

Mission Month



October is **Mission Month** in the church. ‘What is Mission Month?’ I hear you ask! Well let’s start with thinking about what a ‘mission’ is? Where have you ever heard that word before? Here are some of the times you might have heard it: super heroes are often on a mission, characters in video or computer games might have a mission to complete, space explorers are on a mission these days to get people to Mars. Can you think of other ‘missions’?

So we might say that a mission is a really important job or task a person is given.

JESUS’ MISSION

When Jesus was on earth, he had a mission too. His mission was ‘to show the world the love of God’ and when he was returning to God the Father, he passed this mission on to his followers. We know this because Jesus’ friends Matthew & Mark wrote about it in the Bible: ‘Jesus said to them: ‘Go out to the whole world and proclaim (tell) the good news. Make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.’



And we know that this is exactly what his disciples or followers did, because more than 2 thousand years later a huge number of people are followers of Jesus. (*Interesting fact: there are now more than 2.3 BILLION Christians in the world*).

MISSION ADVENTURE: Since the time of Jesus, very many followers of Jesus have left home and have gone to all corners of the world to make sure that as many people as possible get to hear about God and about Jesus. Not only have they told others about God's love but they have shown others the love of God through caring for children, for the poor and the sick, through teaching, through building homes, shelters, hospitals, clinics and through all sorts of other good work. Many Irish 'missionaries' have left Ireland & have brought God's love all over the world. They have had lots of strange & wonderful adventures for God in places where they did not know the language or the people's ways of doing things!



OUR MISSION: But wait, aren't we Jesus' followers too? So does this mean we have a mission? **YES!** One handy way of thinking of our mission is to think **GOAT** which stands for:



Go
Out
And
Tell



Jesus does not want us to be silent about his news that we are all loved by God. He wants us to share it! And of course that doesn't just mean talking about God's love, but also showing it to others through our actions. Jesus is not here on earth any longer, so he needs us to be his hands and feet here to do good.

Who knows maybe someday your 'mission' adventure will mean you leave Dublin to go and spread the good news about God in other places...or maybe your adventure for God will keep you busy here. In the meantime our 'mission' starts right here and now in Marino!

For you to do: visit this page

<https://www.wmi.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Childrens-Mission-Month-Resource.pdf>

for a challenge for you for every day for the rest of October.