



Speaking the truth in love

Eph 4:15

21 March 2017

Dear Parish Priest

I write again to seek your assistance with an important mission. Communities overseas are looking to provide mentoring opportunities for local personnel and improve processes and procedures for organisations vital to achieving poverty reduction. They need qualified professional or trades people (in all areas) as well as experienced business managers and agricultural producers.

As Pope Francis reminds us: **“It is not good for us to become accustomed to a closed ecclesial “microenvironment”; it is good for us to share wide horizons, horizons open to hope, having the courage to humbly open our doors and go beyond ourselves.”**

Palms Australia, the Catholic agency that prepares and supports people for global mission and development volunteering are providing notices for you to share with parishioners. I'd be grateful if you could publish the notice of these upcoming information sessions in your parish bulletin.

You can also inform parishioners that the Church will support those who take up a global mission placement in two significant ways:

1. The Archdiocese will cover the cost of Palms' Orientation course and a re-entry weekend on return.
2. Catholic Bishops support a Lay Missionary Gratuity Fund that next year will provide a payment of \$2,500 for each year one is on this mission.

It is an opportunity to reinforce our Catholic identity, life and culture and the evangelising Mission of the Church.

Yours fraternally in Christ

Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP, DD BA LIB BTheol DPhil
Archbishop of Sydney

Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney NSW 2000, Australia

• Tel: (+61 2) 9390 5188 • Fax: (+61 2) 9261 0045 • archbishop@sydneycatholic.org