



# HLI MISSION REPORT

PRO-LIFE MISSIONARIES TO THE WORLD

Mission Report No. 321

ISSN 0899-420x

September 2011

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Dear HLI friends and supporters,

This month we bring you two reports that, as always, show you the great need for HLI around the world and the admirable zeal with which our missionaries for life carry out their work. First, Mario Rojas reports from Chile, a country with deep Catholic roots but which nevertheless suffers from the ravages of the culture of death. As in so many countries, the population there is getting older and is shrinking. But Mario and Fr. Juan Carlos Chávez are relentlessly preaching the Gospel of Life and training those who can have the greatest long-term impact: priests and seminarians.



*Fr. Shenan J. Boquet,  
President*

Next, the very talented and multi-lingual Raymond de Souza reports from his homeland, Australia, and from Portuguese-Speaking East Timor, where he is laying the groundwork for a future pro-life movement. As you will see from his report, Raymond's gift for communicating the message of life is as effective among Church leaders as it is among high school students.

**MISSIONARY TRIP TO CHILE—Reported by Mario Rojas, April - May 2011.**

Located in southwestern South America, Chile's steady economic growth has brought greater affluence and opportunity. The capital city of Santiago, for example, has transformed into one of Latin America's most modern metropolitan areas, with extensive suburban development, dozens of shopping centers, and impressive high-rise architecture.

With a current population is 16.9 million, however, Chile is getting older as a nation. Currently about 22.3% of the population is below 14 years of age; 68.1% of the population is between 15 and 64 years; and 9.6% are 65 years old and over.

According to demographic experts, a fertility rate of 2.11 children per family is required to maintain a society over time. Unfortunately, **Chile has a fertility rate of about 1.88 children per family**; and if those figures do not change, Chile also runs the risk of becoming an even older society with fewer people contributing to the economic development of the country.

**ECONOMIC PROGRESS, RELIGIOUS DECLINE**

Chile is traditionally Catholic, and the Roman Catholic Church enjoys the highest favorable view among the major religions. Under the Marxist rule of Salvador Allende, the Church suffered persecution and marginalization until 1973, when he was deposed by a military coup led by Augusto Pinochet Allende. Pinochet ruled until a freely elected president was installed



*“You have open my eyes to realities that I had not taken seriously before. Such realities have shaken me, but at the same time they have motivated me to become a strong defender of life....”*

—Fr. Juan Agustín Bravo SJ

in 1990, but he established sound and consistent economic policies during the 1980s, which contributed to steady growth, reduced poverty, and commitment to democracy. Chile has increasingly assumed regional and international leadership roles befitting its status as a stable, democratic nation. Unfortunately, as we see in too many other economically growing nations, few young people practice their faith.

The current President is Sebastián Piñera Echenique, Chile’s first democratically elected conservative leader after more than half a century. Piñera has done much good work to defend unborn human life. Unfortunately, he has recently affirmed that he will present a legislative bill to allow homosexual unions.

The anti-family groups that have long opposed the Catholic Church, including the international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are exploiting the president’s openness to false “marriage” with the general population.

### **1,000 MILES FOR LIFE**

Fr. Juan Carlos Chávez, Director of the Latin American Network of Priests and Seminarians for Life (REDESSVIDA), and I were able to make a missionary trip to all five Archdioceses (Antofagasta, La Serena, Santiago, Concepción and Puerto Montt). **We spoke to bishops, priests, seminarians and as many key players of society as possible about life and family issues and the threats of the culture of death.** This mission trip was made possible largely due to the cooperation of the Family Pastoral Offices in each Archdiocese and the deans of the seminaries that were visited.

As a result, pro-life talks were given to several seminaries, schools, convents, and parishes. There were also several radio, newspaper and TV interviews given in which we discussed the threats of population control and how to promote the Gospel of Life.

### **MINERS AND TOURIST INDUSTRY WORKERS HEAR THE GOSPEL OF LIFE**

Antofagasta is located about 700 miles north of Santiago and has a current population of 260,000. The city is one of the mining capitals of northern Chile, with many workers passing through on their way to or from a mine. Since there is a great deal of migration, the rate of unwed women is quite high. Church attendance is also rather low, making the evangelization efforts more difficult.

Monsignor Pablo Lizama SJ, Archbishop of Antofagasta, authorized Fr. Juan Agustín Bravo SJ, Family Vicar of the Archdiocese, to organize a complete agenda for our visit. One high point was that we were able to give a presentation to 12 members of the very famous Las Tachuelas Circus, which once gave a performance before Blessed Pope John Paul II!

At the end of the visit, Fr. Agustín said, “I was blessed these days with this visit ... You have open my eyes to realities that I had not taken seriously before. Such realities have shaken me,



*Fr. Juan Carlos Chávez (right) with Monsignor Pablo Lizama, Archbishop of Antofagasta, Chile.*

but at the same time they have motivated me to become a strong defender of life....”

La Serena is located about 293 miles north of Santiago and, including the surrounding areas, its population is about 400,000. The city is an important tourist destination, especially during the summer.

Thanks to the full support of Fr. Dikson Yañez, Dean of the Major Seminary Saint John Mary Vianney, Monsignor Luis Gleisner, Auxiliary Bishop of La Serena Archdiocese, and Patricia Petit, Family Pastoral coordinator, **we were able to reach seminarians, contemplative nuns, family pastoral leaders and high school students.** After we spoke to the seminarians, Fr. Yañez expressed his gratitude for the important and timely information presented to the future priests.



*Fr. Juan Carlos Chávez with Monsignor Juan Ignacio Gonzalez, Bishop of San Bernardo Diocese and priests and seminarians of Saint Peter Apostle Seminary in San Bernardo, Chile.*

### **A GREAT RECEPTION IN THE CAPITAL**

The population of Santiago, where the Executive Power is located, is 5.5 million persons. The Legislative Power is located in Valparaíso, about one hour drive from the capital.

We gave a lecture to 20 seminarians, 4 priest teachers and the dean of Saint Peter the Apostle Seminary, with the support of Bishop Juan Ignacio Gonzalez of the Diocese of Bernardo. After we spoke, he said, “The lectures were excellent. I think it was a very enlightening presentation of the situation the world is facing today, and about the necessity to respect human life. I want to thank Human Life International for all the efforts made and the material that was provided to us.”

We were able to visit of the tomb of Saint Alberto Hurtado, one of Chile’s most popular saints. Fr Chávez and Mario Rojas prayed for our benefactors, HLI, REDESSVIDA and the pro-life movement.

We also spoke at the Guardian Angels Pontifical Seminary to 66 seminarians, 4 professor priests and Msgr. Fernando Ramos, Dean of the Seminary.

### **VISIT TO CONCEPCIÓN**

Displaying the city names that demonstrate the nation’s Catholic heritage, Concepción is the second largest metropolitan area after Santiago, with almost 900,000 inhabitants. Located south of Santiago, Concepción



*Fr. Juan Carlos Chávez (left), Monsignor Fernando Ramos, Dean of Guardian Angels Seminary (center), and Mario Rojas.*

suffered last year from a huge earthquake, followed by a tsunami. The scars are still visible in many parts of the region, and many people near the seashore line are still living in tents.

The dean, professors, and 37 seminarians at Metropolitan Seminary of Concepción were very receptive to the message of the need to fight for life and family. Seminarian Rodrigo Briones in particular was grateful for the distance HLI traveled to share the Gospel of Life.

After a lecture to 20 Carmelite contemplative nuns, Fr. Chavez and I were told that they would renew their commitment to pray for priests, seminarians and add HLI, REDESSVIDA and the pro-life movement to their prayers as well! The poster of Our Lady of Guadalupe was touched to the miraculous tilma and given in Mexico to Fr. Chávez.



*Above left: Seminarians from the Metropolitan Seminary of Concepción, Chile.*

*Above right: Fr. Chávez speaking to Carmelite nuns in Concepción.*

### **REACHING THE YOUNG WITH THE GOSPEL OF LIFE**

Situated 570 miles south of Santiago, the 176,000 inhabitants of Puerto Montt live in and operate the main seaport in southwest Chile. The city is the principal commercial, services, and financial hub of the region, known as Chilean Northern Patagonia—Zona Austral. Its economy is now based primarily on agriculture, cattle, forestry on the surrounding islands, and fishing and salmon aquaculture in the fjords and nearby Pacific Ocean. It is the fastest growing city in southern Chile, mainly because of the explosive growth of the salmon industry.

Fr. Rigoberto García, Archdiocesan Pastoral Vicar, accompanied us during our travels through Puerto Montt, where **we spoke to about 650 students of 4 different high schools and several teachers at Arriarán Barros School gymnasium.** The feedback was excellent. At the end of the lecture, Fr. Daniel Acuña, Vicar of Education, as well as a teacher and two students, expressed much gratitude for what they had learned.

Fr. Chávez was honored to concelebrate Mass at the Cathedral with Archbishop Caro, who allowed him to speak to the 500 parishioners present. Later we had lunch at his residence, where we discussed the missionary



*Fr. Chávez speaking to high school students in Puerto Montt, Chile.*

work of HLI. He invited us back for the Family Week celebration that takes place in October, when we will speak to 500 professors of religion, the entire group of diocesan priests, and to students and teachers in at least 18 of its Catholic high schools.

### **A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SPEAKS OF HER EXPERIENCE**

A student, Nicole Vargas, spoke very movingly: “I wish you could have come sooner with the message of chastity before marriage.... A lecture like this was never given before in this school... Last year I got pregnant and decided to keep my baby ....The video about the hard reality of abortion and human sexuality moved me deeply because I lived through such an experience and was pressured to have an abortion....lectures like this should be given in every school in Chile”.

Like the rest of Latin America, Chile has long had a Catholic, pro-life and pro-family culture; but also like its neighbors, these values are under severe attack. The wonderful feedback we heard from our Chilean brothers and sisters reminds us of the urgency needed in promoting the Gospel of Life, so that Chile may begin to recover its Catholic roots and to return to its strong love for life and family. Key to this work are these types of mission trips, especially reaching out to priests and seminarians, who will have a great and lasting impact. To a person, those we spoke to were grateful to HLI, REDESSVIDA and our supporters for making this evangelization possible! 🙏



*Fr. Chávez speaking about HLI and REDESSVIDA after Sunday Mass celebration in Puerto Montt, Chile.*

### **MISSIONARY TRIP TO AUSTRALIA AND EAST TIMOR—Reported by Raymond de Souza, July - August 2011.**

My speaking engagements in Australia were organized by a Catholic apostolate involved in promoting Catholic Apologetics, *Parousia Media*. I combine talks on the Gospel of Life with Catholic Apologetics, and experience has shown that the positive results are both visible and durable. The four-day visit to East Timor was organized by the Dili archdiocese, in combination with a group of people from the movement Couples for Christ. Both organizers saw to it that HLI would not incur any expenses in this trip apart from the airfare.

#### **VISIT TO AUSTRALIA**

After a 14-hour trip from Los Angeles, I arrived in Sydney in the morning of July 30 and in the afternoon addressed a group of some 50 people at St. Dominic’s parish, whose pastor is a great apologist and pro-lifer, Fr. Peter Joseph. On the same day I was received by the Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney, the Most Rev. Julian Porteous, who kindly hosted me at his own house.

On Sunday I addressed some 300 people at Our Lady of Lebanon parish on the Message of Our Lady of Fatima and the expansion of the errors of Russia, of which abortion was the first. On Monday I went to Melbourne, where I addressed some 100 young people at the monthly meeting of “Theology on Tap” on the basics of Natural Law, which is but a summary of the talks I gave on EWTN, in the context of the Culture of Life. On Tuesday another group of 300 people heard



a talk in a parish hall on the issue of “De-Christianization and the Gospel of Life,” which was particularly well-received. The priest wants me to go back to Melbourne sometime next year to give a full-day seminar. More on that later.

On Wednesday, I was back to Sydney to address some 200 young people at the St. Charbel parish of the Lebanese community – the most actively pro-life youth in Australia – and on Thursday the talk was given to a group of some 150 young people from the St. Margaret Mary’s parish on the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the fight against abortion. Friday was the last talk – about 350 people– on the issue of defining good and evil in terms of the Natural Law and the Culture of Life.

On Saturday a farewell breakfast was held at a Lebanese restaurant, with some 20 key people, which ended with a serious commitment on their part to promote the New Evangelization and the Gospel of Life.



*Raymond de Souza (right), meeting with His Excellency Alberto Ricardo da Silva.*

### VISIT TO EAST TIMOR

On the following day (Sunday) after I left for East Timor, arriving there on Monday morning. A friend from the group “Couples for Christ” picked me up at the airport and took me immediately to meet the diocesan Bishop of Dili, East Timor’s capital city, who kindly received me in his office. **His Excellency Alberto Ricardo da Silva made it very clear to me that HLI is most welcome to work in his diocese, and he indicated his desire to have a committed pro-life/ evangelization group working in close cooperation with HLI.**

I was lodged at the convent house of the Sisters of St. Paul of Chartres, where the Superior, Sister Bibiane, who is also the provincial of the congregation for East Timor, did her utmost to make me comfortable and welcome in the community and

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country. Without giving me time to rest, the Vicar General of the Diocese, the young Fr. Ludgerio, came to the house to pick me up to take me to visit the seminary and later in the afternoon to give a talk to some 30 people — most of them young — on the issue of chastity and modesty in dress.



*Raymond addressing a youth group on chastity.*

On the following day, a pro-life forum was held for some 50 nuns and priests on the Gospel of Life, in which I was able to give concrete suggestions for new initiatives, always within the context of prayer, study and action. The day ended with a two-hour interview for the Catholic radio, which they will tailor to produce a series of 15-minute presentation to broadcast on a regular basis.

On the last day, I had a workshop with two priests and two nuns who form the pro-life committee, and we were able to make specific plans in the areas of education in parishes and prayer for life initiatives so that by forming more educated voters, a pro-life outcome might be fostered in upcoming elections.

More concretely, a ‘Catholic Electoral League’ is planned to be formed — not a political party — to ask specific questions to candidates and have their answers publicized. An “East

Timor Family Manifesto” will be prepared to list the “non-negotiable issues” to be defended at the elections, which include the total prohibition of abortion, pornography and prostitution.

With the exception of this workshop, which was held in English, all the talks and radio interviews were held in Portuguese (for those who understand it) and included a translation into the local language, Tetun, which is spoken by everyone. Although Portuguese is still the official language, it is spoken only by the older and more educated people. Everybody speaks Indonesian alongside their native Tetun because of the Indonesian occupation of 24 years. But today, university students prefer to learn English because of the influence of Australia.



*Raymond with Couples for Christ.*

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The last event in this visit was a dinner with several couples of the movement Couples for Christ, who were delighted to know about the work of HLI and the Apologetics promotions I carry out. They promise to start putting aside one evening a week to study Catholic doctrine and morals in order to better equip themselves for the battle against the culture of death.

On the cultural side, the official name of East Timor in the Tetun language is *Timor-Lorosai*, literally meaning “Timor-rising sun,” which is a beautiful name for the country. And the word “God” in the native language is the same as “Light”... which creates a problem for reciting the Nicene Creed, which says, “God of God, light of light”. So they say ‘Light of Light, and shine of shine...’ very interesting!

A pro-life curiosity in the Tetun language: the word “pregnant” referring to a woman is *isinrua*, which means literally ‘two-bodies’ (*isin* = body; *rua* = two), which clearly indicates that in a pregnancy there are two persons, not just one, the woman. So, in Timor one refers to a pregnant woman as a “two-body”... remarkable!

### CONCRETE PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

I will assist them in preparing the “*Timor-Lorosai Familia Manifesto*” and will record CDs in Portuguese on religious and pro-life issues to send to them for broadcasting and copying for distribution. They agreed to report back to me on their activities so that we may work in unison.

The visit to Timor-Lorosai was a tiring but joyful experience, and, with the intercession of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, the Patroness of this little country, **soon an HLI affiliate or associate will be established and active in that Portuguese-speaking enclave in the Indonesian archipelago.**

Next year, Timor will celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of the Portuguese navigators, who brought the Catholic Faith to their land. Great celebrations are on the drawing-board, including a conference of the Portuguese-speaking Bishops of the world to be held in Dili. This conference is held once every three years in a different Portuguese-speaking country (the previous one was in Macau, China). Perhaps it might be a good idea to have a solid HLI presence on that occasion. ✠

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Dear friends, it is thanks to your generous support – and to your prayers – that HLI continues its work and ever widens

its missionary field. Please consider sending your gift again this month, and help us keep our missionaries in the field!

God bless you always!

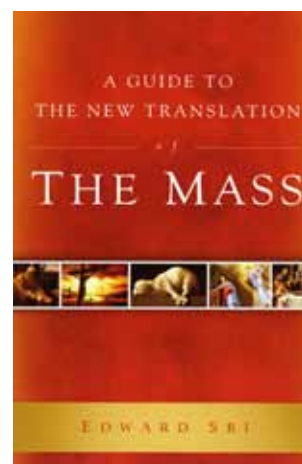


Fr. Shenan J. Boquet  
President

**P.S.—** This month, to thank you for your contribution of \$49 to HLI’s mission, **I’d like to send you two copies of a booklet called “A Guide to the New Translation of The Mass” by Dr. Edward Sri.**

This booklet will be an excellent resource as you prepare your family for the new English translation of the Mass, which will be implemented in Advent 2011. In it, Dr. Sri discusses why we will have a new translation. He also summarizes some of the changes taking place and expounds upon their meaning. **Included with this booklet is a tear-out reference card that highlights the revised responses of the laity.**

Use this guide to help you and those you know grow in understanding of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Pass it along to your pastor for use in your parish. Dr. Sri states, “It is my prayer that this booklet will help you develop not only a greater awareness of the upcoming changes in the translation of the Mass, but also a deeper appreciation for the Liturgy itself and a deeper love for Jesus in the Eucharist.”



Two copies of “A Guide to the New Translation of The Mass” is our gift to you this month in appreciation for your financial support of \$49 or more!