

“Go in Peace, Glorifying the Lord by Your Life”

Corinna Laughlin and Maureen A. Kelly

The word *mission* comes from the Latin word *mittere*, which means “to send.” In the most general sense, a mission is an assigned duty or task. When we use the term mission in reference to the Church, we are talking about something more. The Church is missionary by its very nature, because it exists to continue the works of the risen Lord. The Church continues to respond to Jesus’ words: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19, NRSV). Each of the baptized is given a work and a task to accomplish: God’s work, God’s task, for the mission of which we are a part is not our own, but God’s. Through the sacraments, we are empowered for mission. Some of us go to mission lands, and others respond to the call to radical service as priests and religious. But every Christian is called to witness to the person and message of Jesus through the way we carry out our daily responsibilities, glorifying God by our lives.

Preparing Your Parish for the Revised Roman Missal: Homilies and Reproducibles for Faith Formation © 2011 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 3949 South Racine Avenue, Chicago IL 60609; 1-800-933-1800; www.LTP.org. Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation (ICEL). All rights reserved. The copyright notice must appear with the text. Published with Ecclesiastical Approval (Canon 823, 1).