

REACH OUT ... TO THE ENDS OF THE E



Bishop's Office

DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER
1150 Buffalo Road · Rochester, NY 14624

(716) 328-3210

May, 1988

My dear Friends:

With this letter, I am happy to proclaim the weekend of May 14th-15th as our twentieth Diocesan Missions Sunday. This annual observance continues to be our way of supporting and encouraging our missionaries and mission projects in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and our sister-diocese Tabasco.

In my visits to these countries this past winter, I was impressed by the strength and spirit of our missionaries. They are a people of whom we can be deeply proud. They extend the life of our local church and do much to strengthen it.

In my journey through the mission lands, I have been encouraged by the strong faith and goodness of the people.

"We, the baptized, have work to do together as brothers and sisters in Christ. The world is in need of Jesus Christ and His Gospel..." (Pope John Paul II)

The Second Vatican Council helped give new life to the truth that "the whole Church is missionary".

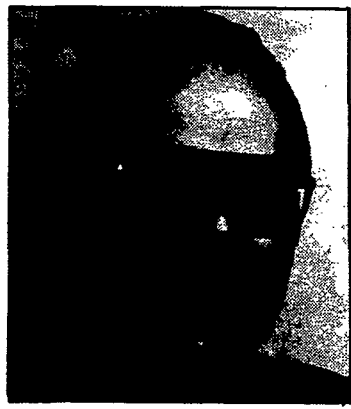
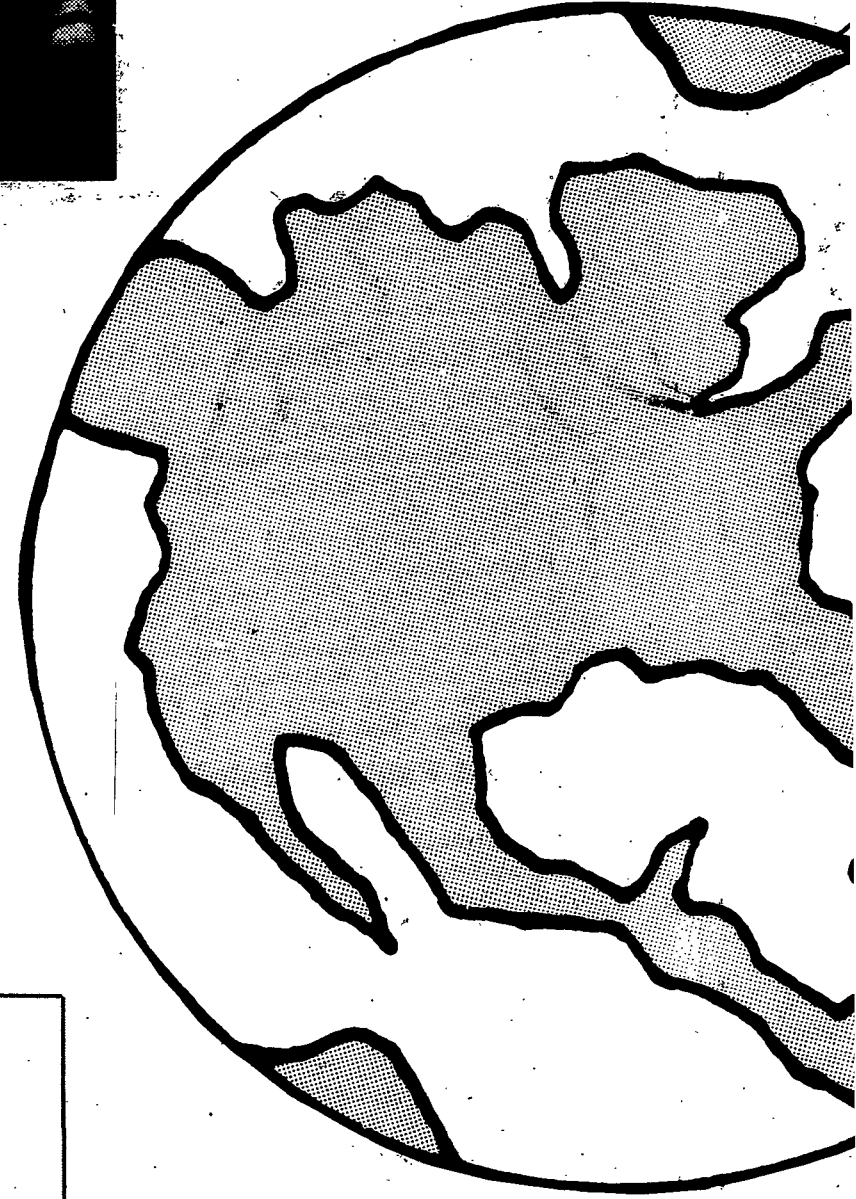
With that thought in mind, I ask you to pray daily for the church in these countries, for our missionaries, for the people there - that God will bless our journey together and help us to come closer to God because of our friendship with them. Secondly, I ask you to bring a financial gift with you this weekend as you worship in your parish church.

With grateful appreciation for your cooperation and every prayerful best wish, I am,

Your brother in Christ,

Matthew H. Clark
+Matthew H. Clark
Bishop of Rochester

This Love Endures Forever



With joy and love in your heart for Christ and His Church, we invite you to reach out to your brothers and sisters in our Diocesan Mission areas.

Like Paul, we rejoice "at the way you have all continually promoted the Gospel from the very first day" and pray that "he who has begun the good work in you will carry it through to completion, right up to the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:3-6)

The tradition of prayer and the generous giving from the faith communities of this Diocese is a strong witness to the missionary vitality of the Church.

As we celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Diocesan Missions Sunday, may I beg you in the name of our missionaries to do your best in supporting these fine dedicated people who serve in your name.

Robert C. Bradler

Father Robert C. Bradler
Diocesan Director

**DIOCESE
MISSIONS COMMISSION
MAY 14-15**