

The Passionist Mission in Vietnam

Passionists learn to stand by the Cross of Jesus with his mother. They came to Vietnam in 2005 because they recognize the crucifixion of Vietnam, the heroic suffering of the people, and are drawn to stand with them. The cross overcomes suffering, and lifts people up in their daily struggle.



The Passionist community numbers four foreign priests, eight theology students, five novices, five philosophy students and 25 college students.

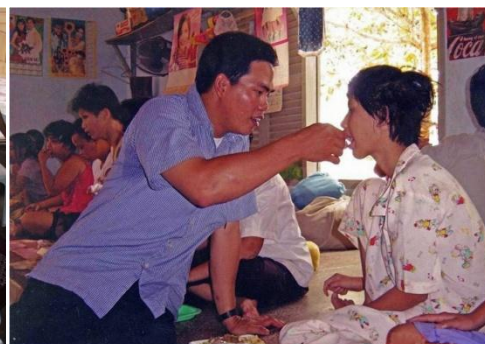
Many ask us how can missionaries survive in a Communist society? We remember that Jesus lived in a dangerous political environment where he encouraged all to render unto Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's. So we preach the gospel without hesitation, make friends with everyone, stay away from politics. You would be surprised what good we find in unexpected places, just as Jesus did. We are building! Or, to be honest, we hope to build. We have exhausted our funds, generously donated from four continents,

just buying a very small piece of land suitable for a seminary. We must double our student accommodation to avoid turning away the generous young men who are knocking on the door, wanting to dedicate their lives to God's service.

Since our foundation from Rome in 2005 we have been in a hurry. Four missionaries from four nations are working with eight young Vietnamese religious, who are soon to be ordained, to advance our Congregation's mission of uplifting the poor by the power of God's love revealed in Jesus' journey to the Cross. We need to reach the people in greatest need of the gospel, and that means training and ordaining local missionaries, leading them in service to the poor.



Listening to the Story



Feeding the Hungry



At Prayer

Last May one Bishop begged me to train the young men quickly and send them out. "The people are waiting for them," he said. Yes, there is a hunger for the good News and for social development.

We missionaries live a simple life. Public ministry is forbidden, and we can't show our identity as priests in public. Yet, we have found ways to keep very busy behind closed doors, forming the church of the future. The wonder is that we are able to continue. On our street they call our little rented house, "the house where they make priests".

Through the Mission Cooperative Plan we can tell our story to the wonderful people in your parish who have shown great generosity even in tough times. Their solidarity will bring joy and life to Vietnam!

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Our Living Room



Scraping a Living on Scrap