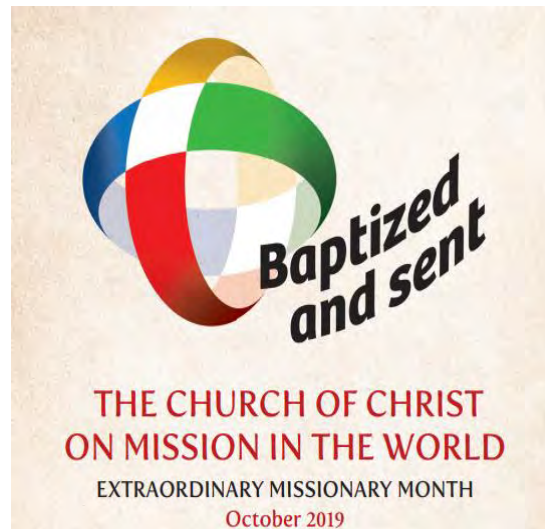


EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH (EMM): OCTOBER 2019



Dear Brothers,

Hundred years ago, Pope Benedict XV released the encyclical *Maximum Illud*, which called on Catholics to bring the Good News to all peoples (Missio Ad Gentes). To commemorate this anniversary, Pope Francis has declared October 2019 to be an Extraordinary Month of Mission (EMM). This special month of prayer and action calls us all to renew our missionary commitment. We are called to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all peoples.

For the four weeks of October 2019, the Holy Father has approved four themes:

1. **ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS:** A personal encounter with Jesus Christ living in His Church.
2. **TESTIMONY OF MISSION:** The witness of missionary saints and martyrs.
3. **MISSIONARY FORMATION:** Biblical, catechetical, spiritual and theological formation for mission.

4. **MISSIONARY CHARITY:** Missionary charity as a commitment to support the Church's missionary activity and communities too poor to support themselves, through Missio.

As Oblates, we have been ministering to people here in Japan for the last seventy years and in Korea for almost thirty years. Through these four themes approved by Pope Francis let us renew and reawaken our commitment to mission. I think the EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH is a good opportunity for us to begin a serious reflection on our mission both in Japan and in Korea. I wish and pray that the study session we will have in October with Bishop ABELLA may enable us to look at our past, evaluate our present and look into the future with hope.



- Bradly Rozairo OMI



Dear Brothers,

Greetings from Itami !

As the month of October comes to an end, we recall the Extraordinary Missionary Month (EMM) and the just ended Synod for Amazonia. I believe that these were two opportunities for evangelization to put into practice the call to "*evangelically renew the mission of the Church in the world*" - Pope Francis.

During this month, many of us here in Japan came together with Bishop ABELLA to listen to him and to share our thoughts and feelings about mission and ministry in Japan. I think, this has given us an opportunity to seriously think and reflect on our future vision and mission here in Japan. Since the talk of the Bishop was in Japanese I have asked Bro Yagi to write a report in Japanese which later will be translated into English and sent to you.

To continue the process of reflection on our mission, we hope to organize another gathering before the spring meeting in 2020. The Delegation council has already talked about it and will come together on November 18 to discuss this further. We welcome your thoughts, ideas/suggestions as we plan the next step.

Also, if you remember during our business meeting in early September I explained to you the proposal of AORC to strengthen the ministry to Migrants in Japan. The AORC would like to know what the members of the Delegation feel about this proposal. I am asked to give a report (feedback) when the AORC meets next in March 2020. Therefore, kindly go through the attached document and feel free to share your thoughts, comments, observations with me.

Thank you.

Bradly Rozairo OMI

