Dear Pastor and Staff,

Below is information regarding the Summer Mission Appeals (also referred to as Missionary Cooperative Plan). As recommended by the Presbyterial Council and the Bishop all parishes in the Diocese are to participate in the annual Mission Appeals.

1. Parish Selection Letters and/or Mission Selection Letters will have a copy of the Parish Assignment Confirmation Form and will be mailed to every Pastor and Mission Representative. Selection Packets will include a copy of the revised Diocesan Policies and Procedures. Please read and share with your staff since there is additional information pertaining to your Mission Appeals.

2. Missions (42) selected will all be assigned to two parishes each. Your Parish Assignment Confirmation Form will have the name of your Mission with their contact information as well as the name of second Parish assigned to the same Mission. Parish information will include all their contact information.

3. both of their assigned Parishes. Please discuss all details and any other arrangements regarding lodging at the rectory or a suitable place near the church, as well as the availability of meals, transportation, arrival dates and times to be at the parish, etc. If the Parish has not heard from the Mission Representative by the end of March, please call them so you can schedule your mutually agreed upon Mission Appeal dates. If you cannot reach your Mission Rep/Speaker please contact SPOF Mission Office for assistance.

4. Mission Appeals are to be given at the Saturday Vigil Mass and all Sunday Masses during the months of June through September. Exception to these dates, please contact the Propagation of the Faith Mission Office at 510-267-8337 for approval per the Diocesan Policies & Procedures.

When scheduling your Mission Appeal Weekend, please keep in mind the Diocesan Collections (i.e., Holy Father/Peter’s Pence Collection – Weekend of June 25-26, 2022, and Diocesan Priest Retirement Benefit Trust on September 10-11, 2022) which have already been scheduled, as well as your own scheduled parish collections. We do not want two collections scheduled for the same weekend.

5. Mission Speakers are NOT allowed to distribute their own mission envelopes, calendars or other materials or solicit additional contributions after the Mission Appeals. They cannot solicit subscriptions to mission magazines, newsletters or request Parishioner names and addresses. Nor can they solicit for sponsorship specific/named individuals (i.e., orphans, students, seminarians, etc.) and there is NO selling of any merchandise is allowed during the missionary visit to any of our Parishes.

We greatly appreciate the Pastor welcoming the visiting Mission on behalf of our Bishop and our office and rejoice in the opportunity to learn and grow from the experiences they share. Your personal introduction of your Mission Speaker to all of your parishioners goes a long way in relating the importance of the mission message being given. Parishioners should be encouraged to meet and greet the speaker and extend a personal word of welcome, as part of the mission experience.