



**MISSIO-AVONA**  
THE PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES



GROWING IN  
**GRACE**  
WALKING IN  
**FAITH**



## MESSAGE

The mission of the Church is at the heart of its identity and purpose. It is rooted in the Great Commission given by Jesus Christ: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19-20). This divine mandate calls us to spread the Gospel, witness to the love of Christ. We are all called to be missionaries by our vocation and our mission involves evangelization. The Apostolic Vicariate of Northern Arabia stands as a beacon of hope through our mission in the Gulf region, a community where God’s love is made tangible through our actions and words. Therefore, this initiation by our Vicariate is all the more relevant and important. Our Vicariate provides a spiritual home where believers



***Bishop Aldo Berardi O.S.S.T.***

*Apostolic Vicariate of Northern Arabia*

are encouraged, equipped, and sent forth to fulfill their unique vocations in the world. As we embrace this mission, let us be inspired by the Holy Spirit, work in unity, and strive to build a world that reflects God’s kingdom of love, justice, and peace.

**+ Aldo BERARDI, O.S.S.T.**

Apostolic Vicar of Northern Arabia

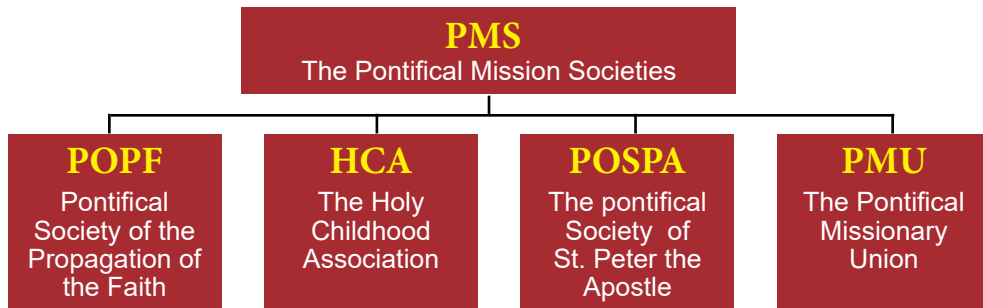
The Pilgrim Church is missionary by her very nature (cf. Ad Gentes 2). Thus H.E. Aldo Berardi, O.S.S.T. the Apostolic Vicar of the Apostolic Vicariate of Northern Arabia has taken the initiative to promote the missionary zeal among his faithful. (cf. Ad Gentes 38).

In the vicariate he introduced the Pontifical Missionary Societies through the formation of the priests by inviting Fr. Dinh Anh Nhue Nguyen, the General secretary of Pontifical Missionary Union in October 2023. From there he took a step forward by welcoming Sr. Roberta Tremarelli, the General secretary

to Pontifical Holy Childhood Society in January 2024 and who in turn gave the sessions to the catechists in the Cathedral, Awali and the Sacred Heart Church, Manama. In the same month, our Bishop proposed a delegate in the person of , Fr. Marcus Fernandes OFM Cap. for the formation course at CIAM in Rome representing AVONA in the month of April 2024. Now our vicariate is getting geared up to open the mission of the Holy Childhood Society.

Oh, Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Arabia, the first missionary of the Word of God, help us in our mission. Pray for us.

# THE FOUR SOCIETIES OF PMS



## Pontifical Society for the Propagation of Faith (POPF)



**Founder:** Pauline Mary Jaricot from Lyons in France started in 1816, but officially founded on 3rd May 1822. After hundred years in 1922 Pope Pius XI declared the society- as Pontifical.

**Inspiration:** During Napoleon regime (1804-1815) Foreign Missions of Paris managed to send only two missionaries to far east. So the inspiration was born to support missions.

**Plan:** to form groups of ten persons into circles, each of which would organize another group of Ten.

Each member was expected to make a weekly offerings and pray daily for the missions. The first collection in 1822 was sent in the mission of China.

**Mission Sunday:** 2nd Last Sunday of October. Two- Purposes:

1. Support mission through prayer.
2. Support mission through contribution.

## Holy Childhood Association (HCA)



**Founder:** Bishop Charles de Forbin- Janson.

Founded in the year 1843-in Nancy diocese, in France. After his mission trip to USA he met his friend Pauline Mary Jaricot and shared his dream – to help

the children in mission. So he appealed the France children to reach out in Love and faith to needy children in mission.

**Inspiration:** to help Chinese children

Holy Childhood day on 6th January.

Three-Purposes:

1. Children praying for children.
2. Children helping children
3. Children sharing the Gospel with children

POSI in brief, the society of Missionary childhood or of the Holy Childhood, leads children to discover the missionary spirit and teach them to help children of their same age around the world through prayer and small material sacrifices.

## Pontifical Society of St. Peter the Apostle (POSPA)



**Founder:** Jeanne Bigard from Normandy (France). Jean and her mother Stephanie were reading the stories of the missions from the propagation of faith. Thus they were inspired to pray, sacrifice and

provide financial aid to the missionaries to spread the Gospel through the formation of the priest. They helped the Fathers of the Society of Foreign Mission of Paris (MEP). Their first contribution was to build a Church of St. Francis Xavier in Kyoto, Japan.

Founded in 1889. On July 12 1895 Pope Leo XIII granted apostolic blessing to the Society of St. Peter.

**Inspiration:** to support the indigenous clergy to proclaim the gospel.

Good Shepherd Sunday or vocation Sunday on 4th Sunday of Easter.

Three Purposes:

1. To promote local vocations
2. To support through prayer
3. To help financially.

## Pontifical Missionary Union (PMU)



**Founder:** Bl. Paolo Manna is an Italian priest. He had a great desire to be a missionary. He went to Burma and served there for ten years. Due to his sickness he returned back. He thought

his mission was a failure. Later in Rome he became the director of the magazine called "Catholic Mission" Through it he brought the missionary dimension in almost every issue by promoting missionary books, pamphlets, calendars, appeals for missionary vocations and exhortations to pray for missionaries. He promoted the societies of the propagation of faith (POPF) and of Holy childhood (HCA) now Mission Together.

PMU was created on 31st Oct. 1916 with an aim to form and animate the baptized faithful in their missionary responsibility through the pastoral service of Bishops and Priests. The missionary union which he founded received its "Pontifical" title from Pope Pius XII in a 1956 decree.

**Motto:** "All the church for all the world".



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