



Mission imPossible
A Monthly Update on the preparations for
the Parish Misson: 6th – 20th October 2024

Meet a Missionary: *Sister Michela from the Sisters Minor of St Francis*

1. *Can you begin by explaining why we have a specific Mission Prayer – drafted principally by Father Thé?*

Every time Jesus had to make an important decision, He withdrew to pray. We ask: wasn't it enough for Him just to ask the Father to bless His intentions? We are following His example of sustained prayer.

2. *Why have we been praying the Mission Prayer so far in advance of the actual mission?*

All the Mission preparations began well in advance. The reason is simple: without the help of the Holy Spirit, every human plan comes to nothing. We need the Holy Spirit's guidance and direction in our planning, to open our hearts, and to prepare the hearts of those we will reach out to during the mission.

3. *Can you help us understand the language of the Mission Prayer?*

The Mission prayer is divided into three parts: (1) We recall the Mystery of Jesus' Incarnation, which continues to take place today, within us. (2) Life's challenges can sometimes make us feel like "a field of dead bones", "a strong headed people", or "detached branches". However, nothing can obscure God's plan forever. By welcoming Jesus and His Spirit into our lives, we can restart our journey of faith. (3) Finally, we present some specific prayer intentions to God for gifts we often lose sight of.

4. *Can you explain the scriptural basis for the Mission Prayer?*

Ezekiel 37:1-14 describes the vision of dry bones, where the Lord commands the prophet to prophesy over them, leading to an extraordinary event. Many passages refer to a "strong headed people", such as Exodus 33:5, where the Lord speaks to Moses about the sons of Israel. Jesus himself speaks of "detached branches" in John 15:11. He is the vine, we are the branches.

Proposed Cluster Masses: (1)

Wednesday 14th August 2024 – Vigil of the Solemnity of the Assumption

18.00 St Margaret Mary – Mass of the Vigil and Barbecue following

Thursday 15th August 2024- Solemnity of the Assumption

09.15 St. Margaret Mary (Divine Worship)

12.00 Christ the King

19.00 Our Lady of the Assumption

Tuesday 24th September 2024 – Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham

09.15 St Margaret Mary

12.00 Christ the King

19.00 St Margaret Mary (Divine Worship)

Thursday 31st October – Vigil of the Solemnity of All Saints

18.00 Our Lady of the Assumption – Mass of the Vigil followed by drinks and supper.

Friday 1st November [First Friday] – Solemnity of All Saints

09.00 Christ the King (School Mass)

09.15 St Margaret Mary (School Mass)

12.00 Christ the King (Parish Mass)

19.00 Maryvale Institute

Monday 9th December 2024 – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

08.00 Convent of the Sisters Minor of St Francis

09.15 St Margaret Mary (Divine Worship)

19.00 Our Lady of the Assumption

During the last supper, Jesus makes a heartfelt appeal to remain in Him, as a branch is one with the vine. We grow as disciples in praying it together at Mass.

Agenda for the General Meeting of the Cluster to be held at 4 pm on Sunday 7th July 2024 in the St John's Centre, Christ the King

1. *Redesign of our newsletters etc:* Consideration of newsletters, websites and other methods of sharing news so as to receive Cluster information most effectively.
2. *Programme of Cluster Masses:* Discussion of the schedule of the proposed Cluster Masses between 14th August and 29th December 2024- see the two sidebars of this Supplement.
3. *Debrief from the Parish Summit held in Harrogate and sponsored by Divine Renovation and discussion of the following proposal.* This Summit was gathering of parishes from across the United Kingdom and abroad who were seeking to find solutions to the problem of non-participation of parish life of the children and parents at Catholic Schools. Hence the proposal that throughout the Cluster, the approach to the preparation of our parish children for First Holy Communion and Confirmation should change so that:
 - a. It is a partnership between school, home and parish – not just a matter for our parish primary schools;
 - b. There will no longer be a set date when all the children in a particular cohort will receive the sacraments;
 - c. Children will be more intensively prepared for the sacraments alongside their parents and will receive either First Holy Communion or Confirmation only when they and their parents are specifically ready.

The next General Meeting of the Cluster will be held on 22nd September 2024 at 4 pm in the same venue.

Note from the Editors: the full and finalised programme for the mission will be published in next month's supplement.

Proposed Cluster Masses: (2)

The Celebration of Christmas Day

Tuesday 24th December 2024

16.00 Children's Mass – St Margaret Mary

16.00 Children's Mass – Christ the King

18.00 – Our Lady of the Assumption

11.30 (PM)– St Margaret Mary

Wednesday 25th December 2024

09.30 St Margaret Mary

10.00 Christ the King

11.00 St Margaret Mary (Divine Worship)

11.30 Our Lady of the Assumption

Christmas Season before Epiphany

Thursday 26th December 2024 – Feast of St Stephen

11.00 Concelebrated Cluster Mass at Christ the King with all servers in the Cluster in the sanctuary and new enrolments for the Guild of St Stephen followed by refreshments.

Sunday 29th December 2024 – Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday Vigil Masses

12.30 pm Christ the King

18.30 pm Our Lady of the Assumption

Sunday Morning Masses

10.00 Christ the King

11.30 **St Margaret Mary (Divine Worship)**