

Mission Connections: Special Educator's Edition

Kids CONNECTING With Kids

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www.stcdio.org/mission



Called to be Bridges for New Life

Special thanks to everyone who prayed for our world with the World Mission Rosary this past month. Twenty-two schools and eight parishes requested rosaries for their various prayers. We are currently out of world mission rosaries, thanks to this great response from all of you; but be sure to let us know if you're still interested in getting some when we have more in, so that your schools and parishes can keep up this wonderful prayer for our world throughout the year! Thanks again to those who took part in this, or other methods of celebrating Mission Month in October!



As we move into November, we recognize a "transition" month. Minnesota Novembers falls between autumn and winter, the month that serves as a kind of "bridge" in nature. We see the changes that have taken place and watch as nature continues the journey toward winter in order to get to the new life GOD has planned for the Spring. November can serve as an important reminder for us of our own call—the call to allow changes to happen and to work for change; the call to perhaps let past things fall and step out of old ways of doing things in order to prepare for the new ways and new life GOD desires for us, our work and communities; the call to be a bridge—between knowledge of the world and our faith and our young people, and to work for bridges of communication, understanding and love between all communities of the world. Bridging out will bring internal rewards as well, for as the Vatican II Document *Ad Gentes* tell us, "the grace of renewal cannot grow in communities unless each of these extends the range of its charity to the ends of the earth" (#37). Through our bridging communities and working for change, we can bring about new life—renewal within our own communities and throughout GOD's world. Let us follow the example of November, and welcome the transformation that comes from being bridges and transitioning the old and the new! Let us enter into the journey of making change happen in our world! Let us follow the example to enter into mission and see what new life will come from it!



Give it a Try!

From curriculum resources, to projects & activities, here are some ideas to think about using with your young people.



Great Educational Resource

The third week of November is Geography Awareness Month! What is your school doing to study our world—both locations and the people and cultures around the globe? More than half of secondary school principals call their geography materials "inadequate." If you feel like they do, consider logging on to an incredible (FREE!) educational resource website that can help you and the young people you work with fall in love with our world while growing in important knowledge. Visit the National Geographic sponsored "My Wonderful World" website at: www.mywonderfulworld.org. Then contact the Mission Office for great speakers to bring this geographical learning to life.

My Wonderful World



Special November Project Idea

November is also National Health Month. Jesus was a healer; follow his example! At this time when we recognize so many health needs in our world, consider inviting your school or parish to play a part in healing ministries globally, such as the Indigenous People's Hospital in the Philippines, the H2O Project fighting for available and safe water all over the world, or the Child Survival Project with our partner diocese of Homa Bay, Kenya. Invite young people to raise funds and awareness in interesting ways—count how many times your class sneezes in a day and offer a quarter for each time, contribute a dollar for each day of the month that your family is not sick or are able to wash your hands in thanksgiving for your own health, or put a contribution in every time you hear or see the word 'doctor' during the day. Be creative & have fun!

Don't Forget:



Be sure to know these upcoming mission events & deadlines.

Friday, Oct. 31st is the deadline for applications to be part of the March 2009 delegation to Homa Bay, Kenya.

Nov. 1st & 2nd are All Saints & All Souls Day. Don't forget to talk about mission saints & martyrs.

Tuesday, Nov. 4th is election day—are you informed on important global issues?

Nov. 16-22nd is Geography Awareness week. How will you celebrate our global family and give kids the power of knowledge of our world?

Sunday, Nov. 23rd is the Diocesan Sr. High Youth Rally—be sure to check out the workshop on our partnership with Maracay, Venezuela.

Something to think about:

"GOD never pulls you in without sending you out." ~Tim Keller~