

# MIRROR



## *Aid to the Church in Need*

[www.acnirl.org](http://www.acnirl.org)



*Young heads, wise words. You are supporting the radio broadcasts involving these youngsters in Arua, Uganda.*

***“God’s loving care for all people in Christ must be expressed in the digital world not simply as an artefact from the past, or a learned theory, but as something concrete, present and engaging.”***

**Pope Benedict XVI, Address to the 44<sup>th</sup> World Day of Social Communications, 16 May 2010**

*Dear Friends,*

“Far too dangerous” – that was the view when preparations were being made for Pope Benedict XVI’s visit to the Holy Land. Apart from the historical difficulties, there was also the indisputable fact that the Pope was from Germany. However his reply was, “[It is] precisely because I am a German, and because I too lived and suffered through the Hitler era, [that] I must go to Israel and Palestine. Let us fight for the future in the land of Jesus.”

With these words he showed once again what a powerful apostle of peace he is. ACN began as an instrument of that profound reconciliation which has its origins in the pierced heart of Christ. The mission of the Church is to overcome the tragic confusion of Babel, and all conflicts, by reconciling humanity with the Father and with one another. This even includes reconciliation with those who hurt us.

ACN is working in the service of a deep ecumenism, in the reconciling power of the Holy Spirit. An ecumenism that only

pursues strategic goals has no future. The Gospel calls us to work for peace on every front – peace among peoples, among races, among nations. For “violence and hatred are always a defeat”, as Pope Benedict XVI told us this Lent.

A reconciliation of this sort must be evaluated according to three criteria – truth,



***“Reconciliation must always seek the truth and itself be truthful.”***

history and mercy. It must always seek the truth and itself be truthful. It must have an understanding of history – and this calls for time and patience. Blessed John Paul II reminded us that “If the division of the Church in East and West has lasted 1000 years, then unity will not be restored in just a few decades.” Finally, fidelity in that love which we call mercy is also needed, as the Sermon on the Mount requires of us. This means being ready to forgive and also to seek forgiveness, to grant and accept pardon.

Without the divine fire of Pentecost, all this remains a dangerous dream. Every kind of pacifist utopia, every sentimental, superficial attempt to create unity without the Holy Spirit, simply leads to new divisions and conflicts. False solutions simply frustrate and paralyse genuine reconciliation.

ACN is an instrument in the hands of the successors of Peter. Throughout our history these men have urged us to honour Mary, the Mother of reconciliation, and to follow her example. She intercedes for us

with God; she excludes no one and unites us all. As we face pressing needs throughout the world, we look to you in trust for your generous help with projects of authentic reconciliation. With every penny, every cent you entrust to us, you are sowing the seeds of peace.

My grateful blessings,

*P. Joaquín Alliende*

Father Joaquín Alliende, President



# “The saving Word of God”



Whether in the studio or face to face, the media centre of “Nuestra Senora de Lujan” in Buenos Aires has many ways of proclaiming the Good News.



The joy of transmitting the truth. Broadcasting in the Caribbean.

None of us is a Christian for himself alone. Love always communicates itself. That is why the Good News must be proclaimed to the people and why St Paul, the Apostle to the Nations exclaimed “Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel” (1 Cor 9:16). Today this happens increasingly through the media – via radio and television, the printed word, and the worldwide web.

“Pastoral Ministry in a Digital World: New Media at the Service of the Word.” This was the title of the message of Pope Benedict to the World Day of Social Communications 2010, and it is being implemented today in real and practical terms in the *Centro de Nuestra Senora de Lujan* in Buenos Aires, **Argentina**. Here, in what was once a small factory close to the parish of Fr Carlos Moia, a small team of scarcely a dozen “coworkers in the truth” put together religious and cultural radio programmes for some 1,154 radio stations and parishes from all over Argentina. Through these programmes they reach 6 million people, some 15% of the entire population.

## Signs of faith in a digital age

And a further 90 stations from other countries also use the same material. Most download the programmes from the internet. In their labour in the media vineyard, Fr Carlos and his co-workers see it as their task, in the words of the Holy Father, to “help the men and women of our digital age to sense the Lord’s presence... and to draw near to the Word of God which offers salvation.” A daily commentary on the Gospel, a huge number of one-minute items, 40 catechetical and biblical programmes, and a variety of other formats for internet and radio constitute a solid bulwark against the intensive media work of the sects in Argentina. This is a form of evangelisation that calls for solid spiritual formation, and the communications centre of *Nuestra Senora de Lujan* offers just this. At seven different centres throughout the country, it organises courses in the media apostolate. Father Carlos would ultimately like to be able to pay his workers a just wage, or at the very least cover their costs – which he calls an “investment in evangelisation”. We are helping him defray the costs. It should really be more than this. But there are so many other media projects, such as the religious programmes of *Radio Sol Mansi* in Guinea Bissau, which simply would not be possible without your help. Or the bulletin *Istina – Veritas*, the official newsletter of the Bulgarian Bishops’ Conference and the only Catholic newspaper in **Bulgaria**. Or again the small printing machine with the help of which teaching materials are produced for catechists and for religious instruction in the schools of the 77 parishes in the diocese of Ruteng in **Indonesia**. With these and many other similar projects it is always about “integral human development”, and about the “genuine spiritual needs” (Benedict XVI). Without the media they cannot be met.



“Radio Sol Mansi” in action. Sister Maria in Guinea Bissau.



All teaching must be at the service of truth. It is young people, like these, who will benefit most from the small printing press in the diocese of Ruteng, in Indonesia.





# The foundation stones of love



**Oyo, Nigeria. Dialogue after the pattern of the world prayer meeting in Assisi. Here too the aim is to make visible the values of religious freedom, reciprocal respect and friendship.**

**The mystery of reconciliation is the mystery of love, for “all the history of mankind is the history of the desire to love and be loved”. These words of Blessed Pope John Paul II to the young people of France hold good for us all; indeed they sum up the history of our redemption and reconciliation.**

Violence is the opposite, it is “a favourite instrument of the Antichrist”, according to Benedict XVI. Its fruit is fear. Yet Christians are responding with dialogue, as for example on the Muslim-dominated island of Jolo in the **Philippines**. The interreligious dialogue that Bishop Angelito Lampon has initiated seeks to change people’s perceptions and values. Yet Bishop Lampon himself remains realistic and modest

about it. “We are not presenting ourselves as saviours,” he says. In any case he has already had one grenade thrown into his cathedral. “Thank God, no one was hurt,” he says. But he knows that without hope there can be no future. “And our hope is the Risen Lord. So whatever may come, we remain here and give of our best”, he concludes. For the present this consists of a

three-year programme of dialogue, for which we have again this year promised financial help. It aims to bring an end to the violence and so permit the tiny Christian minority of about 3% of the population to live without fear.

Similarly precarious is the work of the community of Sant’Egidio in Karachi, **Pakistan**. This is a country where Christians are constantly under threat. The blasphemy laws are an open invitation to the arbitrary violence of Muslim fanatics. The Christians here need to be strengthened in their faith. Hence, the first “work” of the community is prayer, followed by catechism and Bible study, and finally meetings with other groups – as well as retreats and spiritual exercises for priests and seminarians. So the Christians remain ready to forgive and offer reconciliation, entirely in the spirit described by Benedict XVI in his book *Jesus of Nazareth*: “Zeal for love and for the Cross must be the guiding orientation of the Christian.” For this work in laying the foundation stones of love the community needs prayer books, Bibles, catechisms and financial help for its missionary journeys. ●



**Where dialogue has taken solid shape – in Konni, Niger, Christians and Muslims are together building a shrine and place of prayer in honour of “Our Lady of Dialogue”.**

## The summit of reconciliation



**Unity in Christ – seminarians receive the blessing of their bishop.**

**Even among Christians, dialogue is a precondition for reconciliation. In the diocese of Kasongo, in the DR Congo, marked by so many years of bitter civil war, even the priests have in some cases become divided and suspicious of each other.**

Now a week of meetings has been organised for 38 priests and 14 lay Church workers, aimed at bringing about the reconciliation

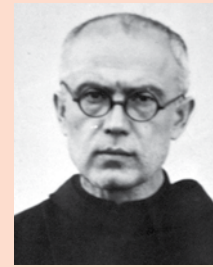
that has until now been hindered by political intrigue, tribal rivalries and bitter, grinding poverty. The summit of this reconciliation will come at the end of the week in the shared celebration of the Eucharist – the reconciliation in Christ. Given the terrible poverty in the region, the rapid spread of Islam and a host of different sects, unity is an urgent need among the Catholics of Kasongo. We have promised our help. ●



## Maynooth Union: The Diamond Jubilee class of 1951



Rev James Tighe, Rev Tadhg Ó Móráin, Most Rev Thomas Finnegan and Rev Tom Beirne. **The Diamond Jubilee class of 1951** were given special recognition at the Maynooth Union Dinner, when Cardinal Seán Brady presented them with an icon of **The Good Shepherd** in a beautiful case.



**Saint Maximilian Kolbe**  
(1894 - 1941)

*His number was 16670. In Auschwitz there were no names. Names give identity and dignity. But Father Maximilian Kolbe always saw the individual, regardless of nationality or race, of merits or failings. He saw them as God sees men. How often Father Maximilian had spoken about this merciful gaze of God in his preaching, his articles and radio broadcasts! Only through mercy are reconciliation and forgiveness possible. On 29 July 1941 he practised in deeds what he had so often preached in words. When Franciszek Gajowniczek, the father of a family, was selected for execution in the concentration camp, Kolbe asked the commandant if he could take his place. And so he went to the starvation bunker, where he comforted the other condemned prisoners right up to their deaths and was then finally dispatched himself, after 14 days, with a lethal injection. At the age of 16 Father Maximilian had joined the order of the Franciscan Friars Minor and had engaged, after his ordination, in an extensive missionary apostolate, including in Japan – but also using the media of his day. Today he is the patron saint of journalists and radio amateurs. In 1971 he was beatified by Pope Paul VI and in 1982 he was canonised by Pope John Paul II. Franciszek Gajowniczek was present in person at both ceremonies.*

## Need, love and thanks – Your letters

### With ACN and close to the persecuted

*We are three female students at a college in Verbania. We learnt about ACN while studying the topic of religious persecution. We are very impressed by your work and via this letter we want to express our solidarity and, through you, our fraternal support for every single persecuted Christian and for all who are persecuted on account of their religious faith.*

#### Three students from Italy

### Two sides of the same truth

*Reading your latest Mirror, I rejoiced at the hope and generosity that move young men to commit themselves to the priesthood, throughout the world. I confess I found it much harder to read your reports about the persecution of Christians, which is also occurring (almost) throughout the world. And yet I tell myself that they are two sides of the same truth – the beautiful and living witness to Christ among us today, crucified each day, and each day resplendent with the light of the resurrection.*

*Congratulations on your work, and thank you for enabling me to have a part in this worldwide mission, despite the limitations of family and professional commitments.*

#### A benefactor from Le Mans, France

### A marvellous witness

*What a marvellous witness Father Werenfried has left us – in the way he led ACN with such trust in divine Providence and followed God's will in every circumstance, above all in the most difficult ones, just as Mary did. God be praised! How can anyone not wish to help in his work?*

#### A benefactor in Espírito Santo, Brazil

### United before the Blessed Sacrament

*To all our brothers and sisters in Christ – every Wednesday at 9.00am before the Blessed Sacrament, we pray for all our persecuted brethren. You are very precious to us. With all our love, thoughts and prayers.*

#### Friends and benefactors of ACN from a parish in Kent, England

## Where to send your contribution for the Church in Need:

Please use the **Freepost** envelope.

Aid to the Church in Need, 151 St Mobhi Road, Glasnevin, Dublin 9.  
Tel. (01) 8377516. (Registered Charity No. 9492).



If you give by standing order, or have sent a donation recently, please accept our sincere thanks. This Mirror is for your interest and information.

**Editor:** Jürgen Liminski

**Publisher:** Kirche in Not / Ostpriesterhilfe, Postfach 1209, 61452 Königstein, Germany.

De licentia competentis auctoritatis ecclesiasticae

Printed in Ireland - ISSN 0252-2535  
www.acn-intl.org





# ANNUAL REPORT 2010



## Aid to the Church in Need

### Dear Friends,

People really are better than we think – or rather, you, our benefactors are better than we think. Never before in the more than 60 years of the history of ACN was there a year in which you gave more. The increase in income in 2010 by 13.5% to €86.9 million effectively means that we can do more to ease the needs of the Church, the needs of our brothers and sisters in the Faith around the world. It is true, of course, that the need is growing ever greater – but then so too is your generosity and at the same time your evident faith that we are putting these resources to good use. For this trust – and on behalf of our project partners too – please accept our heartfelt thanks.

This is not just empty flattery. Your help ‘drying the tears of God’ comes straight from the heart – this is what Pope Benedict XVI was referring to in his Palm Sunday homily, when he said, “In the language of the Bible and the thinking of the Fathers, the heart is the centre of man, where understanding, will and feeling, body and soul, all come together. The centre ... where will, feeling and understanding become one in the knowledge and love of God.” We are all of us engaged heart and soul in this cause. You, the benefactors, in love and generosity give your donations, legacies, Mass Stipends etc, to the 17 national offices of ACN, who in turn pass them on to the international headquarters, where the project requests from over 150 different countries are carefully examined and evaluated to ensure they conform to the pastoral

character of our priorities and to your own intentions. For Fr Werenfried was always clear about this: our goal is both to ease the needs of the Church and at the same time to enable our benefactors to come closer to God by expressing their love for him – two sides of the same coin, or coins, that filled his beggar’s hat. For him the words of St John the Evangelist were literally true: “If



Susanne Zeidler,  
International  
Executive Director



Declan Quinn,  
National Director

*any one has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or speech but in deed and in truth” (1Jn 3:17-18).* And so we at ACN, both here at the international headquarters and in the various national offices, are simply instruments in God’s hands. We gather up and pass on your gifts in a great circulation of love, whose living heartbeat is driven by your kindness, our work and the prayers and sacrifices of the Church in need around the world.

The tables and graphics illustrate where this pulse beats strongly and where the need is growing fastest. For it is indeed growing – in real and not simply in economic terms.

As the Holy Father said in his address to the Diplomatic Corps in January of this year, Christians are currently the religious community that is the most persecuted in the world. The Church suffers especially in the **Islamic countries**, and this will remain a high priority for our work in the future. But our help is also needed elsewhere, for example for the survival of contemplative sisters in the **former Communist countries**. They pray for you and in their own way drive the living heartbeat of the Church. Thanks to you, the Church in **Haiti** will also rise again from the rubble, while in the seminaries of **Africa** – due to your generosity – ever more hearts are beating for God. In **China** a section of the little flock continues to live as though in the catacombs and would face annihilation, but for you. Meanwhile, in **Latin America**, where half of all Catholics live today, you are helping, with the *Little Catechism* and *Child’s Bible*, to withstand the onslaught of both sects and secularism.

Everywhere, the need is growing. It was a good year – and yet despite this, we still had to defer many requests for help to the current year, 2011, because the surplus shown in the tables was not available until the end of the year. By now this sum has been fully spent on the projects. If you continue to bless us with your kindness and your confidence, we can make 2011 another year of love “in deed and in truth”.

With our heartfelt thanks to you all

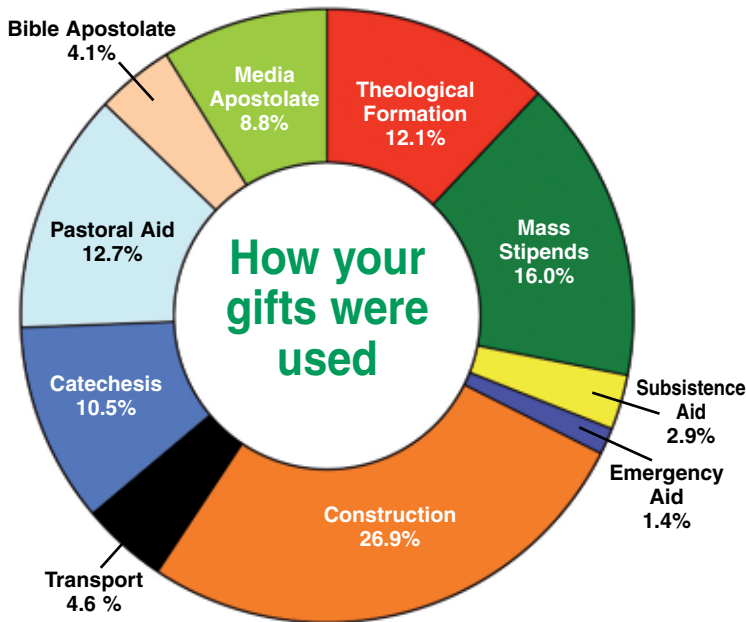




Income	€	%
Individual donations	53,936,725	61.7%
Mass Intentions	9,929,083	11.4%
Legacies	18,555,467	21.2%
Collections	745,962	0.8%
Other donations / income	3,743,952	4.3%
<b>Total income</b>	<b>86,911,189</b>	<b>99.4%</b>
Net Financial Income	483,126	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>87,394,315</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Expenses	€	%
Expenses in fulfilment of the Church's mission	65,752,285	75.2%
Promotion & fundraising	10,094,453	11.5%
Administration & Core	5,307,137	6.1%
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>81,153,875</b>	<b>92.8%</b>
<b>End-of-year surplus</b>	<b>6,240,440</b>	<b>7.2%</b>

The annual financial statements have been audited and certified by KPMG. They are based on the financial statements of the National Offices. We will gladly supply these on request. This Annual Report remains subject to formal approval by the General Council of ACN.



## Income from donations 2010

Country	Currency	2009	2010
Australia	€	2,591,006	3,625,596
Austria	€	2,144,051	2,473,862
Belgium	€	3,759,634	4,183,437
Brazil	€	2,670,762	3,509,952
Canada	€	939,012	1,328,545
Chile	€	591,915	1,692,375
France	€	16,053,833	19,346,731
Germany	€	9,380,656	8,704,558
Father Werentfried Foundation	€	102,926	311,622
Ireland	€	3,323,327	2,876,702
Italy	€	2,529,042	2,589,146
Luxembourg	€	661,644	260,500
Netherlands	€	3,140,046	6,594,944
Poland	€	747,856	1,124,140
Portugal	€	2,140,913	2,331,855
Spain	€	8,137,250	8,367,592
Switzerland	€	6,788,228	7,437,167
UK	€	7,707,533	7,816,613
USA	€	2,493,724	1,757,965
International Secretariat	€	679,728	577,887
<b>Total worldwide income</b>	<b>in €</b>	<b>76,583,086</b>	<b>86,911,189</b>

## Your love in 153 Countries during 2010 (in Euros)

Albania	229,171	Egypt	356,891	Macedonia	113,086	Seychelles	1,539
Algeria	51,959	El Salvador	47,980	Madagascar	406,816	Sierra Leone	49,127
Angola	460,234	Equatorial Guinea	12,950	Malawi	436,314	Slovakia	852,810
Argentina	654,078	Eritrea	118,451	Malaysia	21,039	Slovenia	32,372
Armenia	26,299	Estonia	9,257	Mali	185,363	Solomon Islands	5,000
Azerbaijan	15,053	Ethiopia	518,517	Mexico	489,862	South Africa	189,639
Bangladesh	179,994	Fiji	1,500	Micronesia	15,779	Sri Lanka	600,253
Belarus	455,070	Gabon	19,882	Moldova	69,956	St. Lucia	26,299
Benin	202,353	Georgia	116,968	Mongolia	30,507	Sudan	1,764,878
Bolivia	361,597	Ghana	482,854	Montenegro	197,769	Suriname	11,271
Bosnia-Herzegovina	586,774	Guatemala	177,599	Morocco	20,700	Swaziland	10,940
Botswana	5,600	Guinea-Bissau	19,935	Mozambique	522,626	Syria	472,943
Brazil	3,807,254	Guinea-Conakry	75,216	Myanmar (Burma)	1,048,568	Tajikistan	11,750
Bulgaria	68,799	Haiti	1,917,678	Nepal	29,455	Tanzania	678,558
Burkina Faso	351,775	Honduras	140,535	Nicaragua	211,468	Thailand	3,500
Burundi	375,480	Hungary	183,147	Niger	5,000	The Gambia	10,000
Cambodia	16,305	India	4,059,394	Nigeria	552,809	Togo	133,349
Cameroon	401,971	Indonesia	440,722	Pakistan	597,290	Trinidad and Tobago	3,571
Cape Verde	5,000	Iran	63,118	Palestine	90,517	Tunisia	25,000
Central African Republic	232,956	Iraq	567,697	Panama	1,714	Turkey	85,925
Chad	79,121	Israel	411,060	Papua New Guinea	255,288	Turkmenistan	15,000
Chile	1,506,637	Ivory Coast	437,335	Paraguay	211,853	Uganda	1,075,287
China	952,977	Jamaica	52,622	Peru	870,971	Ukraine	4,545,837
Colombia	946,230	Jordan	23,143	Philippines	754,284	Uruguay	227,700
Comoros	3,200	Kazakhstan	338,658	Poland	780,965	Uzbekistan	6,500
Congo	209,615	Kenya	513,803	Romania	936,213	Venezuela	235,051
Costa Rica	7,900	Kiribati	14,000	Russia (Catholic)	1,465,282	Vietnam	1,023,179
Croatia	394,871	Kyrgyzstan	18,935	Russia (Ecumenical)	434,582	Western World	12,145,004
Cuba	786,025	Laos	3,074	Russia (Orthodox)	701,300	Zambia	661,516
Czech Republic	427,257	Latvia	29,981	Rwanda	555,459	Zimbabwe	306,488
Dominican Republic	45,129	Lebanon	463,416	Samoa	3,814		
DR Congo	1,605,885	Liberia	85,026	São Tomé	133,240		
East Timor	32,838	Lithuania	356,638	Senegal	177,011		
Ecuador	141,178	Macau	6,350	Serbia	504,182		
						<b>Total in Euros</b>	<b>65,752,285</b>