

*Missionary Cooperative Plan - 2024*  
*Rules and Regulation*  
*Diocese of Scranton, Pennsylvania*

**Regulation 1:** Only Groups approved by the Diocesan Bishop and Diocesan Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith may share in the privileges of the MCP Plan.

**Regulation 2:** All assigned churches must be accepted by the mission group. Every church in the Diocese will be visited yearly. Missionaries are expected to speak at all of the parish masses, including evening masses. They should not be excused from masses which are lightly attended. All who come to weekend masses should hear their message.

**Regulation 3:** Missionaries may not solicit magazine subscriptions or memberships of any kind, or, in any way, gather names and addresses. **Envelopes cannot be used.** **Visiting missionaries are not permitted to organize small local mission groups to solicit funds.**

**Regulation 4:** Parish dates should be submitted to the Pontifical Mission Societies office. If you are experiencing any difficulties setting dates, fulfilling commitments, etc., please call us at (570) 207-2238. Keep in mind that the Pastor selects the dates, not the Missionary. Appeals dates should take into consideration other Diocesan collections which may be scheduled.

**Regulation 5:** If a Missionary wishes to stay in the parish where he or she is making the appeal, it is the responsibility of the Missionary to contact the Pastor of the parish, in advance, to make sure that he is able to provide lodging. The Pastor is not obligated to provide lodging.

**Regulation 6:** Transportation is the responsibility of the group for the Missionary making the appeal.

**Regulation 7:** The **Affidavit of Suitability**, certifying that all speakers are of good moral character and reputation, must be submitted to the Mission Office. An affidavit is required for all Missionaries.

**Regulation 8:** As approved by the Bishop of the Diocese, the following conditions are to be observed when a non-clerical representative speaks at Masses: the presentation should be made before Mass, after communion, or at the discretion of the Pastor. The presentation is not a substitute for a homily. The Missionary should use materials from the day's readings and information about their own mission. Missionaries should center their talk regarding their community or diocese and not on money.

**Regulation 9:** Missionaries should send a reminder letter or call the Pastor at least three (3) weeks before the appeal, to give them information regarding the Missionary that will be coming (name, time of arrival, cell phone number, etc.). We suggest a pulpit announcement at all masses the Sunday before the appeal, or a bulletin announcement.

**Regulation 10:** To ensure proper accounting and timely distribution of funds to the MCP, please forward all payments to the *The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 300 Wyoming Ave, Scranton, PA 18503*, with a completed Report Sheet, within one (1) month after the appeal. When all parishes have submitted their collections, this office will provide the MCP a check representing the proceeds of the collection. *Please complete all MCP Appeals by August 31<sup>st</sup>.*