

AMMI *Lacombe* MAMI
Canada

Oblate Spirit



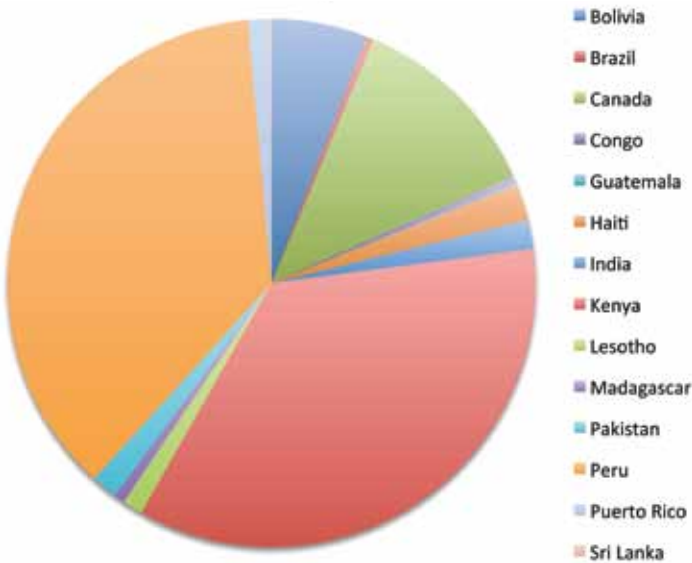
June 2013

*Annual
Report*



2012 Projects Funded

\$1,217,842.63



Bolivia	\$71,392.00
Brazil	\$5,500.00
Canada	\$147,745.46
Congo	\$5,582.41
Guatemala	\$1,230.25
Haiti	\$26,768.25
India	\$22,000.00
Kenya	\$429,864.25
Lesotho	\$15,058.55
Madagascar	\$8,075.00
Pakistan	\$19,546.00
Peru	\$448,535.21
Puerto Rico	\$16,515.25
Sri Lanka	\$1,030.00

A full-page photograph of a savanna landscape. In the foreground, a giraffe stands amidst green and yellow grass, its long neck extended upwards. To the left, a large, gnarled acacia tree with dense green foliage dominates the upper half of the frame. The background shows a clear blue sky and more distant trees. The overall scene conveys a sense of reaching towards the sky.

Reach for the sky

We are not giraffes.

We do not have the luxury of reaching to the treetops to nibble on the luscious fruit that is unreachable by many other creatures. But that doesn't stop us from dreaming of unattainable goals because we know the need is greater than anything we can comprehend. We here at the Missionary Oblates of Canada offices continue to reach higher than the top, knowing that we will be touching so many lives in so many different ways.

We help feed those in need, physically, emotionally and spiritually. We recall as children our parents telling us “God helps those that help themselves.” Sometimes we can provide the little push that helps many turn the corner in their lives. We can be there with them when they help build a modest home that provides shelter they have only dreamed about. We can be there to help them get water from a pipe that feeds a piece of land to keep a crop alive, water that quenches a thirst and helps extend lives, water that they had to previously walk miles to collect and that is now available near their homes.

We are there to help improve the classrooms where they further their lives. We are there to provide spiritual and emotional support, and yet from everything we are able to offer, we get back so much more in the simplest of ways.

To convey this joy, this reward, to our supporters is not easy. That is one of the reasons why, in this publication, we attempt to show the smiling and joyful faces of so many people with whom we interact in Africa, South America, Asia and, closer to home, in Canada. That is our way of saying YOU make a difference in so many lives, and our way of saying, over and over, thank you.



This issue is our annual report, when we detail the ways and places our funds have been spent. We are happy to have raised \$1,338,919.87 in 2012, which was just modestly under our goal of \$1,350,000. We continue to strive for more, which is why we have established a goal of \$1.4 million this year. In 2012, we disbursed \$1,217,842.63 funding more than 110 projects.

Our donations came from 2,571 members of the large Oblate family of supporters, for an average gift of \$520.78. Of that number, there were 10 donations from estates for a total of \$99,981.92, a number that considerably elevates the average donation.

Our fund-raising expenses, which include the cost of producing the *Oblate Spirit* publication, are \$311,992.02. This amount includes legal and banking fees, office rent and expenses, printing, salaries and mission visioning. That holds our fund-raising cost at an average of about 22 per cent over five years.

So we again count our blessings, which equates to each and every one of you. We are so thankful for your support, spiritual and financial. We are, after all, one large Oblate family, one huge blessing from God.

Thank you!

John and Emily Cherneski, Communications Coordinators

Donating securities to Oblate missionary works

Do you have publicly traded securities that you would like to donate to the benefit of the Oblate missions? With the tax law introduced in 2006, you can now directly donate your publicly traded securities (shares) to **AMMI Lacombe Canada MAMI** and receive an official income tax receipt while avoiding the payment of capital gains tax.

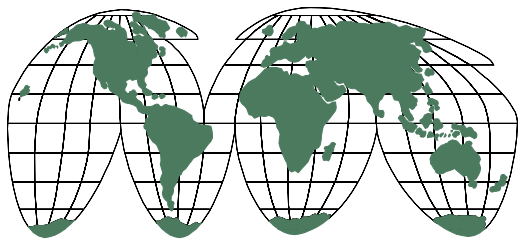
To take advantage of this tax-saving offer, please call Diane Lepage (1-866-432-6264) at our office for further information. A minimum market value of \$5,000 is suggested. We would be happy to facilitate this exchange that benefits you and the poor of the Oblate missions.



2013 Goals

\$1,400,000

Bolivia	\$80,000
Brazil	\$10,000
Canada.....	\$250,000
Guatemala	\$10,000
India	\$20,000
Kenya	\$500,000
Madagascar	\$10,000
Pakistan.....	\$20,000
Peru	\$450,000
Sri Lanka.....	\$10,000
World (Congo, Haiti, Lesotho, etc.).....	\$40,000



Africa

2013 GOALS: \$550,000

The Kenya Mission is primarily dependent on OMI Lacombe Canada and therefore continues to be one of our primary missionary commitments. The Kenyan missionaries are based in three main centres, Karen (Nairobi), Kionyo and Méru.

Lush tea fields surround Kionyo's St. Stephen Parish, which is responsible for 11 Prayer Houses. Most of the MAMI-sponsored projects, such as the bakery, lumber and posha mills, health clinics, schools, prayer houses and water projects take place in Kionyo.

Méru and Karen are the hubs for the formation of new Oblates. Méru is the beginning point for men who are interested in the Oblates and want to learn more about the Congregation and the charism of St. Eugene de Mazenod. Karen is the main house of formation for pre-novices and provides a community for Oblates furthering their studies.





Jim Fiori, OMI, and OMI students Moses, Phelix, and Joseph

Gideon Rimberia, OMI





Dionisius Ananua, OMI

In Méru the Oblates are involved in visiting the slums and prisons as part of their pastoral experience. In Karen (Nairobi) they provide pastoral service at an HIV/AIDS orphanage.

This year the missionaries will be serving a fourth poor area called Kusaju, located south of Nairobi. The land there is more arid and there are many needs that will require funding for projects similar to the ones that have taken place in Kionyo.

2012 MISSION PROJECTS FUNDED: \$458,580.21

KENYA

- Greenhouse and fish farm
- Sturdy vehicle to travel rough rural roads in the hills of Kionyo
- Solar hot water tanks for the Oblate residence in Kionyo
- Formation expenses – room and board, school fees
- Lab equipment at St. Martin School in Ngongo
- Basic necessities for Oblate missionaries

CONGO

- Workshop equipment to train young people in developing trade skills



LESOTHO

- Renewal programs for missionary Oblates

MADAGASCAR

- Catechetics, lay formation
- Bicycles and computers for men in Oblate formation





Asia - Oceania

2013 GOALS: \$50,000

Caring for orphans and many impoverished families are ongoing goals for the Oblates in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Providing food and education help open doors to employment and self-sufficiency. Formation of future Oblate missionaries continues.



2012 MISSION PROJECTS FUNDED: \$42,576.00

INDIA

- Computers and educational needs of De Mazenod Institute of Philosophy

PAKISTAN

- Formation of catechists, religion teachers and those studying for the priesthood

SRI LANKA

- Assistance to widows and the poor





Mike Dechant, OMI

Canada

2013 GOALS: \$250,000

The Oblates in Canada are active in many parishes through the Northern missions, parish mission ministry, and youth ministry. Retreat and renewal centres continue to provide sanctuary spaces, as do our elder care homes.



Greg Oszust, OMI





Alfred Hubenig, OMI

2012 MISSION PROJECTS FUNDED: \$146,745.46

CANADA

- Trauma and grief recovery programs in two Northern Saskatchewan communities
- Safer flooring installed in one of our Oblate elder residences
- Parish missions
- Personal retreats and spiritual direction
- Two high schools in Alberta sent participants for a mission work experience with the poor in New Orleans

NEW Gift Payment Option

We now have the ability to accept donations by way of credit card! Please complete the gift form enclosed, visit our website at www.oblatemissionassociates.ca to give on-line, or call our office toll free: 1-866-432-6264 and we will be pleased to assist you in facilitating your donation to the Oblate missions.



Latin America

2013 GOALS: \$550,000

The Oblate missionaries in Latin America assist in providing many of the basic necessities for life ranging from safe drinking water to a roof over one's head, from health care to a bed to sleep in, from milk for babies and soup kitchens to Christmas packages for children in isolated areas. A major success last year came in Peru, where we rescued the Barcaza from dry-dock so it can once again ferry the sick up the Napo River to the Oblate hospital in Santa Clotilde.



2012 MISSION PROJECTS FUNDED: \$569,940.96



BOLIVIA

- Expanding education services to low income children including purchasing and installing sanitation materials for the children's washrooms
- Punta Health Clinic, Danilo Gotti's Family Home (special needs home for young people)
- Assisting young people with education expenses for further studies
- Amanecer program for abandoned youth
- Health and food aid, Christmas packages for remote rural area of Cochabamba
- Computer equipment for missionaries



BRAZIL

- Water cisterns
- Family Agricultural School
- Nilzete Orphanage

GUATEMALA

- Formation of young men discerning Oblate vocation



MUNICIPIO
TOLEDO





HAITI

- Formation of catechists
- Building roofs for classrooms at Jean Paul II Institute
- Assisting people struggling with alcohol or drug addiction, HIV/AIDS and street children



PERU

- Parish needs at Aucayacu
- Care of elder Oblates
- Social assistance, medical emergencies
- Formation of young missionaries
- Education sponsorship at San José School
- Soup kitchen
- Environmental health education
- Houses and beds
- Santa Clotilde Hospital
- Milk for malnourished children
- Tuberculosis program
- Three outboard motors for Santa Clotilde Hospital and parish boat used along the Napo River
- Indigenous pastoral ministry
- Pre-university academic preparation
- Tertiary care patients

PUERTO RICO

- Reparation of thatched church roof



Kenya notecards

Diane Lepage and Glenn Zimmer, OMI, on their recent visit to the Oblate Mission in Kenya, took photos of everyday life. We would like to share some of these photos with you in the form of notecards you are invited to use in sending out notes to your friends and to help bring awareness of the people dear to our hearts. Please indicate on the enclosed gift form if you wish to receive a set of Kenya cards.



WANTED: YOUR STORIES!

There are many charities and good causes that solicit your support. Yet for some reason you have chosen to offer the Oblates your prayers, friendship and assistance.

We are curious:

Why did you choose us?

How did you hear about the Oblate missionary work?

How have the Oblates supported, inspired and encouraged you?

What are some of your best memories of Oblates and their missionary work?



Send your stories (and photos) to: lacombemami@sasktel.net

AMMI Lacombe Canada
MAMI is pleased to
support our Missionary
Oblates serving the poor
around the world through
humanitarian works –
feeding the hungry,
caring for the sick,
clothing the naked and
bringing the love of God
to those most in need.

***We support Oblate
missions and ministries in
areas such as:***

Bolivia
Brazil
Canada
Guatemala
India
Kenya
Pakistan
Peru
Puerto Rico
Sri Lanka



Have you considered
including the
*Missionary
Oblates*
as a beneficiary
in your will?



Your gift to AMMI Lacombe
Canada MAMI would ensure that
the good ministry and mission
works of the Oblates continues in
Canada and throughout the world.
You could even specify an Oblate
mission that is dear to your heart.



**Communications
Coordinators:**

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www.oblatemissionassociates.ca

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**Donations for Oblate
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