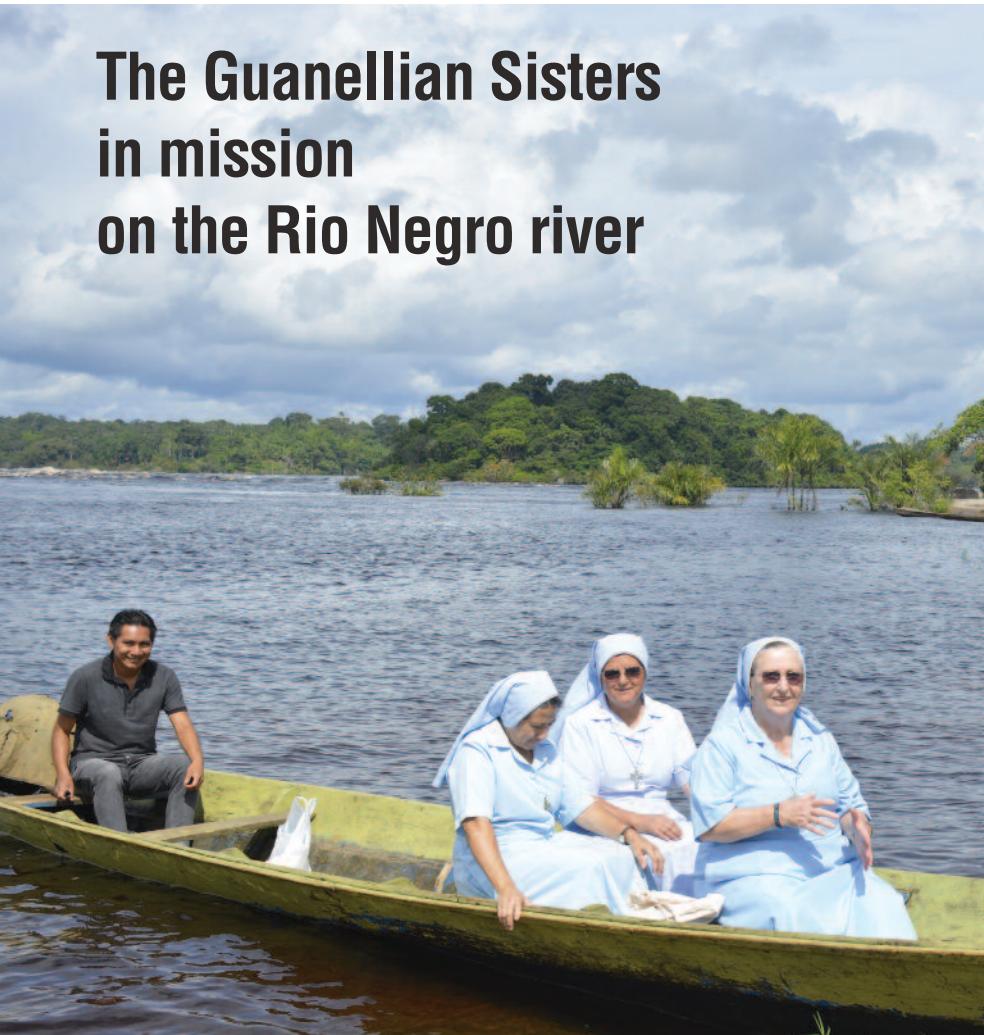
by Father Justin, started with an intense moment of prayer. All works have been conducted through explanations, film showings, debates, presentations of studies conducted in various communities. A document has been

produced which will be presented in a great reunion of all the dioceses present in the Amazon region.

As agreed, upon with the provincial superior, Sr. Maria Eni Massani, and her vice-superior, Sr. Maria Edi Dapper,

who have come to visit and learn about our local mission, for the 2020 a missionary community will be opened in the suburbs of the city of Manaus, called *Antonio Aleixo Colony*.

The Guanellian Sisters in mission on the Rio Negro river



We are four of us operating along the Rio Negro river in the State of Amazonas. I was made aware of its vastity already during my first trip there, on the ferryboat "Tanaka", that from Manaus was carrying us to San

Gabriel de Cachoeira, the residence of our mission. . I had never traveled on a ferryboat for 950 kilometers! I did not hide my sense of fear (I do not know how to swim...) mixed with curiosity for the stupendous landscape flowing before my eyes. A journey summed up, tranquil in the

We need to look at the identity of these people and at their ability to protect these ecosystems.

company of 108 more people, for the length of one day and one night.

Once arrived at St. Gabriel de Cachoeira, after a first exploration of the site and of its natural beauties, the local bishop, Bishop Edson Damian, took us to visit the native hospital of the city. That was our first occasion to be in contact with the poor of the area, very welcoming toward us. This has encouraged me and urged me to give to them all my love.

On that occasion we had a chance to learn also about the military hospital of the Brazilian army, located on the borders with Venezuela and Colombia, because there is a great number of soldiers monitoring the eventual invasions of the territory.

After taking note of the reality, after reflecting and pray-

ing, in accord with the diocesan curia, with the bishop and with the cathedral pastor, a pastoral activity in the parish cathedral (in its vicinity we would reside) and in the communities dwelling along the Rio Negro river and on the road crossing the forest was entrusted to us.

We began the pastoral activities with four Sisters, along with the laity, the diocesan priests and the bishop. Our first attention was on visiting the far away communities, that are located more than a thousand kilometers away from the location of the curia. They may be reached by river on a propelled boat. These visits are so welcomed and occasions to know one another. They are good for evangelizing activities and for the bishop to administer confirmation. In these isolated villages, the youths have the opportunity to attend elementary school, but only 20% are able to continue their studies at the Federal Institute of Science and Technology in Manaus, with a great sacrifice of

their families. The remainder 80% try to live on their own activities. Various youths, discouraged, lose their hope and fall into depression, turning to alcoholism, and at times they are attracted by suicidal attempts.

This is the context where my presence comes in, as the first Guanellian religious and as a professional psychologist and therapist. As a religious I am part of the family pastoral ministry in preparation for the marriages, during times of reflection and accompaniment of vacationing youths. As a psychologist and as a cognitive-behavioral therapist I have opened a family advisory center with the help of our Bishop Damian, who has made available a room on the premises of the diocese.

Today my work is recognized as one of the best ones, thanks to my specific formation.

A factor that helps me to be credible of my work is the fact of being a Sister wearing the religious habit. For the natives the sacred has much value.

I love my work, I enjoy help-



ing others, and it is the source of great satisfaction seeing how people are able to come out of depression because of my support.

If anyone feels being called, feel free to come without any fear. You will be welcomed with open arms. *Até a ti maã!* (Welcome!) in the Tucano language; *Ou wirande!* (Welcome!) in the Nheengatú language.

Sister Irene Helena Martini

27 ottobre

IV domenica dell'ottobre missionario

invitati

« Non abbiate paura di andare e portare Cristo in ogni ambiente, fino alle periferie esistenziali, anche a chi sembra più lontano, più indifferente. Il Signore cerca tutti, vuole che tutti sentano il calore della sua misericordia e del suo amore »

(Papa Francesco, Giornata Mondiale della Gioventù - Rio de Janeiro 2013)



AMAZON SYNOD

The Servants of Charity in Amazon In the slums of the “without a land”

On this past July 28th a Mass for the official beginning of the pastoral ministry of the Guanellian Father Gaston G. Aquino has taken place with the attendance of Dom Edmilson Tadeu, SdB, auxiliary bishop of Manaus.

The parish Nossa Senhora das Graças is located in a vast peripheral territory of the city of Mataus, in the Amazon region of Brazil. It includes two neighborhoods separated by a lake: in one side there is the *Colonia Antonio Aleixo* (that comprises 80% of the parish territory) and in the other side there is the *Bela vista*. Both of them are marked with the evident marginalization, poverty, degraded housing, moral and spiritual. In the neighborhoods there are about

40.000 inhabitants.

There are at least five more sections (some of them relatively recent) to which no charitable-pastoral stable presence has touched: *Coracao de mae, Francisca Mendez, Barrio da fe, Buracao, Familias ribeirinhas*. These are basically slums, distant locations, a little isolated and difficult to reach. Some can be reached crossing the lake. They are singled out with a very heavy presence of drug traffic. Analphabetism is high, because of the territorial location very far away from educational services, which are already too few compared with the increasing needs of the population. Another place that in a special way calls for charitable and pastoral activities is the “UPP” (*Unidade prisional de Puraquara*) that is the prison, with a

population of about 1.500 individuals.

The participation in the parish is made up by a group more firm, the group of the *couples of spouses*, numerous and very involved in the life of the community. There is also a small expression of *youth pastoral ministry* that calls for more work. The streets, in fact, are full to overflowing with youths and children, but unfortunately, they lack sport and play grounds facilities very important for them, since apt formative, spiritual and catechetical means are lacking. There is an urgent need for a serious youth ministry, well organized and attractive.

There is, then, the *pastoral ministry for the elderly*, given to about forty “grand-parents” marked by sickness; a mirror of God’s tenderness, they, too, are our favorite ones. A group of the *pastoral health ministry* visits the hospitals and the homes of disabled individuals. Once a week Mass is celebrated in their homes and their birthdays are also celebrated.

Follow us also on Facebook to learn about us more!

Father Gustavo de Bonis



From Rumania

An appeal for “a roof for all”

I am at “Saint Joseph Home” in Iasi since 2007 and ever since I have been occupied with the soup table for the poor and the homeless.

Il nostro obiettivo è di offrire il cibo quotidiano alle persone povere senza reddito oppure con reddito molto basso per migliorare la loro qualità di vita. Lo scopo è quello di diminuire il grado di emarginazione e di abbandono scolastico per i bambini che provengono da famiglie povere, oltre a garantire il benessere fisico per i senza tetto attraverso l’igiene personale e la distribuzione di indumenti.

I nostri poveri si trovano in diverse situazioni di difficoltà: sono persone senza tetto; famiglie che vivono in situazione di precarietà, senza casa o in affitto; famiglie o persone singole senza risorse finanziarie o con poche risorse; mamme con i bambini, senza casa, sole, senza aiuto familiare e nessun aiuto dallo Stato; anziani soli in condizioni precarie; persone con diverse patologie, prive di mezzi eco-



nomici per affrontare le terapie; ragazzi dai 18 anni in avanti, cresciuti in orfanotrofio che non sanno gestirsi anche nelle cose minime; persone che non hanno un lavoro e una casa sicura. I servizi che offriamo sono cibo caldo per persone e famiglie svantaggiate, assistenza e consulenza sociale supporto igienico-sanitario e materiale. Attualmente frequentano la mensa circa cinquanta persone e, tra loro, diciassette senza tetto. Oltre il pranzo, diamo la possibilità della doccia, dei vestiti e offriamo una formazione integrale attraverso varie attività. Queste persone mi stanno particolarmente a cuore, perché si

trovano in una situazione di grande difficoltà; lavorando questi anni con i poveri, ho visto che il cibo quotidiano costituisce per loro un grande aiuto, specialmente per le persone senza alloggio. Con questo lavoro ho scoperto che dare cibo non è sufficiente: loro hanno bisogno di tanto affetto, di sentirsi ascoltati, amati e valorizzati, anche se il tempo a disposizione per loro a volte è tiranno. Ho scoperto la loro bellezza del cuore, oltre che la loro sofferenza profonda, il loro atteggiamento quando si sentono amati.... loro hanno grande bisogno di essere amati e che si ridia loro dignità!

sister Catrina Cochior

I Guanelliani nel mondo



“Tutto il mondo è patria vostra”

San Luigi Guanella



Guanellian mission day

October 6, 2019

On Sunday, October 6, 2019, the Guanellian Family, in the beginning of the Missionary Month and of the special commemoration of the Founder, synchronizes to awaken and celebrate in every community the awareness of our own missionary identity within the Church, with the charism received through the Spirit.

This is an appointment at the world level, which we will realize every year on the First Sunday of October, enlivened by the phantasy of charity and the missionary zeal of St. Louis Guanella

To be able to ship posters, incentives and aids for the animation you may click on the hypertext connections available on the LINK section as follows: Each link corresponds to a language.