

HCA Services Available from the Diocesan Office

- The Diocesan Mission Office offers mission talks to help children understand their call to mission locally and around the world. The talks are most effective in groups of 40 or less for one or two grade levels. They may involve the use of a short video or DVD, and usually last from 30 minutes to an hour, depending upon the age of the students. Talks can be arranged by contacting this office.
- A bi-monthly newsletter, *We Carry Each Other*, is mailed out to all schools and religious education offices. This newsletter contains information for catechists and teachers on the first page, and the second page, *Reality Check*, is reproducible for use in the classroom.
- World Mission Sunday, being held on October 21, 2007, will take place this year at Saint Christopher's in Baldwin.



A Child's Missionary Prayer

O Loving God, help us to be more like Jesus. As missionaries, we share your love with all children, especially those who are hungry, cold and unloved. May our prayers and good works help our sisters and brothers everywhere, and may we remember that they pray for us, too. Bless those who work with the children we love and support. Be with us, as together we help create a world where all will be one in Your name.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us and for all the world's children.

AMEN!

National Office Information:

Holy Childhood Association

366 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10001

(212) 563-8700

Holy Childhood Association Contact
Diocese of Rockville Centre
Propagation of the Faith and Mission Office
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**HCA
2007-2008**

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My peace I give you... (John 14:27)

“Children Helping Children”

Holy Childhood Association

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The Holy Childhood Association has served children all over the world since its inception in 1843. Their motto of "Children Helping Children" is the focus of HCA. The money raised and donated assists children directly in developing nations around the world and provides mission education materials to children in the U.S.

The primary goals of HCA are:

- Helping children realize their part of our baptismal call to share the Good News of Jesus at home and worldwide.
- Encouraging children to pray for and offer their own personal sacrifices for children who are in need of basic resources like clean water, food, education, medical care, and, above all, the knowledge of God's love for them.
- Helping children strengthen their own relationship with God through active participation in the missionary work of the Church.

Membership

Children "join" HCA through their schools or religious education programs. For \$1.25 each, students become part of HCA and receive a subscription to the *It's Our World* newsletter, which is published three times during the school year and focuses on a specific country (for 2007-2008 they are Pakistan, Ethiopia and Papua New Guinea). The newsletters are grade-appropriate: Pre-K through first grade; second through

fifth; and sixth through eighth grades. The newsletters include stories, puzzles and fun facts.

Advent and Lent

Coin folders and "mite" boxes are available from HCA during Advent and Lent. The Advent and Lenten programs teach the children how to make the seasons more meaningful by offering prayers and sacrifices for poor children around the world.

Christmas Artwork Contest

Each year HCA holds a contest to choose twenty-four illustrations from children's artwork to use for their Christmas cards. The cards then sell for \$10 per box. All HCA members are eligible to enter.

National Prayer Week

March 16-23, 2008 is HCA's National Prayer Week. Prayer week materials are shipped automatically to any parish or school which joins HCA. Resources are free, easy to use and can be reproduced.

HCA Around the World Program

This geography-based mission education program is a great way to learn about the world and raise money for the missions, too. It features a Program Guide, two maps, a globe coin bank and a series of flag decals which represent the countries in which HCA is actively working. The children choose a country to learn about, raise money for that country and then receive a decal to add to the map.

World Mission Rosary

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen developed the World Mission Rosary in 1951. Each of the five decades represents a different

area of the world where the Church continues her evangelizing mission: *Green* for the forests and grasslands of Africa; *Blue* for the Islands of the Pacific; *White* for Europe, the seat of the Holy Father; *Red* for the fire of faith that brought missionaries to the Americas, and *Yellow* for Asia, the morning light of the East. World Mission Rosaries are available for a suggested offering of \$5.00 apiece from the National Office.

HCA Prayer Cards

Three types of prayer cards are available: The Peace Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi, the HCA Prayer for Children of the World, and a prayer to Saint Therese of Liseux. Prayer cards cost \$3.50 for a package of 100.

More information about the Holy Childhood Association and its programs is available on its website:

www.worldmissions-catholicchurch.org.

Their interactive website for children is:

www.hcakids.org.

In a culture which seems to promote self-absorption, the Holy Childhood Association helps youngsters understand the universal nature of the Catholic Church and recognize that they are missionaries today, in prayer and sacrifice, reaching out to children all around the world. Let's do all we can to help our children learn that true love means caring about others, and that we are God's hands on Earth. Please consider joining today!

