

There is a beautiful story which tells about Jesus that after his Ascension into Heaven and after grand welcome ceremony got over, the holy angels began to enquire about his work on earth. Jesus told them about his birth, life, preaching, death and Resurrection, and how he had accomplished the salvation of the world.

The angel Gabriel who worked as journalist for Heaven Times, asked, “Well, now that you are back in Heaven, who will continue your work on earth?”

Jesus said, "While I was on earth, I gathered a group of people around me who believed in me and loved me. I have told them to preach the good news of God’s kingdom till the end of the earth.”

As journalist the angel Gabriel continued to dig in further with his questions, "You mean the Apostles, who ran away during your crucifixion and their leader, Peter, who denied you three times. You mean to tell us that you left them to carry on your work? And what if they fail, do you have any plan B?"

Jesus replied, “No, I have no other plan B. I have entrusted everything to my disciples”

Yes, indeed Jesus has no other plan B but has left the responsibilities on us his followers to establish the kingdom of God. He is not coming back again if we fail or do not do our job. He will come only at the end time in glory and power for the final judgement.

This weekend, the 29th Sunday of the year we also celebrate Mission Sunday which reminds us of our responsibilities which Jesus has left on our shoulders, his disciples, to spread God’s kingdom to the end of the earth. This is a challenge for all of us to realize that mission is not just something that is carried out by so called missionaries in other parts of the world. But that mission is about our own country, our own parish and our own family. As baptized Christians mission is part of our DNA.

In today’s Gospel reading for mission Sunday Jesus tells his disciples then and all of us now, “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.” Pay attention, Jesus is saying whole creation—not even just the whole human world, but the whole of creation, the cosmos. Which includes being good stewards of all God’s creation.

That is what Pope Francis is trying to do these days with Amazonian Synod in Rome.

How are we to accomplish this goal?

The most powerful means of fulfilling this goal is by living a truly Christian life — a life filled with love, mercy, kindness, compassion and a forgiving spirit. Hence, the most important thing is not the Gospel we preach, but the life we live. Through your exemplary life can you bring at least one fallen away Catholic back to church?

Prayer is the most powerful means of missionary work, which one can do from home. Missionaries work under very hard situations sometimes endangering their lives, so they need our prayers. Besides success of the any type of missionary work depends on prayer. St. Therese of Child Jesus never went out of her convent walls, she is one of the patron saints of missions only because of her prayers for the missions. Can I see more and more parishioners, spending an hour in front of Blessed sacrament on first Friday or praying rosaries before mass for the missionaries

And finally, all missionary efforts also require financial support because the love of God can often be explained to the poor only by providing them with food and means of livelihood. The sick can experience the healing power of Jesus only through the dedicated service of doctors, nurses, and health care workers. Hospitals and nursing homes require funding. The use of expensive modern media of communication is often necessary to bring Christ's message of love and liberation more effectively to non-Christians in the modern world.

Mission Sunday collection gives us concrete opportunity to support the mission works all over the world. Similarly, from last weekend we have started our annual CSA campaign, the collection from CSA helps our diocese to fulfill her missionary responsibilities. During our recent Priest Institute, main topic was stewardship. How to make our parishes steward parishes as in the diocese of Wichita, Kansas. Bishop McKnight's vision is to make our diocese also a steward diocese. Stewardship is nothing but gratitude. Showing gratitude to God for all the many blessings we have received from God by sharing his blessings with our time talents and treasures and fulfill our missionary mandate.

Mrs. Smith thought of a very unique way to bring her fallen away husband back to the church. One Sunday during collection as she was fumbling in her purse for her offering envelope, when a large television remote fell out and clattered into the aisle.

The curious usher bent over to retrieve it for her and whispered, "Do you always carry your TV remote to church?"

"No," she replied, "my husband refuses to come with me for mass, and I figured this was the evillest thing I could do to him legally."