The Missions
Foreign Mission Trust MAGAZINE
True Wisdom

Would to God the men who labor so much in gaining knowledge would give as much thought to the account they must one day give to God of the use they made of their learning and of the talents entrusted to them!

—St. Francis Xavier
Dear Faithful,

Thank you for picking up this edition of the Foreign Mission Trust Magazine. Though modest in size, there is plenty of edifying content to fill your hearts and minds. As you know, from the time of its founding to the present day, the Society of Saint Pius X (SSPX) has been a missionary fraternity, one shaped in the spirit of that great missionary and our founder, Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre. In addition to its primary end, which is the formation of Catholic priests who dispense the Church’s sacraments according to the traditional Roman Rite, the SSPX seeks those on the margins throughout the world, bringing the timeless message of the Gospel.

The Society’s missionary endeavors continue to grow, but only with your support. Prayer and almsgiving are the twin pillars that support this Apostolic work. As you will read in these pages, the SSPX’s missionary activity extends from Africa to Eastern Europe, including lands long bereft of the light of Catholicism. Estonia, for instance, was overtaken by Protestantism in the 1600s while also housing a noticeable Eastern Orthodox population. However, the travails of the 20th and 21st centuries have sent religious observance in Estonia plummeting to the point where approximately 80% of the population identifies as non-religious. Sadly, Catholics only make up 1% of the country’s population.

In Africa, where material hardships are ubiquitous, the SSPX works diligently to build and/or renovate church buildings; establish schools; and provide hungry souls with the sacraments and sound catechesis. None of this would be possible without your support. I hope, in reading the latest success stories from the region, you will give thanks to God for the blessings He has bestowed upon this holy work. At the same time, I humbly implore you to reflect on how you can assist the Society in restoring Christendom throughout the world.

Please continue to pray for the priests and religious of the SSPX and never forget that we never cease to keep you, dear faithful, in our prayers.

In Christo,

Fr. John Fullerton
Publisher
How to help the Foreign Missions:

Please make out checks or money orders in US dollars only to: “Society of Saint Pius X Foreign Mission Trust”
The mailing address is:
Society of Saint Pius X Foreign Mission Trust
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—Important note concerning the direction of donations and tax deductions: If you wish your donation to be used for a particular foreign mission, or even a specific project, please specify this in an accompanying note and do not write anything on the check. The Trustees normally honor such donor requests, but it must be clear that, in order to be eligible for a tax deduction, each donation must be entirely at the disposal of the Trust to use as it sees fit for the foreign missions in general.
Here in Kenya, like everywhere, we can say that Covid has had some positive side-effects. And now a new pandemic called the Synod is beginning to have the same results for each new day brings more new faithful. The parish has literally exploded. Recently, on the first Sunday of the month, people were amazed to see so many youth attending the Holy Mass and the parish group meetings which followed.

For almost 20 years, Holy Cross Priory has sought to evangelize Kenya’s heart: Nairobi. Situated in a crossroad, at the border between Lavington’s chic neighborhoods and Karangware’s slums, our church and school welcome both rich and poor. Based on Archbishop Lefebvre’s strategy, our three priests are joined by a strong community of pre-seminarians. Together they welcome the incessant waves of new faithful.

Holy Cross Parish is becoming a distinctive landmark in Nairobi. People know about this unique parish which never closed during the lockdown. This is the only place in Kenya where the Holy Mass is celebrated in Latin; where the mask is not compulsory; and where after Mass the faithful are so friendly. This is also the only place where the catechism isn’t based on warm, fuzzy feelings, but on the clear teaching of the Church. Because of that, and many other reasons, our parish doesn’t intend to stop growing.

To enlighten the minds and to feed the souls of all these new parishioners, some catechism book sales and a few four-hour conferences about the Mass and the crisis in the Church have been organized. Every Sunday, there are three Masses, confessions throughout the morning, and catechism classes for adults and children. In one year, the Sunday Mass attendance went from 200 to 500. Such magnificent growth!
God’s Gifts

The year of our Lord 2021 was full of blessings. Two beautiful projects have been complete successfully: the Bookshop and Guesthouse construction.

This first building had been made necessary by the circumstances. So many people are lost, searching for the truth, for something consistent to strengthen their hungry souls. It’s said that a house without a library is like a fortress without ammunition. The time had come to reload! Made of wood and glass, our new bookshop is now more than a place to sell books; it’s an incredibly efficient meeting point for the apostolate. It’s almost impos-
A community outing under blue African skies.
sible to leave Mass without taking a break in this cozy house, standing at the left side of the gate.

Not content with this first success, our architect, a gifted Kenyan of the parish, tackled the construction of a much bigger building: a beautiful guest-house. With this project, our prior had two objectives: To be able to host youth group retreats throughout the year, but also to welcome the increasing number of potential vocations. The Society of Saint Pius X was founded for the priesthood and all that pertains to it. What better work can we do than to protect and nurture vocations?

The house has been blessed by our District Superior, Fr. Wuilloud, and placed under the patronage of the one who made all the construction projects possible: St Joseph. And because nature dislike emptiness, the buildings are being filled already. Nowadays, our community is reinforced by three pre-seminarians (one has already taken the cassock in Flavigny on February 2) and three pre-postulants for the brotherhood. They must attend the community offices with us and train themselves for the seminary life. They take classes in Latin, Catechism, Liturgy, and French. God willing, they will be sent to Flavigny after one or two years of probation.

So many generous candidates in such a short time is a great blessing, and new inquiries continue to come in. Therefore, we must thank God for the past, present, and future graces.

Next Steps

In May, our school will be fully transitioned to the Cambridge International Curriculum. The goal of this move is to ensure our Catholic freedom in several areas: the timetable, the calendar, the subjects taught, and so on. Thanks to

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Facts

**Religion in Kenya**

The country has an area of 225,000 square miles and a population of 35.5 million. Approximately 80 percent of the country is Christian, 10 percent is Muslim, less than 1 percent is Hindu, Sikh, and Baha’i, while the remainder follows various traditional indigenous religions. Protestants comprise 58 percent of Christians, and Roman Catholics 42 percent.

The North Eastern Province, where the population is predominantly ethnic Somali, is home to 15 percent of the Muslim population. Sixty percent of the Muslim population lives in Coast Province, comprising 50 percent of the total population there. Western areas of Coast Province are mostly Christian.

The upper part of Eastern Province is home to 16 percent of the country’s Muslims, where they are the majority religious group. Apart from a small ethnic Somali population in Nairobi, the rest of the country is largely Christian.

Upper Eastern, North Eastern, and Coast Provinces, which together are home to approximately 75 percent of the Muslim population, have less developed infrastructure, lower levels of education, and higher levels of poverty and unemployment than many other parts of the country.
that flexibility, it will be easier to provide a true Catholic education — eliminating the influence of the protestant spirit present in the Kenyan curriculum. Of course, this is a big change, and quite frightening for some of our teachers who are not yet comfortable with this new curriculum. A month-long training session will be organized with our new experienced headteacher to facilitate the transition.

At the same time, we want to gradually open a secondary school, giving an opportunity for our students to benefit from good teaching and the sacraments throughout their schooling.

Since the school building is too small, we need to renovate it and add a second floor in order to relocate the primary section. On the ground floor will be offices for administration and accounting, a huge hall for meals, and a new kitchen. For this construction project, stones, mud, wood and other natural materials will be used to provide lower prices and a better finish. The estimated cost of this work is $80,000… Yes, it could be less… but it could easily be more!

The work will need to take place during the Easter holidays. It will be two months of nonstop work, day and night, otherwise the building will not be ready for the start of the school year. It’s an important step in the history of our school. We are starting to play with the big boys… but we’re still very small.

**Long Term Outlook**

But what about the parish? After pulling down a wall of the church to give the growing number of faithful the opportunity to attend Sunday Mass, we have closed the opening with some large wooden sliding windows. They remain closed during the week to keep out the street noise and are opened on Sundays. This is just a temporary solution, however, and the new church plan is already being made.

Our architect had quite a hard time settling on the best plan. There are so many options, which will be the best one? Several criteria have helped us to choose. The main goal is to be able to host a maximum number of faithful, including their cars. To meet this goal, a huge parking lot will be constructed at the ground level and covered by a concrete slab on which the church will be built. The church… let’s say the cathedral… will accommodate around one thousand faithful. With a church that size, it should be at least a few years before we need to build a bigger one!
Like a Mustard Seed
Mission in Cape Town, South Africa

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed, which is indeed the least of all seeds, but grows to become a mighty tree. (Lk. 13:19)

Archbishop Lefebvre spent most of his life working for the salvation of the people of Africa, firstly as a priest in the missions of Gabon, then as a seminary professor, and finally as Archbishop of Dakar and Apostolic Nuncio for all of French-speaking Africa. His great zeal for the salvation of souls and the transmission of the Catholic Faith would lead to the foundation of the Society of Saint Pius X and its numerous missions throughout the world.

Beginnings of the Society of Saint Pius X in Africa

Having given a greater part of his life for the salvation of the African people, Archbishop Lefebvre would return to this continent to preserve Catholic Tradition. Yet it would not be in Gabon or Dakar that he would begin the work of the Society in Africa, but rather in the very southern tip of the continent, the Cape of Good Hope — the city of Cape Town.

In August 1981, Archbishop Lefebvre bestowed the sacrament of confirmation on a half-dozen souls and gave a conference which was very well attended. Many priests, encouraged by his words and example, continued to celebrate the Mass of their ordination and to help the relatively small flock of souls faithful to the Faith of their ancestors. When the Archbishop ordained English-speaking priests, he sent several of them to South Africa and to Cape Town.

The beginnings of the work in Cape Town were truly humble — the tiny mustard seed. Often Mass could only be at irregular intervals, and some-
times only once a month. Having been thrown out of the church buildings which were built for the Mass, the Holy Sacrifice was offered in Boy Scout halls or conference rooms. Yet due to the devotion and zeal of the priests and faithful, the Faith was preserved. Many souls converted to the true Faith. The small seed planted by the Archbishop and watered by the grace of the sacraments of the Church, soon became a great shelter for souls.

Purchase of the First Property

After many years, this small pilgrim chapel found its first permanent home and a small property was purchased. Formerly a post office for the town of Pinelands, this property was transformed by the tireless work of Brother Vincent (2018). Due to the prayers and sacrifices of many, this chapel served for many years as a beacon of perseverance and hope for the faithful attached to Tradition.

Purchase of a Church

The mustard seed had grown into a large tree and it was soon necessary to find a larger property in Cape Town. After many a Novena to Our Lady of Good Success, an extraordinary opportunity presented itself just 300 meters from our previous chapel. The local Presbyterian congregation was looking to sell their property. After several months of negotiations, we were able to purchase this property with the help of a loan from Menzingen and a very generous benefactor. We continue to struggle to pay off these loans, but Divine Providence has helped us so consistently that we do not doubt that we will be able to pay this debt quickly.

The property is truly a great gift of God for the faithful not only in Cape Town, but in all of Africa. There is a large church, mostly Roman in style, that can comfortably seat 200 people. Next there is a large hall that can be used for parish functions and serves also for conferences and instruction. Six classrooms can also accommodate several dozen children for our primary school. There are two kitchens for the school and parish as well as a small hall that serves as a refectory for the children. The large priory can house as many as four priests who, God willing, may soon be able to reside here permanently in community.
The church is also located in a very safe neighborhood (an important asset in Africa) and is surrounded by a town square and public grounds that will ensure the chapel's visibility and the stability of the area for generations to come. It is centrally located, making it accessible to the entire population of Cape Town. There is also an international airport about fifteen minutes away making the property an ideal location for serving the chapels of Namibia and Port Elizabeth, and even the entire continent of Africa.

**Much Work to Be Done**

There is, however, much work to be done. The church must be renovated to make it suitable for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The interior roof is decaying and must be refurbished for both aesthetics and acoustics, which will be a rather expensive task. The sanctuary must be re-fashioned to receive an altar and suitably decorated to give glory to God during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The aging, carpeted floor also needs to be redone in tile or stone. An architect has already made a survey of the building and we hope to begin the work as soon as we have the means. But for the moment we are still very much in need of funds to bring this work of God to completion.

The good Lord gives His gifts not only for the faithful who ask for them, but also for the common good. Indeed, God grants us a great grace in allowing us to participate in building the Kingdom of Heaven, that our happiness may be not just a gift but also a reward. The Church is strengthened by the sacrifices we make to build up our parishes, but the help we give to other communities redounds as a double blessing of gratitude upon our own community. We do hope with your help to be able to make this magnificent property a truly edifying monument to the Catholic faith, a light of encouragement to the peoples of South Africa, and a means to spread the hope of eternal life throughout the entire continent.
Lift up Your Eyes

Do you not say, There are yet four months, and then the harvest cometh? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes, and see the countries; for they are white already to harvest.

— Jn. 4:35
Modern Estonia is a developed country, with a high-income advanced economy. It has consistently ranked highly in international rankings for quality of life, education, press freedom, digitalization of public services, and the prevalence of technology companies. Despite its material wealth, however, Estonia is a country in profound spiritual poverty. A study jointly conducted by London’s St. Mary’s University and the Institut Catholique de Paris in 2018 showed that among Estonians aged 16 to 29, just 19% were Christians (13% Orthodox, 3% Protestant, 1% Catholic and 1% other Christian denominations) and 80% were not religious at all.

In addition, a 2008 Gallup poll showed that a mere 14% of Estonians answered positively to the question: “Is religion an important part of your daily life?” — the lowest among the 143 countries surveyed. Unlike most of Western Europe and America, religion has never played an important role on the political or ideological battlefield in Estonia. Any religious culture or tradition that remained in the 20th century ended with the Soviet occupation in 1940 and their policy of state atheism.
Currently, there is not even one Catholic diocese in all of Estonia. The Vatican has only erected an “Apostolic Administration” and there are only about a dozen or so Catholic parishes in the entire country. Yet, in this land of spiritual darkness, the traditional Catholic Faith is growing from a spark to a steady flame.

In the Beginning

The traditional Latin Mass Movement first came to Estonia in the eighties, almost 40 years ago, when an Estonian priest, Fr. Einar Laigna, gathered a group of young people around traditional liturgy and teaching. The first missionary of the SSPX, Fr. Jean-Marc Roulleau, established contact with Estonian Catholics in 1991. Until 2015, the Masses were celebrated in temporary places — from the apartments of the faithful or those rented by the SSPX, to medieval houses in the old town, to a medieval sacristy of a Dominican monastery. In 2013, the SSPX purchased a piece of land in a beautiful area of

Facts:
The Republic of Estonia is in Northern Europe. It is bordered to the north by the Gulf of Finland to the west, by the Baltic Sea across from Sweden, to the south by Latvia, and to the east by Russia. The medieval indigenous population of Estonia was one of the last “pagan” civilizations in Europe to adopt Christianity following a Crusade led by Pope Innocent III in the 13th century. While the Catholic Faith held a foothold in Estonia for three centuries, the Protestant Reformation in central Europe began in 1517, and soon spread northward. Estonian towns were the first to embrace Protestantism in the 1520s, and by the 1530s most of the landowners and rural population had adopted Lutheranism as well. Tallinn is the capital and largest city of Estonia. Tallinn occupies an area of 159.2 km² and has a population of 438,569. It is situated on the northern coast of the country, on the shore of the Gulf of Finland, 80 km south of Helsinki, east of Stockholm and west of Saint Petersburg.
Tallinn with the goal of building a mission center and a dignified place for offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. 

After much prayer, work, and sacrifice, in 2014 they finally received all the necessary permissions to begin the project. The plan had 2 major stages: Stage 1: to build a little rectory for the priests which could also be used as a temporary chapel; and Stage 2: to build a suitable Church. On the Feast of Epiphany in 2015 the rectory with its temporary chapel, dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, was blessed by Fr. Lukas Weber, the then superior of the Autonomous House of Eastern Europe. The chapel, which can accommodate about 32 people, has been since the nucleus of the mission in Estonia for 6 years. Yet with the growth of the faithful in Tallinn, this temporary chapel has become much too small.

The Light of Faith in Tallinn

The Church of the Immaculate Heart of the Virgin Mary is a truly historic undertaking. It is the very first Catholic Church

The massive cornerstone, made of limestone, carries the following text: “In honorem Beatae Mariae Virginis Terrae Marianae Regnae Immaculati Cordis A.D. MMXXII.”
to be constructed in Tallinn since the Protestant Reformation in the early 16th Century. It is a physical manifestation of the spiritual growth of the faithful in this Godless region.

As of this writing, the concrete basement has been completed, along with two sets of concrete stairs. The construction of walls, columns, and arches is now underway. It is hoped that this phase of construction will be completed by the end of summer to allow for the construction of the roof in the fall.

On Low Sunday, April 24, 2022, the cornerstone of the future church was solemnly installed. With the presence of the parish members as well as numerous visitors, the beautiful ceremony was conducted by Father Karl Stehlin. The massive cornerstone, made of limestone, carries following text: “In honorem Beatae Mariae Virginis Terrae Marianae Regiae Immaculati Cordis A.D. MMXXII.” It is hoped that this physical reminder of our Lady’s care for her children in Estonia will be only the beginning of a spiritual rebirth in this land darkened by the spirit of atheism.
The Society of Saint Pius X is an international priestly society of almost 700 priests. Its main purpose is the formation and support of priests.

The goal of the Society of Saint Pius X is to preserve the Catholic Faith in its fullness and purity, not changing, adding to or subtracting from the truth that the Church has always taught, and to diffuse its virtues, especially through the Roman Catholic priesthood. Authentic spiritual life, the sacraments, and the traditional liturgy are its primary means to foster virtue and sanctity and to bring the divine life of grace to souls.

Faithful to the words of Our Lord—“Going therefore, teach ye all nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost”—the Society of Saint Pius X strives to bring the Gospel and Tradition to souls around the world. As a lifelong missionary, Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre passed on this charism to the Society. This magazine aims to both inform souls about the work of the missions and how they can be helped.