

Sponsoring Organization



Divine Word Missionaries is an international, multicultural group of over 6000 Catholic priests and Brothers who work in over 70 countries around the world. Our mission compels us to minister "first and foremost where the Gospel has not yet been preached at all or only insufficiently, and where the local church is not yet viable on its own" (SVD Constitutions).

Our ministries are vast and varied. Divine Word Missionaries are involved in primary evangelization, in parish work in mission churches, or work with immigrants in first-world countries. They teach in primary, secondary, or university settings. SVDs serve in formation programs which prepare future priests and brothers. Divine Word Missionaries work in the areas of communications, Biblical apostolates, various technical trades, social justice issues, administration, and business.

- Get ready for an adventure. Recent participants report that there are many needs in Jamaica. People need adequate housing, kids need help in school and others just need someone to care. This is your chance to make a difference. Apply today!

WORSHIP



ELDERLY



HOUSING



YOUTH



SCHOOLS



To Apply Please Contact



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• **Mission Experience**

• **to**

• **Jamaica**





Dates/Schedule



May 22-31, 2010

- May 22: Arrive in Chicago -- Ordination Ceremony and Orientation Program
- May 23: Depart for Jamaica
- May 24-30: Mission Experience Days in Jamaica
- May 31: Return to the States



Cost

The total cost of the Mission Experience trip will be \$1,000.

This includes an overnight stay at Techny, IL, for an orientation program, roundtrip airfare from Chicago to Kingston, Jamaica; room, board and travel while in Jamaica, and materials needed for the housing project. All other travel is at the participant's expense.

Partial scholarships are available.

Participation Criteria

The Mission Experience trip is planned principally with Catholics in mind, but can accommodate people of other faiths under special circumstances. In addition, those wishing to participate must:

- Be 18 years or older
- Have a passport to travel outside the country (or have sufficient time to obtain one)
- Be physically able to participate in manual labor (painting, carrying up to 40 pounds, etc)
- Have health insurance or purchase insurance

Mission Experience : Jamaica

Join a group of volunteers and assist the Divine Word Missionaries in southeast Jamaica in their day-to-day ministries. Activities include:

- Building a house
- Painting homes and schools
- Bible Study with youth and adults
- Visiting the homebound and elderly
- Assisting at schools
- Food distribution
- Other day-to-day missionary activities



Program Goals

The goals are to expose those interested in the missionary work of the Church to the day-to-day activities of some missionaries, to learn more about the Divine Word Missionaries, and learn more about Jamaican language and culture.

Mission Jamaica

Divine Word Missionaries staff three parishes in the civil parish of St. Thomas, Jamaica. Two priests and a religious Brother live at our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Morant Bay and minister at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Port Morant and St. Bartholomew Parish in Yallas.

The missionaries serve about 100,000 local people of whom about two percent are Catholic. From youth ministry to taking Holy Communion to the home bound; from liturgical services to service in a food pantry, the Divine Word Missionaries in this area are reaching out to meet the spiritual and temporal needs of the people.

Housing



During your stay in Jamaica, volunteers will stay at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Morant Bay, Jamaica. The rectory and convent sit on a hillside and overlook the ocean about five city blocks away. Accommodations are very modest. Each volunteer will have his/her own bed, but will need to share a room with someone and possibly use bunk beds. Bathrooms will be shared and offer warm showers.

Most meals will be provided at the parish. Some lunches will be provided on the job site as volunteers work. Most evenings are spent with fellow volunteers and missionaries from the parish discussing the day's experiences and learning more about the missionary work of the Church.

