



# The Missionary Minute



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

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

Considering a Discernment Retreat? Explore Catholics on Call. [Click here.](#)

## Mission Experience: Jamaica

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

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

**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.

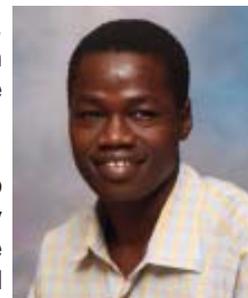
**Mission Jamaica:** Divine Word Missionaries staff three parishes in the civil parish of St. Thomas, Jamaica. Two priests and a religious Brother live at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Morant Bay and minister at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Port Morant and St. Bartholomew Parish in Yallas.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



[Click here for more information.](#)

## Joseph Okello – College Seminarian

I am Joseph Okello, born in 1980 at a place called Abul in the Raja district in Sudan. Abul was a farming village that grew peanuts, cassava and grain. I lived in Abul with my parents and younger brother and sister until about the age of 7, when war broke out in my home country.



In the dark of night in 1987, I heard the sound of guns and screaming. I left, running to a direction that I don't recall, without knowing that I was leaving my people and my village life behind. My feet were bare and when I injured one foot, someone picked me up and carried me. That is why I believe that God was at work during my journey and throughout my rough living in the bush among strangers. Along with the other boys who were running, I reached Ethiopia. We were put in Panyudo refugee camp by the International Committee for the Red Cross [ICRC]. I didn't know where the rest of my family members were. I believed that everybody was dead and I was the only one left. Due to what I saw with my own eyes that night, I thought that all those who remained in Sudan were dead.

[Click here for complete story.](#)