



The Missionary Minute



Mission Trip to Jamaica planned for May 2009.

[Click here](#) to view a brochure with details. [E-mail](#) your interest and questions!

Interested in visiting our seminary? [E-mail](#) your request.

Fr. Mike's Mission Blog. [Click here](#).

My Call and Ministry as a Religious Brother

By Bro. Mike Decker, SVD

My vocation as an SVD started in 1976 when I was in Rome visiting my relative, who was a Sister of Notre Dame (SND). On my first morning there, I went to a mass being said in Italian and I did not understand the language. Afterward, my relative introduced me to the priest. In our conversation, I mentioned that I was interested in joining a seminary, but the priest did not know English well. He stepped aside for a few minutes and when he came back he had written on a piece of paper: DIVINE WORD COLLEGE – EPWORTH, IOWA. The door opened for me to pursue my vocation as a SVD, because this was the place where I would begin my training. I entered Divine Word College in August, 1979. Since then, I've met many people from many different countries, making my life very exciting!



Some of my experiences at Divine Word College gave me the opportunity to live with people from different countries like China, Ghana, Vietnam, Japan, Philippines and the Virgin Islands. This opened my eyes to the larger, global world. I was happy with my vocation and my future. During these times, I was supported and challenged to become the best person I could be. Learning how to serve others through my experiences of ministry with elderly and handicapped people further fed my vocation.

[Click here for complete story.](#)

New Video Clips Added to our Website!

New interviews with some of our missionaries and seminarians have been added to our website. Here are three options you might like to explore:



Fr. Mark Weber, SVD, Chicago Province Provincial, talks about the charism of the Society of the Divine Word.

[Click here.](#)



Brother candidate, **Nathaniel Nguyen**, a pre-novitiate student living at Divine Word College Seminary, talks about formation at DWC.

[Click here.](#)



Fr. Tom Ascheman, SVD, Chicago Province Vice Provincial, talks about the spirituality of Divine Word Missionaries.

[Click here.](#)