

*St. Patrick's
Missionary
Society*

**Annual Report
2014**





Message from the Society Leader

For the past eighty-three years, St Patrick’s Missionary Society has been proclaiming the Gospel message to different peoples around the world, offering education and development in a variety of situations, and nurturing Church communities to maturity. Founded in Ireland and beginning our missionary work in South Eastern Nigeria, our presence has spread across Africa and beyond, expanding boldly over the decades. At this time, our Society is being infused with new life through the ordination of thirty African members over the last nine years, a clear manifestation of the working of the Holy Spirit in our midst.



Recently, our 2014 Chapter called for some radical changes in our Society. We recommitted ourselves to work for the least, the last and the lost peoples of our world. We made changes to our leadership structures, downsizing them and localising them to ensure that all members would be supported in this commitment. We decided to move our Central Leadership Team to Nairobi in Kenya to affirm the international status of the Society and to facilitate the role of leadership in animating the activities of our Society. These decisions have been implemented. Already District Leadership Teams are in place and actively engaged in their work.

Our work on mission, through the generous support of our many benefactors, enables us to share the Good News of Jesus and serve Him as living examples of His compassion. Our missionary service relieves the burden of poverty on people and advances the education and development of peoples.

This work is needed even more today than in the past in faraway places and at home here in Ireland. In Africa, we see a wounded continent, one that is divided by ethnicity, culture and religion and has poor access to the basic needs of humankind – water, food, education and healthcare. We are making a difference in South Sudan by working for reconciliation and peace, and providing education for many young people. In Cameroon we are involved in education. In South Africa, we are ministering in many townships, striving to bring hope to people living in hopeless situations and helping immigrants and refugees become integrated into society there.

Our Church is growing in many countries in Africa. With the support of our benefactors, we strengthen the faith of already existing Church communities and we introduce Jesus Christ to many more who hear the Good News for the first time. In Northern Nigeria, we are bringing education and development to the people in the hostile environment created by Boko Haram. In the Delta Areas of Nigeria, we are confronting major oil corporations on their responsibilities to the local communities. In Kenya, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi, we are involved in many parish ministries, in assisting those suffering from HIV/AIDS, and in working for justice.

In Grenada, we are participating in the Jubilee movement to free the Caribbean countries from national debt. Our Society members in Latin America continue, as they have for more than 50 years, to lift the burdens from many people who live in poverty and are denied basic human rights and the benefits of life. In Ireland, we continue to partner with like-minded people and groups to further the spirit of mission and to facilitate Irish Catholics with a calling to missionary and developmental work in our areas of mission.

With the continued help and prayers of our benefactors and supporters, the priests and members of St Patrick’s Missionary Society remain committed to helping all people in our world in the name of Christ so that their lives and the lives of their children and grandchildren will continue to improve.

With much gratitude,

Rev Victor Dunne,
Society Leader



Mission Statement

We are a small Society but we have a big dream: we are committed to making a difference in the world through the power of Jesus’ counter-cultural vision of life: of love and truth, of freedom and hope. It therefore means working for unity and reconciliation in such a way that ethnic, religious, national, cultural and historical differences are overcome. It means crossing boundaries created by culture, language, and world view. It compels us to seek out the least, the last and the lost, to accept the uniqueness of peoples and recognise the special gifts bestowed on them by God’s Spirit. We strive for a more just, inclusive and compassionate world. In the words of Pope Francis, “we have to state, without mincing words, that there is an inseparable bond between our faith and the poor”.

Contents

1	Mission Statement
2	Message from Society Leader
3	Projects and Programmes
5	West Africa
7	East Africa
9	Central Africa
11	South Africa
13	Brazil and the Caribbean
15	Ireland
16	Promotion & Mission Awareness
17	Mission Map
19	Financial Data
21	Leadership and Management
23	Gratitude to our Benefactors

Some of our Projects and Programmes

HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL WELFARE



Providing local health centres; HIV/Aids programmes and Home Care; providing clean water by drilling boreholes and protecting local wells; caring and providing resources for the physically and mentally handicapped.

Father PJ McCamphill's water project provides a new water tank for Tabitha Wanjiku in Nakuru, Kenya.

ENVIRONMENT

Supporting local communities to seek restitution for environmental damage by major oil companies; seeking shareholder support in challenging destructive methods of oil extraction; promoting alternative sources of clean energy.

A major oil spill at Ikarama, Nigeria, that affected many homes.



HUMAN RIGHTS



Civic education; legal aid; advocacy, raising public awareness and training; defending women and children; land rights.

Fr Gabriel Dolan was recently honoured for over ten years of service as a board member of IMLU (International Medico Legal Unit), the only anti-torture organisation in Kenya.

EVANGELISATION & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Training and supporting local catechists; training local leaders, community development; youth activity programmes; promoting religious formation in schools.



First Holy Communion Retreat in Castanheira, Brazil.

EDUCATION



Building schools and classrooms; providing educational materials; school fees; prioritising girls' education; school supervision; promoting educational excellence at regional and national level.

Fr Willie Walshe (pink shirt) with students and staff of St. Patrick's Secondary School, Makunga, Kenya.

SUPPORT FOR NEEDY CHILDREN

Caring for AIDS orphans; providing corrective surgery for physically handicapped children; support for local crèches, orphanages and supplementary feeding programmes.



Fr PJ Breen at the centre for orphans in Lusaka, Zambia.

ACADEMIC & VOCATIONAL TRAINING



Trade schools; assisting academically talented youth; forming and educating future priests; providing third level bursaries; promoting and resourcing further studies.

St. Gabriel's Secondary School, Cameroon.

SAFEGUARDING

Training and resourcing professional Safeguarding personnel; developing and implementing Safeguarding structures and policies in all our institutions, programmes, parishes, and houses; offering Safeguarding personnel and resources to other churches and institutions.



The Society Child Safeguarding Programme in the East Africa District is under the direction of Fr Sean Barry (right). Mr George Warari (left) is employed by the Society as a full-time training officer providing training courses in parishes in Kenya and South Sudan.



**BAUCHI,
NORTHEASTERN NIGERIA**

Fr. Emmanuel Edet organises the building and support of small village schools in an area under constant threat from the anti-education violence of Boko Haram. Emmanuel's example is a stark witness to basic human rights and values in the face of a culture of fear and death. He believes that every child has the right to a good education.



"The doors of friendship with our Muslim neighbours continue to stay open when they work with their Christian counterparts to erect a school fence, dormitory, toilet, and church in St Luke's Pastoral Area, Miya. Together we are working to build up the reign of God here in Miya."

We are engaged in dialogue every day with our Muslim brothers and sisters in Miya only that we do so not with the sophisticated language of 'Inter-religious dialogue', but by seeking simple ways to respond to the needs of our Muslim neighbours."
Fr. Emmanuel Edet

ENVIRONMENTAL DESTRUCTION IN SOUTHEASTERN NIGERIA

Fr. Kevin O'Hara works in the oil rich area of Bayelsa State in Nigeria. Unfortunately the oil companies have devastated the land and the environment. Many oil spills have occurred that have spoiled the rivers and the farmland, destroying the livelihoods of the local people. Kevin and his team work with the communities and liaise with the oil companies like Shell and Agip. Their aim is to get justice and compensation for the people and to persuade the oil companies to clean up the oil spills. They also liaise with shareholder groups in London to push the oil companies towards greater corporate social responsibility. They do this through an NGO called Shareholders Alliance for Corporate Accountability (SACA). The oil companies are slowly beginning to listen.



Fr Kevin O'Hara talks with the victims of an oil spill in Ikarama in June 2013. Their homes were affected and there is no help coming their way. Below: Crossing another oil spill on a 'monkey bridge' at Oya Lake.



East Africa

HUMAN RIGHTS IN MOMBASA

Fr. Gabriel Dolan works in a slum area of Mombasa called Bangladeshi. He and his team have worked for the past ten years in Civic Education, Land Rights, Advocacy and the Protection of Women and Children. Gabriel addresses these issues in his weekly column in Kenya's leading newspaper *The Daily Nation*.



"Land reform is critical for the stability of the nation as well as for its economic growth. However, the casualness with which legislators approach the matter indicates that they have learned nothing from past land conflicts."

Fr. Gabriel Dolan, *The Daily Nation*.

PROVIDING CLEAN DRINKING WATER IN SOUTH SUDAN

Fr. Tim Galvin has worked in Sudan and South Sudan for over 30 years. He is passionate about every person's right to a clean source of domestic water. His dream is that every village would have its own securely protected borehole or deep well. In South Sudan this is a huge dream as war and political unrest have seriously impeded such development for decades. But Tim continues to dream and works tirelessly to add a few boreholes every year.



Fr John Marren is pictured with local families at a water collection point and Fr Tim Galvin at a new water tower in Riwoto Parish, South Sudan.



Central Africa

HIV/AIDS MINISTRY IN LUSAKA

The frightening stories of HIV/AIDS no longer appear in the mainstream media but in some communities in Africa it is still a major concern. Fr. P.J. Breen still runs a Home Care programme in his parish in Lusaka, Zambia. He and his outreach team visit patients in their homes, ensuring that they have access to the proper medicines and that their children and dependants have food, shelter and clothing.

Below: Father PJ Breen chats with Anna Mulenga from Lusaka, Zambia, a patient in Our Lady's Hospice, Lusaka, Zambia.

John Mtonga (member of the home care team) visits the sick in homes around in Petauke. The team provides, food, blankets and medicines.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN MALAWI

“Ungweru (www.mzuzu.org/ungweru) is described as “a grassroots non-governmental organisation that has been registered in Malawi since 2010. We are based in Mzuzu City where we work with the surrounding communities to improve the lives of its members.” It was inspired by the vision of Fr. John Ryan (pictured above) “to improve the quality of life for vulnerable groups”. Their programmes include Education, Food Security, HIV/AIDS Management, Natural Resources, Child Protection and Youth Employment. The aim is “to serve our communities in a sustainable manner by providing training and financial support and engaging communities in participatory monitoring and evaluation”.



Fr Pat Byrne blesses palms on Palm Sunday in Mtengowanthenga, Malawi, before the procession begins.

MINISTRY TO REFUGEES

Fr. Michael Bennett worked in justice and peace ministry in Zimbabwe until he was expelled by the Mugabe regime. He moved to the northern region of South Africa near the Zimbabwean border. He now ministers to thousands of Zimbabwean refugees who have fled south across the border. His experience and language skills from his years in Zimbabwe are invaluable in his present ministry.



St Patrick's student Vincent Agunbiade takes the first lesson at the new primary school in Siri Durumishi in Bauchi Diocese, Nigeria, established by Fr Patrick Esekun. Vincent is working with Fr Patrick as part of his First Missionary Assignment.

STUDENT FORMATION IN KWAPATRICK

If the work of St Patrick's Missionary Society is to continue our training programme has to be adequately staffed and resourced. Our trainees study Philosophy and Arts in St Joseph's Institute, Cedara near Peitermaritzburg. Currently we have nineteen students and four staff. The students follow a three year degree programme after which they move on for a two year practical experience (First Missionary Assignment) in one of the countries where we work. They complete the last four years of their studies in Tangaza College in Nairobi, Kenya.

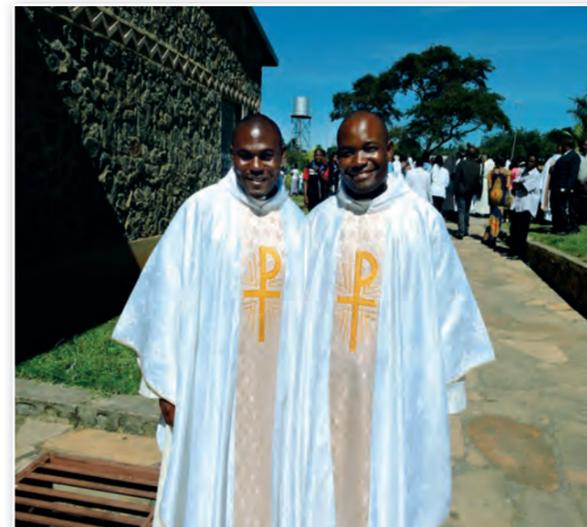


Student Martin Kavisu, second from the right, pictured with prisoners at Kamiti Maximum Prison in Nairobi, Kenya, where he works in prison ministry as part of his First Missionary Assignment.



Fr Michael Bennett helps Colette Dube and Elizabeth Ngoro to collect rubbish beside the outside toilets in Mokgoba village in Limpopo Province, South Africa. Both Colette and Elizabeth are Zimbabwean migrants living in South Africa. (Photos: M. Bennett)

Left: Fr Michael also works with Sr Rudo Garedondo and Sr Anita O'Leary in Musina, South Africa. Musina, in the north of South Africa, lies just across the border from Zimbabwe. It is a small town, but flooded with people from neighbouring countries such as Zimbabwe, Zambia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Malawi as well as people from Pakistan, Bangladesh, China and India. Unfortunately, many attempt to cross through the Limpopo River where they suffer all kinds of abuse at the hands of a notorious group of lawless gangsters known as Maguma-guma. They face the possibility of rape, brutal beatings, robbery, or held in captivity and starved for days.



Deacons Darlington Muyembe (right) and Peter Mwale (left) were ordained as priests for St Patrick's Missionary Society on May 30th, 2015 in Lusaka, Zambia, by Archbishop Telesphore George Mpundu.

"During my first visits to the prison, I was uncomfortable to mix with the inmates. I wondered how I will work with some men who have committed very serious offenses. Gradually, I began to accept these men and see them as my brothers... My ministry which is a share in the ministry of Jesus, is to bring hope to these men. I realized that some men take comfort from our presence. My presence means a lot to them. It is a sign that they have not been abandoned by the Church. Joining them for liturgy on Sundays, I experience with them the joy of God's presence in our midst. It is also a celebration that brings peace and healing to many who gather in the chapel to worship."
Martin Kavisu, St. Patrick's Student.



ADDICTION CENTRE IN BRAZIL

In 2001 four young former addicts from St John the Baptist parish in São Paulo started a rehabilitation programme for young people addicted to drugs and alcohol. With the assistance of their parish priest, Fr. Kieran Ridge, and St Patrick's Missionary Society they purchased a house outside the city and developed it into a treatment centre. "Since then," says Kieran, "170 young people have been treated there – 20% of whom have remained sober and are back with their families and in employment."

Fr Kieran Ridge (below, on the right and bottom, centre) with participants in the rehabilitation programme in São Paulo, Brazil. Background photo: Producing ornaments from bamboo is a way of raising money for the upkeep of the house.



DEBT RELIEF IN GRENADA, WEST INDIES

The Government of Grenada have set up a Jubilee Committee to advise on issues of national debt and to search for methods of debt relief. Fr. Sean Doggett was invited to sit on the committee and has been elected Chairman. Two government Ministers are among the members. The Committee meets once a month to review all new debts and to monitor and evaluate the performance of all national debt.



St Patrick's in Grenada: Fathers Willie Stack, Tommy Barrett, Jimmy McDonnell, Sean Doggett, Dermot Nolan and Frank Morgan.



Rev Steve Herder, board member Jubilee USA, Eric LaCompte, director, Jubilee USA, Beatrice Parwatiker, board member, Jubilee USA, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State, Fr Sean Doggett, Grenada Jubilee Committee and Caribbean Debt Network, Bodo Elmers, director of European Organisation for Debt and Development, Collins Magalasi, director of African Organisation for Debt and Development.

"Out of the discussions held in Grenada a regional body was formed called The Caribbean Debt Network (CDN). The CDN will work towards getting the small island states of the region to cooperate and to learn from each other's experience. The aim is to get global agreement on a mechanism through which the unsustainable debts of small island states can be restructured."

In May 2014 a delegation visited Rome and had meetings to explain the work of the Jubilee movement with Church authorities at the highest level.

Fr. Sean Doggett, Africa, St. Patrick's Missions Magazine



Ireland

The Irish District has many different aspects and provides a variety of services. As well as being the home district of 129 Society members, it is also the home-base of 120 members working in Africa, South America and the Caribbean. It receives them when they come on home leave during which time they either live full-time in Kiltegan or live with family and visit Kiltegan from time to time. The District facilitates medical check-ups and any medical treatment they may require. It organises their jubilee celebrations and provides updating and renewal programmes and welcomes them back when their time abroad comes to an end.

Fr Dan Dolan (below, centre), from Co Mayo, celebrated his Platinum Jubilee of priesthood in July. He was ordained in 1945 and sailed to Nigeria in 1946. Fr Dan worked in Nigeria until 2012 when he retired to Kiltegan. He is pictured here in Kiltegan with Fr Rory O'Brien (on the left) and Fr Donald McDonagh (on the right). Fr Rory, from Co Offaly, celebrated his Diamond Jubilee. He worked in Nigeria for many years, and in Cameroon until very recently. Fr Donald, from Co Roscommon, also celebrated his Diamond Jubilee. He worked in Kenya for many years and is now based in Knock, Ireland. Above: Fr Seamus O'Neill opens the Nursing Unit in Kiltegan.

RETIREMENT AND MEDICAL CARE

Our oldest member joined the Society in 1941 and was ordained a priest in December, 1945. He set sail for Nigeria in September 1946 and remained there until March 2012 when his physical powers began to fail. Today he is 94 years of age and is in need of constant care. This care is provided in the Nursing Unit in Kiltegan which is funded by the Society. He lives within the Kiltegan community; he meets people who come and go to that part of Nigeria in which he worked and he joins the community for religious services, meals and other activities insofar as he is able. The Nursing Unit has 24 beds and a staff of 25 nurses and carers. In addition 26 retired members are cared for in our former seminary building.



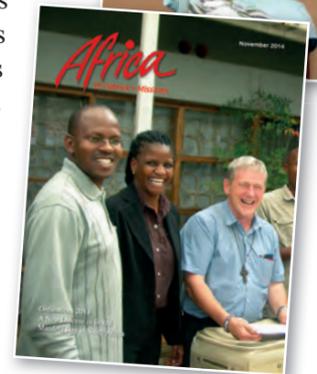
Promotion and Mission Awareness



PROMOTION AND FUNDRAISING

The promotion of mission awareness is coordinated from our head office in Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow which has a staff of nineteen. Our Society is allocated two dioceses in Ireland every year where our priests visit every parish to speak on our mission and to appeal for financial help. We depend on such voluntary donations from Ireland, UK and USA for our income. For over 80 years our generous and faithful benefactors have provided us with adequate resources to carry out our mission work and to provide support for the poor and underprivileged.

We promote mission awareness by publishing nine issues per year of our *Africa* magazine. It has a circulation of approximately 60,000 copies (per issue) and is distributed in Ireland, UK and USA. It features articles written by our priests on the missions as well as topical pieces of religious interest and regular columns on cooking, environment, books etc. As with all magazines, circulation is dropping steadily but we still value the magazine as an excellent means of publishing and education.



St. Patrick's Mission Circle began in the 1950s. Through prayer, as a member of our Mission Circle family, all family and friends, living and deceased, named on a Mission Circle card, are remembered in three daily Masses, monthly novenas and our daily prayers. Deceased members are especially remembered in November. Members make a voluntary annual contribution. Some of our supporters have been Mission Circle members for over 50 years.

ST. PATRICK'S MISSION CIRCLE
to help our Missions
in Africa, West Indies
and South America
(with the permission of the Ordinary)

... I have come so that they may have life
and have it to the full. - Jn. 10:10

NEW CARD HOLDERS ONLY
(please use black ink)

NAME: _____
(Mr, Mrs, Miss)

ADDRESS: _____

Month of Enrolment: _____

Another method of fundraising is through the use of our Occasion Cards. These are a prayerful way of including family and friends in our daily Masses and prayers. We have specially designed cards to cover all occasions. The names enrolled are remembered in the daily Masses and prayers of the Society for one year. Supporters give a donation towards the Society.

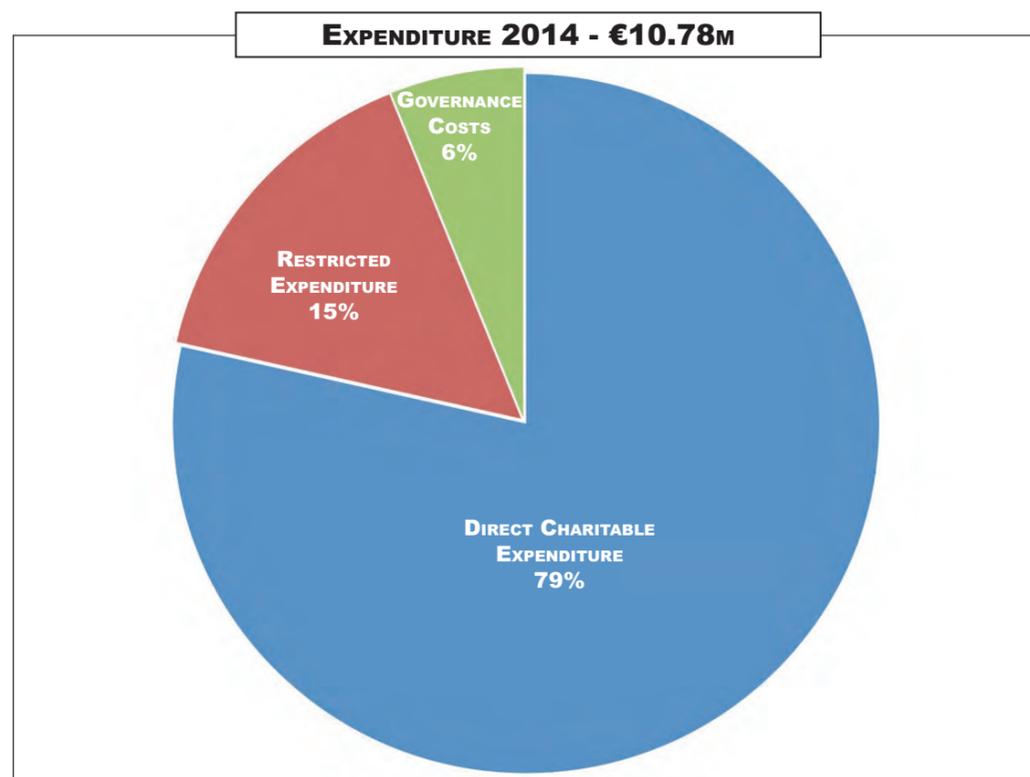
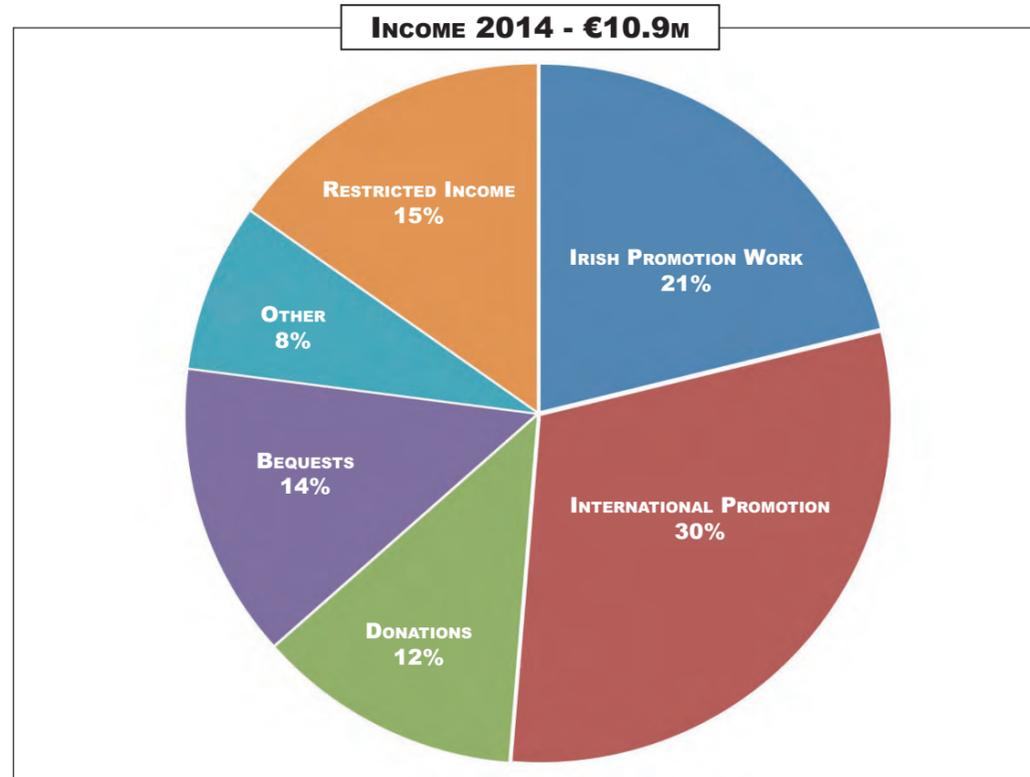


Mission Map - Where we work



OUR FINANCES

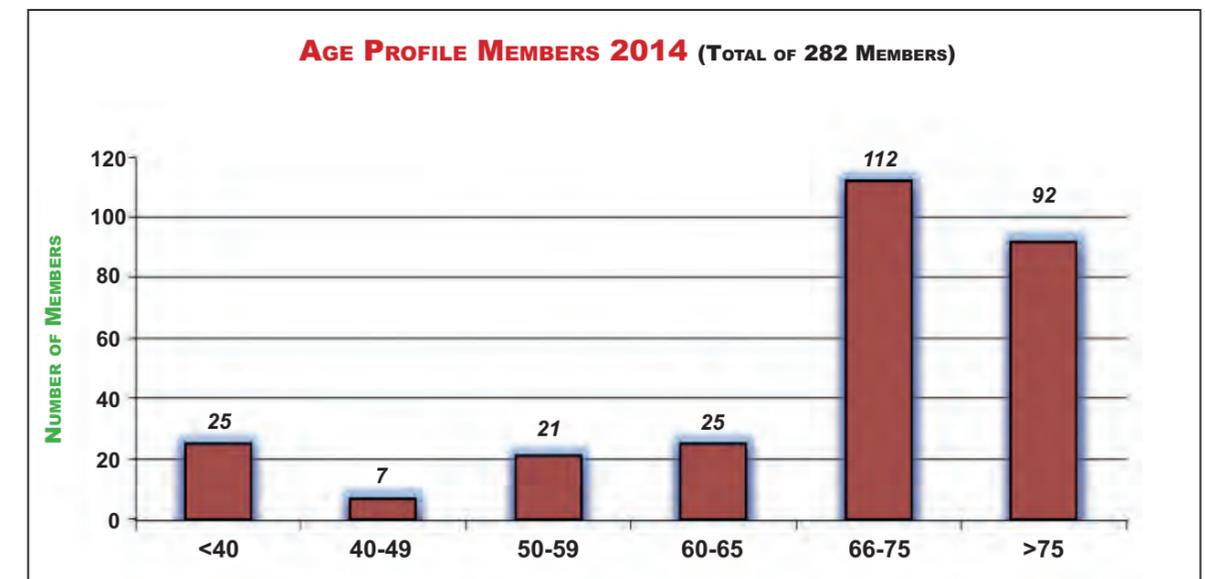
Despite the recession our benefactors have been generous and faithful to us over recent years and they have enabled us to continue all our mission commitments. Once again our 2014 audited financial statements show an income of €10.9 million (2013 – €12.6 million). They can be summarised as follows:



Our full financial statements are available on the Charities Regulatory Authority website (www.cra.ie) or on request from our office.

If you examine our financial statements, a number of key observations can be noted:

- Income decreased from 2013 by 13.3%. Our generous benefactors are also declining in numbers.
- Our operating surplus for the year was €145k therefore 98.7% of our annual income was spent in the same year.
- Due to the upturn in the stock market and movement in exchange rates, our investments' value and therefore our reserves have increased from 2013 to 2014 by 12%.
- It is the Society's policy to retain sufficient reserves to safeguard the continuity of its commitment to long term mission projects while at the same time committing the maximum possible resources to current programmes and new initiatives.
- One of the Society's charitable objects is to "maintain and support the priests", this involves considerable expense which is borne by the Society.
- As our members age and return home from the missions, (see chart below), this financial burden continues to increase.



At a glance:

€5.6m Total Promotion Income 2014

€1.7m Restricted income 2014

15 Expenditure spread across countries worldwide

204 Society Members over the age of 66

140 Society Members working in overseas missions

30 Priests ordained for the Society since 2007

57 St. Patrick's students currently studying for the priesthood

Leadership

St Patrick's Missionary Society (Incorporated) is a company registered in Dublin, Ireland, limited by guarantee and not having share capital. Registration No. 21156.

It has been granted tax exemption by the Revenue Commissioners in Ireland and has a charitable tax exemption number: CHY 3397.

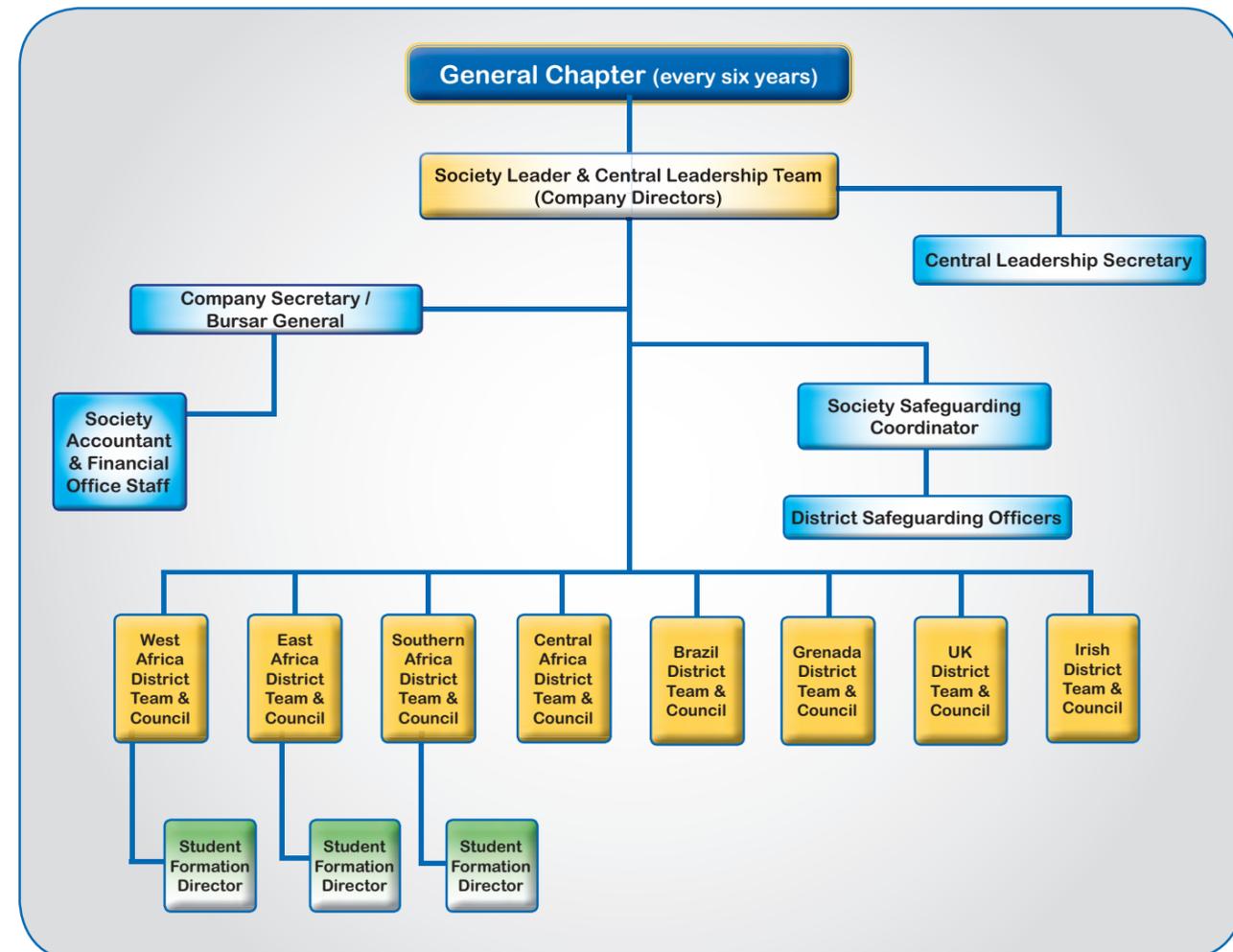
Registered Office: St. Patrick's, Kiltegan, Co Wicklow, Ireland.

Directors:

- Rev. Victor Dunne
- Rev. John Marren
- Rev. Cathal Moriarty
- Rev. Joseph Kamau Bosco
- Rev. Denis O'Rourke
- Rev. Seamus O'Neill (Secretary)



The Central Leadership Team elected at the 2014 General Chapter. Left to right: Fr Bosco Kamau (Second Councillor), Fr John Marren (Assistant Society Leader), Fr Cathal Moriarty (Third Councillor) and Fr Victor Dunne (Society Leader).



Gratitude to our Benefactors

Pictured at St Patrick's in Kiltegan are members of a fundraising committee who presented a cheque to Fr Denis O'Rourke, to support the work of Fr Kieran Birmingham in his parish in South Africa. Left to right: Michael Lennon (Treasurer of Kiltegan GAA), John Timmons (Chairman of Kiltegan GAA), Fr Denis O'Rourke, Martin Doogue of Kaideen Knitwear in Baltinglass and John Cullen (Secretary of Kiltegan GAA).

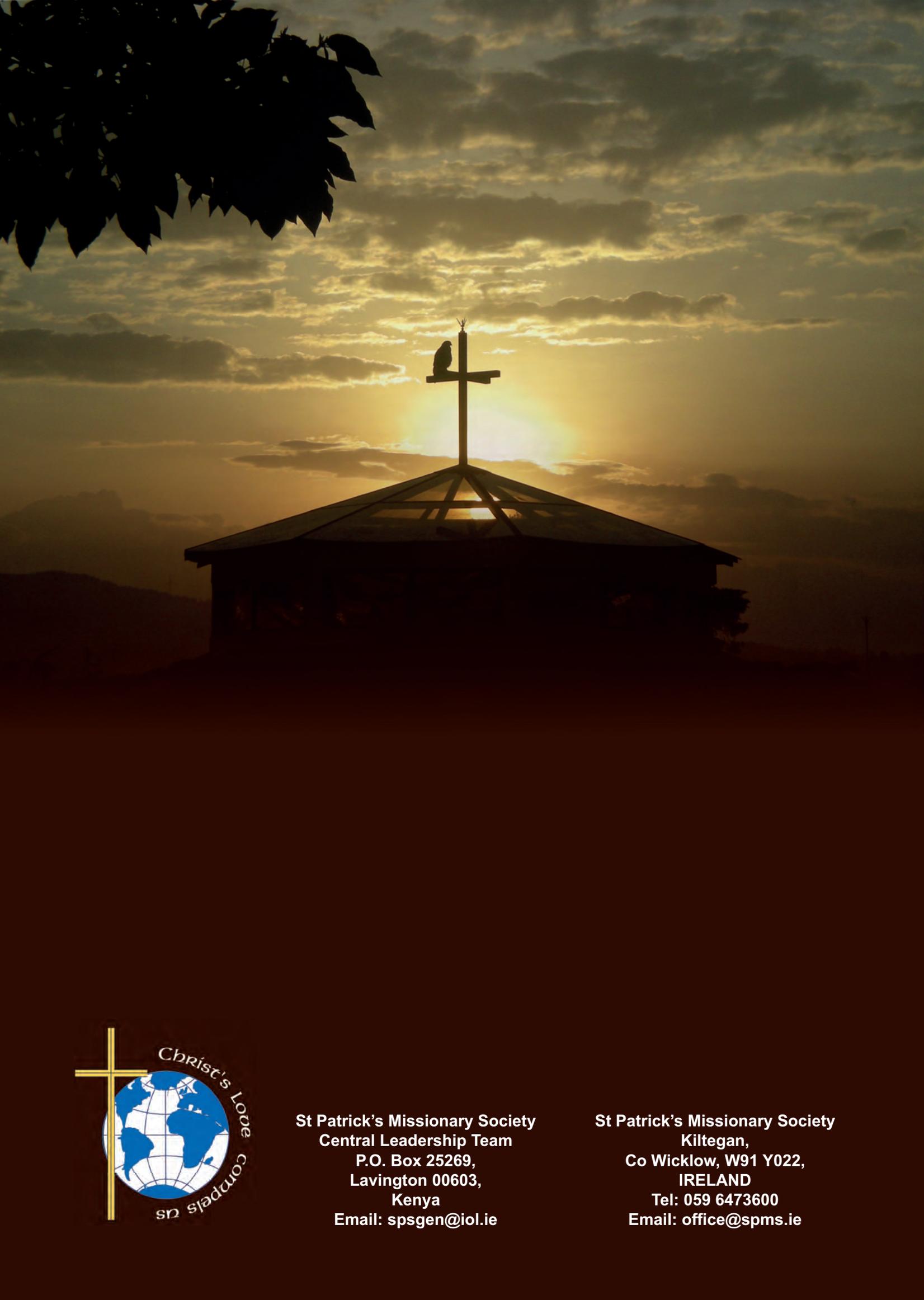


Mrs M. Ogbede and Mrs Egugie are pictured outside the church in St Patrick's Parish, Calabar, Nigeria. They are both Friends of St Patrick's, a support group for St Patrick's Missionaries in Nigeria and Kenya. Local groups of "friends" meet regularly. They read from the Bible and from the Confessions of St Patrick; they pray, sing hymns and discuss what is happening in the Society; they make a contribution or organise a fund-raising event. St Patrick's Parish in the city of Calabar is part of one of the very first missions of the Society and is staffed by Society priests.

Fr Willie Walshe is presented with a set of rugby jerseys from Elizabeth Comerford on behalf of the Blackrock Ladies Rugby Club. The jerseys will be used by pupils of St Patrick's Secondary School, Makunga in the town of Kitale in Kenya. The school opened in 2009 with only a single classroom but has developed very rapidly. Much of the development is due to the generosity of Irish people, friends and supporters of Fr Willie Walshe of Donard, Co Wicklow, who has worked in that area of Kenya since 1973.



Fr Pat McCallion is presented with a cheque from supporter Peter Frisby in East Molesey, London. The money was raised at a 'Alternate Benny O'Shea Golf Classic' organised by the Crawley Catenian Circle. It was donated to the All Faiths Group working in the troubled Bauchi area of Nigeria under the leadership of St Patrick's Father Leo Traynor. Left to right: Manus McDermot, Fr Pat McCallion and Peter Frisby.



St Patrick's Missionary Society
Central Leadership Team
P.O. Box 25269,
Lavington 00603,
Kenya
Email: spsgen@iol.ie

St Patrick's Missionary Society
Kiltegan,
Co Wicklow, W91 Y022,
IRELAND
Tel: 059 6473600
Email: office@spms.ie