



DIOCESAN MISSION NEWS

The Diocese of Rochester, New York

SELMA



Volume 3 Number 1

Rochester, New York

May 16, 1973

A PLEA FOR DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER MISSION

You Can Help!

Once a year you are asked to support the missionary activities of the Priests and Sisters from our Diocese who work in the Missionary Apostolate. You can help as they work with the poor and the disadvantaged people in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Selma, Alabama and in the mission Apostolate in our very own Diocese. Your generous contribution will enable them to continue to work in Christ's missions for another year.



Women and babies lined-up outside the Church of St. Joseph the Worker in La Paz, awaiting polio shots during a city-wide campaign.

Please be generous in your support of the Missions on Saturday, May 19, and Sunday, May 20.

A Message from our Bishop

My dear People:

There are passages of Sacred Scripture whose meaning can be distorted as they are studied out of context and interpreted too literally. But when I appeal to your generosity for the Missions of the Church, I am expressing a firm faith in the literal significance of the texts which express the Lord's promises to those who are willing to release their firm grip on earthly possessions. One promise of His reward for renunciation of worldly treasures is found in St. Mark's Gospel. After Peter had sought assurance for himself and his fellow apostles by reminding Christ, "We have left everything and followed You," the Lord replied:

"I tell you solemnly, there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, father, children or land for My sake and for the sake of the Gospel, who will not be repaid a hundred times over . . . now in this present time and, in the world to come, Eternal life." (Mark 10:29:30)

Not all of us are asked to leave home and family and express this measure of faith in the Lord's "one hundredfold." But we are asked to give our prayerful and financial support to those who have. Generous hearts of Sisters, priests and laity from the Diocese of Rochester have responded in faith to the needs of God's people in Latin America, in Selma (Alabama) and in impoverished areas within our own diocese. Our own Secular Mission cares for the needs of our rural poor, and our Spanish Apostolate seeks to serve those who are trying to preserve their cultural identity in a new land which offers them more hope for their personal development.

In their name I feel privileged today to beg — to challenge you to responsible stewardship of your possessions — and to express my full faith in His promises.

With gratitude and my blessing, I am

Devotedly yours in Christ,

+Most Reverend Joseph L. Hogan, D. D.
Bishop of Rochester

