



**MISSIO-AVONA**  
THE PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES

Pro. No. 04.M-A/ for all in Avona

Dated: 07-10-2024

To Priests, Religious and all the Faithfuls

## The vision and mission for the Holy childhood in Avona

The Missio-Avona for the Holy Childhood is under the Pontifical Society for the Holy Childhood. The **vision and mission** of our Bishop H.E. Aldo Berardi towards the children is that we all should see our children **“Growing in Grace and walking in Faith”**.

### History of the Holy Childhood:

**Founder:** Bishop Charles de-Forbin Janson from France (1785-1844).

**Inspiration:** During his seminary period, Charles attends the services in the chapel of **Foreign missions in Paris (MEP)**, and listens to stories of the missionaries about their work in China and the thousands of children that priests and nuns welcome, care for, educate, baptize and teach to live according to Christian values.

**Advice Sought:** Pauline Marie Jaricot started the decimal system (group of 10 adult assembled to pray and contribute for the missions) that formed the society for the propagation of faith – propaganda fide (1822). He sought the advice from Pauline Marie Jaricot. Bishop Charles was inspired to start the work of the Holy Childhood on 19<sup>th</sup> of May, 1843. So he began it with a simple prayer of Hail Mary and contributing something once a month for the children of China. Thus the children grow in awareness of other children and they grow in virtue.

**His Vision:** Bishop Charles wished that the children become missionary by praying for othe children and contributing something once a month. In this way the children



will discover the virtue of charity. **Bishop Charles' vision** is that **the children should grow in age, wisdom and grace before God like child Jesus.** *The future is built from Now (present).*

**Patron:** He entrusted the children under the care of the child Jesus.

**Holy Children day:** 6<sup>th</sup> of January. (Sunday collection)

**Age group:** The age of the Children from 6- 12 years (As per Jesus age-12). (In AVONA, we can cater to the children of the age groups of 6-12 and 13-17).

**The three main teachings of the Pontifical society of the Holy Childhood are:**

1. **Children praying for children** (One Hail Mary each day)
  2. **Children helping children** (a sacrifice- for a cause)
  3. **Children sharing gospel to children** (Gospel values)
- 

**Action plan to reach out this to every child of our parishes in Avona.**

1. Firstly, awareness of the Holy Childhood in Avona (media and preaching)
2. Secondly, each family (parent) is a teacher to help her / his child to pray at least one Hail Mary daily for children (make it concrete; purpose is to be aware that he grows praying and sharing along with the family).
3. Thirdly, since we live far and wide in various area in AVONA:
  - a. In the vicinity 10- 15 children can form a group to meet once a week together and to pray, to share experience of the week (more concrete action). A leader will be chosen from the group and there should be the in-charged person to help them.
  - b. I have prepared an exercise book to keep the record of their daily activities: Pray, Help and Share. (Parents – leaders- can check and appreciate them). The aim is to create good habits and imbibe values.



c. Once a month all the leaders of each group can come at the parish and share their experiences and get informed.

**d. Missio-Avona office bearer:**

Missio- Avona chairman	H.E. Bishop
Delegate (in-charge)	Missio-Avona to PMS
Each Parish in-charge	Priest
Lay Coordinator from Parish	Dealing with all small group in-charge
Children group leader	From the small group

4. Missio – Avona: [https://avona.org/missio/missio\\_main.htm](https://avona.org/missio/missio_main.htm) and QRcode.

**NB:** In no way the Holy childhood society is a hindrance to anyone. All children are formed at home by parents, in school by teachers and in the church by the priest or Catechist. We are all involved in their formation. **BUT** through Holy Childhood let us make these children practical...children of Actions:

- I) Who will say a simple prayer of Hail Mary for a known purpose (sick among or around them).
- II) A simple act or good word at home or around them.
- III) They will share their valuable gospel knowledge to other children.


*A small vision of our Bishop H.E. Aldo Berardi for the better Future of our Children.*

*Our Lady of Arabia bless us. Given on the feast day of our Lady of Rosary -2024.*

Approved by:

**H. E. Bishop Aldo Berardi, O.SS.T**  
**Apostolic Vicar of Northern Arabia**

Signed by:

  
Fr. Marcus Fernandes OFM. Cap  
Delegate of Missio - Avona