

Mission Sunday:

'LOVE WITHOUT FRONTIERS'

hat celebrates the Missa Luba to the beat of drums and wooden sticks.

Black Sisters dance with Bantu children in the playground clearing of a new mission school. Mothers and children wait patiently at the thatched roof maternity clinic.

If Latin American poverty recalls its slums, and Asian poverty its starving masses, African poverty reflects the burdens of disease and illiteracy. New words are added to our common vocabulary: leprosy, fever, kwashiorkor, intestinal parasites.

A missionary in Northern Dahomey is the only dentist for its one million inhabitants.

In the Congo, Sudan, and Uganda approximately seven doctors in each care for every 10,000 people.

A further look at Africa shows the missionaries' efforts in attacking the disease of undernourished minds—illiteracy. Of the 5 million children 16 years old this year — almost 4 million are illiterate. This cause of underdevelopment is at its worst in regions such as the Sudan, where the illiteracy rate is as high as 95%.

The struggle for development — spiritually, intellectually, or materially — is a slow enduring process, but one to which our missionaries have been dedicated since the day Christ commanded His first missionaries to go out to the whole world with His message of love and salvation through a life of service and love for others.

Your chance to support this work will come this week, when to help celebrate Mission Sunday you can give at your local parish.



Father Charles Erb, SVD, of Rochester, baptizes adult African converts at Catechetical School in Sunson, Yendi.



Vocations in the Third World increase faster than training facilities can handle them.