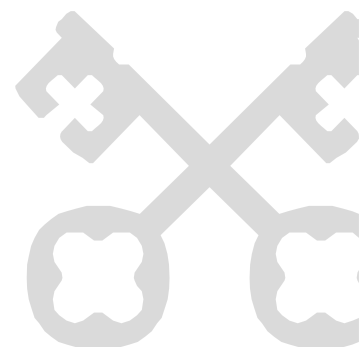




PASTORAL AND FINANCIAL REPORT

YEAR 2022



pápežské
misijné
diela

SLOVAKIA

PASTORAL REPORT - YEAR 2022

MISSIONARY CHILDHOOD IN SLOVAKIA

**misijné
dielo detí**

We began to develop the Missionary Childhood Association more intensively during the period of the Corona Crisis, when we involved children in singing and various competitions through the broadcasting of Holy Masses for children and families.



On the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord, March 25, 2022, the Pontifical Missionary Societies in Slovakia published a call for the establishment of children's groups called **Mission bead**.



Children in Slovakia can become members of the Missionary Childhood and help their peers in mission countries with prayer and concrete help, in the spirit of the motto Children help children. The mission bead is lead by an animator, a catechist, a parent or a priest. Its members meet every other week and it has a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 12 members. A mission bead can be formed in a parish, a school or a family. It is

entrusted to the protection of the Child Jesus in Bethlehem. St. Therese was a member of Missionary Childhood at the age of 8.

So far (9.2.2023), **454 groups** of children called Mission bead have been created in Slovakia, and a total of **3,859 children** have already joined the initiative. Each Mission bead has its own leader and number, children can choose their patron saint (e.g.: 154th Mission bead of St. Clare in Bratislava).

The aim of this Pontifical Society is to bring the children of the whole world into communion with Jesus Christ in his Church. We are creating a prayer network of children in Slovakia. We are also preparing a meeting of the leaders of the individual beads in different places around Slovakia.

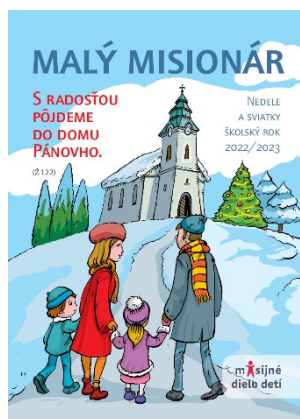
There are 7 goals that we have:

1. To help awaken and gradually form missionary awareness of children.
2. To lead children to fellowship.
3. To motivate them to help other children.
4. To form missionary animators in families, schools and parishes.
5. To prepare methodological and catechetical materials for the three areas mentioned above.
6. To organize a Mission Day for children.
7. To give children the opportunity to learn about the love of Jesus.

Materials:

- Little Missionary - glossaries and stickers
- Material for mission beads
- T-shirts
- Passion for mission (catechesis)
- The call to be a missionary (catechesis)

LITTLE MISSIONARY



"We shall go to the house of the Lord with joy." (Psalm 122) – More than **25,000 children** and **570 parishes** took part in the pastoral activity called Little missionary in 2022. Every child received a small notebook for

collecting stickers after every Sunday Mass from September to June. The notebook included the respective Sunday Gospel with pictures, quotes and short thoughts to reflect on. Children were encouraged to actively participate on Mission Sunday and pray for missions, especially during the Missionary Month October.

THREE KINGS CAROL COMPETITION



We organized the third year of the competition in singing carols called Trojkráľová koleda (Three Kings carol). It was an online competition and was intended mainly for children but all ages could take part in it.

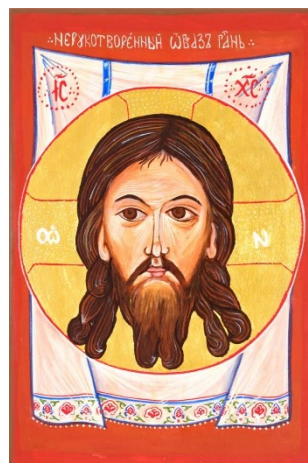
KRÍŽOVÁ CESTA ZA VŠETKY DETI SVETA

Website related to Missionary Childhood:
<https://misijnediela.sk/o-misijnom-diele-deti/>

The Stations of the Cross for all the children of the world engages children in an interesting way to pray for other children in the world who experience many sufferings. **Suggestion:** There could be an exchange of

experience at European level every year. A collective event of children in Missionary Childhood for the whole of Europe could be organised.

ICON OF THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS Lenten devotion 2022



For the Lenten season, Pontifical Mission Societies sent out **17,000 icons** of the Holy face of Jesus including prayers of St. Francis, a detailed description of the icon and a leaflet with information about support for projects in India. "Christ is the

image of the invisible God." (Col. 1:15) On the Way of the Cross, Veronica handed the Lord her veil to wipe his bloodied face, and Christ rewarded her with the imprint of his holy face. Hence the title "Image not made by human hand," for it was made by Christ himself.

BENEFIT CONCERT AT BUTKOV HILL



On Saturday, July 29, 2022 a benefit concert for the support of missionary projects realised by PMS took place in the Rock Shrine of Divine Mercy at the hill of Butkov. The spiritual and cultural program was accompanied by the performance of the band Kandráčovci, singer Monika Kandráčová and the heligonist Vlasta Mudříková.

Father Basil Fernando - Director of the PMS in Sri Lanka - also travelled to the Butkov hill. He addressed those present with these words: *"I am very honoured to be here today and to participate in this beautiful evening event. First of all, I want to thank you very much for the wonderful ministry of Christian love that Slovak donors have shown to the missions in Sri Lanka. My homeland is suffering a great deal at this time, so I thank you all in Slovakia for everything."*

The Pontifical Mission Societies thanked all participants of the concert and especially the AGAPA Foundation and the Považské cement plants from the village of Ladce for organizing the concert, transport and technical support.

MISSION SUNDAY 2022

October 23, 2022 was celebrated as the Feast of solidarity, with the main message: *"You will be my witnesses"* (Acts 1:8) We have put together and distributed the following material to parishes:

- posters – A3 and A4 formats
- ideas for homilies
- announcements for parishes
- World mission magazines, mission rosaries for children

Mission Sunday 2022 was focused on Cambodia.

ADOPTION OF SEMINARIANS

Slovakia has adopted seminarians in Benin, Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Togo, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Republic of the Congo. Slovak communities and individuals pray and financially support particular seminarians assigned to them after communication with seminaries. Slovaks have adopted altogether **1,472 seminarians** so far.

WORLD MISSION MAGAZINE

The World Mission magazine is published for the members and friends of the Pontifical Mission Societies and it is printed in 60,000 copies twice a year. Last year's Eastern publication focused on blessed Pauline Jaricot and the formation of priests and the Mission Sunday publication was devoted to Cambodia.



MISSION CALENDAR 2023

The Mission calendar was printed in 45,000 copies last year. It contains beautiful pictures of 12 countries in the world with significant dates important in the life of every Christian.

MASS OFFERINGS FOR MISSIONARIES



In 2022, the Slovak faithful had the chance to help the priests in missions in the form of donations. In return, the priests in the missionary countries celebrated Holy Masses for their intentions. Altogether, we received and sent out **256,906 Holy Mass intentions** in the amount of **1,284,530 €** in 2022.

To break it down, the number of individual Holy Masses was: 72,082, novenas: 6,396 (i.e. 57,564 Masses) and Gregorian Masses: 4,242 (i.e. 127,260 Masses). Donations for Mass offerings are a blessing for priests in missions around the world. At the same time we realize the universality of the Church when priests put the intentions from the believers in Slovakia on the altar.

SWEET HELP – TWICE AS SWEET CHOCOLATE



Since last autumn, thousands of people in Slovakia have shown solidarity with young people in the poorest countries of the world.

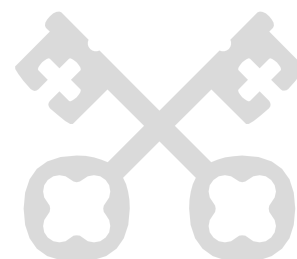
They help others and offer the chocolate that is "twice as sweet" in their parishes, schools but also individually. The chocolate bars with the names of 16 missionary countries and upbuilding thoughts on the packaging were made by the Slovak chocolate factory DEVA based in the city of Trebišov. We have also introduced a new chocolate bar "St. Nicholas - you give twice".



Schools, parishes and volunteers have ordered **126,000** "twice as sweet" chocolate bars, which makes 3,000 boxes on 12 pallets; and **48,000** "St. Nicholas - you give twice" chocolate bars, which

makes 1,620 boxes on 6 pallets.

As history tells us, Spanish missionaries spread chocolate to the whole world. They began to take chocolate to places where they worked and preached the Word of God. In this way it spread quickly to all continents. Pope Francis says that at this time too we shall show solidarity and concrete love. The campaign Sweet help is a very easy and nice way to show love to others. The taste of good chocolate encourages young people in particular to help others.



ICON OF MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP October devotion 2022

The icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help is one of the most famous images of the Virgin Mary in the world. PMS in Slovakia sent the icons and prayers free of charge, they were unsaleable. Those who wanted could support projects in Congo after receiving the icon and prayer in the mail. Along with the icon we also sent information about the possibilities of supporting Congo.



HOLY MASS AS A CHRISTMAS GIFT



During the Christmas holidays, many believers in Slovakia gave the gift of a Holy Mass to their families and friends. Pontifical Mission Societies in Slovakia printed and distributed the Christmas postcards in which people could write their Holy Mass intentions and their dedication. The postcards were delivered before Christmas so that everyone could place them under their Christmas trees. Totally, it was **24,546 Holy Masses** and 7,935 Christmas postcards distributed to those who ordered them.

THREE KINGS STAR (STAR OF BETHLEHEM)



The Three Kings Star (Star of Bethlehem) activity is associated with the collection for the Missionary Childhood Association. The activity lasts from the Epiphany until the end of January. Traditionally, the blessing of a house is done by a priest but it can also be done by laymen, e.g. father or mother of a family. In this case, the blessing is not sacramental but it is a way of prayer and devotion of a family to God. Families need blessed water and/or a little candle as a symbol of Christ and the attitude of a believer realising God's presence and his love.

We distributed **90,000 copies** of house blessing prayers in Slovakia. The packet included:

- a house blessing prayer and a leaflet informing about the support for missionaries
- a door sticker in the pattern 20 C+M+B+23 (sticker is well detachable)

MISSIONARY E-SHOP



PMS offers 51 missionary articles and publications in the PMS missionary e-shop. Last year we distributed 1,763 packages.

PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES TEAM

Permanent staff:

Ivan Kňaze – priest, director

Lucia Balogová – adoption of seminarians,
language translations

Jana Palkovičová – administration

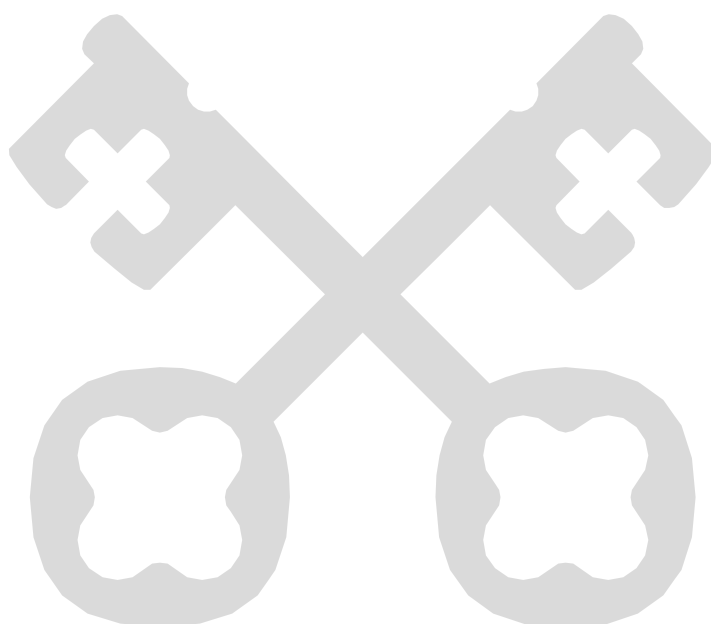
Lenka Špániková – administration

External staff:

Anka Žáková – economist

Martina Grochálová – chief editor of the World
mission magazine

Martin Farbák – database management,
newsletter



FINANCIAL REPORT - YEAR 2022

In 2022, in the framework of the PMS activities, the amount of **2,308,391.35 €** was collected for projects of all three mission societies.

The first part of the donations intended to support the Society for the Propagation of the Faith was in the amount of **701,959.30 €** and it was collected on Mission Sunday 2022. The collection took place in all churches in Slovakia.

The second part of the donations was raised for the Missionary Childhood Association, through the project for poor and disadvantaged children in the mission countries in the amount of **823,582.60 €**.

The third part of the total amount of fundraising in 2022 was meant to support the projects of the Society of St. Peter Apostle and missionary seminaries. We collected the amount of **782,849.45 €**.

INCOMES – MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION 2022 ACCORDING TO INDIVIDUAL DIOCESES

Diocese	2022
Archdiocese of Bratislava	109,350.86 €
Archdiocese of Trnava	59,362 €
Archdiocese of Košice	107,934 €
Diocese of Nitra	49,000 €
Diocese of Banská Bystrica	55,360.82 €
Diocese of Žilina	104,361.63 €
Diocese of Spiš	164,535.25 €
Diocese of Rožňava	22,892 €
Greek Catholic Ecclesiastical Province of Prešov	21,399.02 €
Eparchy of Košice	7,120 €
Eparchy of Bratislava	643.72 €
Total	701,959.30 €

INCOMES

Incomes	€
Mission Sunday collection 2022	701,959.30 €
PMS members, gifts, adoption of seminarians	857,628.75 €
Mass offerings	1,284,530.00 €
Domestic devotions and icons	748,803.30 €
Total Income	3,592,921.35 €

EXPENDITURES

Expenditures up to 15% (12.5 %)	€
Production and distribution of missionary materials	137,891.20 €
Labour costs	121,703.80 €
Mission animation and operational costs	149,199.30 €
Total Expenditure	515,186.30 €

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR THE MISSION PROJECTS IN 2022 ACCORDING TO THE INDIVIDUAL MISSION WORKS

Mission projects 2022	€
The Society for the Propagation of the Faith (Mission Sunday collection 2022)	701,959.30 €
The Missionary Childhood Association	823,582.60 €
The Society of St. Peter Apostle	782,849.45 €
Total amount for the mission projects of PMS 2022	2,308,391.35 €

Thank you. May God bless you today and always!

Ivan Kňaze, National Director PMS Slovakia

