MOP Tears of Joy

Central Pennsylvania Lay Associates of Missionaries of the Poor

A newsletter devoted to sharing the experience of working with The Missionaries of the Poor Serving the least of God's children as Christ would do.









Kingston needs help with food supplies—You can help: please see page 3

MOPTEARSOFJOY.ORG Web Site additions

www.moptearsofjoy.org

- Photos of last November's trip are in PhotoGallery
- Slideshow (PDF format) of 2012 pilgrimage
- Story & photos of Lynn, Marie and Lynne's pilgrimage
- Video of November 2012 DVD is linked thru YouTube

The slideshow and DVD (video) of last year's pilgrimage are finished. I have sent a DVD to everyone with us last November. If you would like one, send me an email at Roy@moptearsofjoy.org

Notice in the banner at top I have identified us as:

<u>Central Pennsylvania Lay Associates of Missionaries of the Poor.</u>

I think this better defines us, as we are now diocese-wide!



Fran Monaco sent this:

An old man lay sprawled across three entire seats in the movie theater.

When the usher came by and noticed this, he whispered to the old man, "Sorry sir, but you're only allowed one seat."

The old man just groaned but didn't budge.

The usher became more impatient.

"Sir, if you don't get up from there I'm going to have to call the manager."

Once again, the old man just groaned.

The usher marched briskly back up the aisle, and in a moment he returned with the manager.

Together the two of them tried repeatedly to move the old disheveled man, but with no success.

Finally they summoned the police.

The officer surveyed the situation briefly then asked, "All right buddy what's your name?"

"Fran," the old man moaned.

"Where ya from, Fran?" asked the police officer.

With terrible pain in his voice, and without moving a muscle, Fran replied, "The balcony."

Want to Visit the Brothers in Monroe, NC?

Fran Monaco is planning a trip to Monroe March 15-17(18?) If you are interested in joining him, (717) 292-0694, or panbox@comcast.net

Introduce your friends to Fr. Richard Ho Lung? Excellent Video!

The MOP web site www.missionariesofthepoor.org has a livestream video of Fr. Ho Lung. It's a very good example of his way of teaching important parts of our faith. He discusses how we can achieve sanctification through our actions — service.

Good for this YEAR of FAITH!

PS: I think Joe Griesser is in the chapel

The Brothers and I need your help!

Father Charles contacted me a month ago asking our help with food supplies for Kingston. With the increasing number of residents and soup kitchens, their food supplies are running low.

I took a **leap of faith** and felt that with the help of the pilgrims and our 11 parishes, we can make this happen.

Each of us has taken a **leap of faith** in going to Kingston.

Father Charles and I are asking each of us to take another **leap of faith** in working to secure food for the residents and Brothers in Kingston

The approach at each parish should be pretty straightforward (of course with the approval of the pastor)

First is to raise the parish's awareness of MOP. At IHM, we are doing this with a "pizza party" to show the video and discuss our recent pilgrimage.

Next, approximately the first Sunday of March we will make a 90 second appeal at masses and pass out food drive envelopes to the congregation. These are to come back the following week or two in the normal collection basket

Third, with the funds collected we will purchase rice, kidney beans etc. through suppliers in Atlanta for delivery to the warehouse and the next container shipment to Jamaica.

Our goal is 10 pallets ready for shipment by Easter (March 31)

On the next pages are: an outline of the appeal to the pastor, and a draft 90 second appeal to the congregation and a sample of the food envelope,

I hope and pray that you will take a **leap of faith** and make this <u>your Lenten</u> <u>sacrifice</u>, to care for our Brothers in Jamaica and the people they care for.

Please let me know of any way that I can help to make this happen in your parish.

God Bless and thanks for your help, Roy

People can sign up to donate foods at <u>www.signupgenius.com</u> and click "find a signup."

Type in my email: roy@moptearsofjoy.org and you will find it.

Or go to our web site <u>www.tearsofjoy.org</u> and click on the Food Drive Link

Draft outline pastor appeal

Thank you for spending time with me (us).

Last year (I/we) of this parish went to Jamaica to work with the Missionaries of the Poor founded by Fr. Richard Ho Lung. The Missionaries of the Poor house, clothe and feed over 600 people and children in Kingston; many hundreds more around the world. These people are the rejected, crippled, mentally disabled and orphaned people. The Missionaries of the Poor receive no funding from any agency; everything is donated.

During the time that (!/we) were in Jamaica we became "God's hands" in helping to care for these people. Here are a few pictures from the trip (one or two pages). We have more pictures and a DVD which tells much more of the story.

We have recently learned that the food supplies to Jamaica are running low due to the increasing number of people they are caring for. Those of us who went have been asked to organize a shipment of food to Kingston by the end of March. Estimated cost is around \$10,000.

We have been blessed during the four years that we've been working with Missionaries of the Poor in that we have had people going to Kingston from 10 different parishes within the diocese, and one from Florida. If we can be blessed with support from each of these 11 churches (like ours), we should be able to meet our goal.

We are here today asking our parish for help. There are several ways to do this:

- collect needed foods from the parishioners
- collect money in lieu of foods using "food envelopes" (here is a sample) and use that for bulk purchases near the shipping point (more value and minimize shipping cost.)
- have the parish tithe as a parish.

We realize that the Lenten appeal is coming up and there are other demands on the charity of our parishioners. We have both a PowerPoint-type slideshow and a 25 min. DVD of our 2012 pilgrimage to Jamaica showing the pilgrims in action. These can be used to raise awareness of the works of charity that Father Ho Lung and the MOP brothers are doing every day. We will be happy to make a "pilgrimage report" presentation to the parish.

Collecting these food supplies or money would make a good "Lenten Sacrifice project" to reach out to the poor, an international project or a mission project for your church during Lent.

May we count on your support?

We will be happy to discuss this further in any detail you wish.

Thank you!

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Good Mornin	g/Afternoon:
My name is _	

I was in Kingston Jamaica last October working among the Brothers of the Missionaries of the Poor and the more than 600 people they take care of day by day. These people are the outcasts of society in Jamaica, the homeless, the poor, the orphans, and the physically or mentally disabled. They range from infants to the elderly.

For 30 years now, Father Richard Ho Lung and the Brothers have been taking care of these 'least of God's children'. It's impossible to describe the joy I received while working among them. Perhaps <u>you</u> may join us one of these years.

[Give a brief first-person witness of serving the poor. Like: I helped clothe some of the severely crippled young boys. They are bedridden for life, and it is really hard to get t shirts on such badly deformed youngsters. Or I helped feed several blind men — Or I felt the tremendous need for hugs among the children.]

The Missionaries rely entirely on donations of food and supplies to care for these people. They receive no government money in Jamaica.

As the numbers of people they care for continues to increase, they need help with food supplies. These are simple needs, like rice, flour, kidney beans and canned meat. Instead of asking parishioners to purchase these items, we are collecting money to buy these foods in bulk and ship them to Jamaica.

We will be at the vestibule of the church answering questions and distributing contribution envelopes. [hold up one] There are 4 main items we need. It would be a blessing if you could contribute for one or more of these.

Please select the way you can help us and place your donation in the envelope and then in the collection baskets next weekend.

Also please remember the Brothers in your prayers as they continue to minister to the poorest of the poor.

Thank you and God bless you.

Envelopes for donations to the food project. The only localized item is my phone #, so you can use these at your parish. Tell me how many you need.



<u>Missionaries of the Poor – Jamaica Food Drive</u> <u>Please donate for one or more of these lifesaving staples</u>

to feed 'the poorest of the poor':

Rice, 50 lb bag	17.89
All Purpose Flour, 25 lb bag	8.59
Red Kidney Beans, 25 lb bag	36.40
Cooking Oil, 35 lb box	24.98

Note: MOP Lay Associates will buy the foods
Please drop off donation (cash or check) in this envelope
in collection basket next weekend.

(Please make check out to **Missionaries of the Poor**.) Any questions, please call 717-792-3408.



For a receipt/acknowledgement, please write your name and address on the back side of this.

Thank YOU!



Sheldon, a long time resident at Good Shepherd passed away on Dec. 22. He really was one of our "buddies".

Sheldon, please remember us!

Pass it on....

Did you know you can pass this on to your family or church members? Just click the "Forward" button on your email. This attachment (this PDF newsletter) will go right along with it.

If anyone wishes to be added to the mailing list, simply send an email to Roy@moptearsofjoy.org
We will be happy to mail the newsletter to those who do not have email. Call me at 717-792-3408.

Your Turn:

Please write something and/or submit a picture or two. Surely you have an experience to share... what happened during your visit with the Brothers or after you got home.

Just email to: Roy@moptearsofjoy.org

Thanks