

# HEART BEAT

A Daily Report from the 2018 USCMA Conference



## A Gathering of the Missionaries

### Meeting Jesus

Sr. Lisa Valentini kicked off the 2018 USCMA Conference with an inspiring tale of how she became a missionary sister. She shared her encounters of Christ in Latin America from Peru to the Dominican Republic to Haiti. Unity was one of the key lessons of her keynote address; “a call to holiness is linked to the call of mission.” Over the past few decades, she has consistently found Jesus in the children she encounters.

She ended her address, as she did in the beginning, with a sing-a-long.

### Meetings of the Minds

Over 100 missionaries – lay, religious and ordained – arrived today. There was a steady flow of participants gathering in the hallways of the Boston Quincy Marriott from 11am until the World Mission Dinner & Award Ceremony at 7pm.

The 2018 Pope Francis Award was given to an extraordinary missionary and a missionary society – Fr. Barthelemy Bazemo, M Afr. and the Missionary Society of Saint James the Apostle.

### Missiology:

#### The Evolution of Mission in the Church

Following the keynote address, the conference participants were given the opportunity to choose from a number of breakout sessions. Fr. Roger Schroeder led a session on the theology of mission. It has shifted from the idea of “bringing God to others” – mainly those from Western civilization to South America and Africa – to the idea that “God’s love is pouring out into all Creation.”



“We are the hands and hearts of God.”

- Sr. Lisa Valentini

At our baptism, we are asked “do you believe?” We are all called because we are baptized to spread the Word; therefore, we are all called to be missionaries. As missionaries, we must believe deeply for people to see Jesus is alive and well.

Donations are warmly welcomed and deeply appreciated. Donate [HERE](#). Membership in USCMA will connect you to the growing network of missionaries - lay, religious and ordained. To become a member, click [HERE](#). Organizational memberships are also available.