

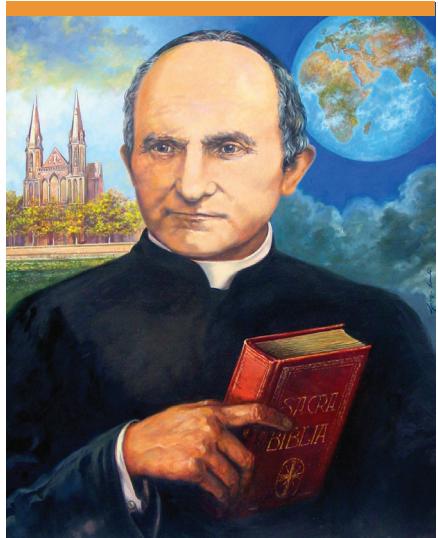


# DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES.

Our Story



**Divine Word Missionaries** is an international religious community of missionary priests and Brothers serving in over 80 countries around the world. Our more than 6,000 missionaries serve in remote mission communities, where they celebrate the sacraments and spread the word of God.



## Founded in 1875 by **Saint Arnold Janssen**,

Divine Word Missionaries work first and foremost where the Gospel has not been preached or where the local church cannot survive without the assistance of missionary service. Saint Joseph Freinademetz SVD was our first missionary sent to China in 1879. Today, our ministries reach every continent around the world except Antarctica.

Our missionaries meet the challenges of poverty, hunger, illness and natural disasters with hearts full of love and compassion as well as tangible solutions so that people in need have food, shelter and medical care. Divine Word Missionaries foster vibrant Catholic communities of faith and

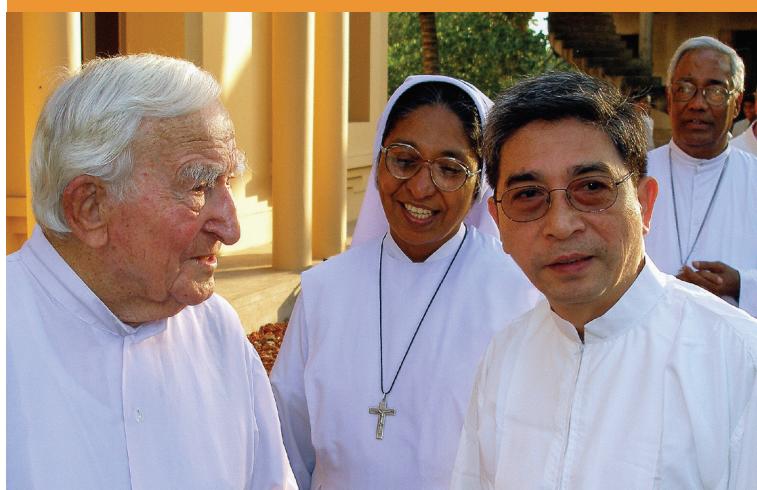
service worldwide while empowering people to live a life of quality and dignity. Your prayers and support give us strength to continue this work.

## DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES:

P.O. Box 6099  
1835 Waukegan Road  
Techny, Illinois 60082-6099



[svdmissons.org](http://svdmissons.org)





# TWO CENTURIES OF MISSIONARY SERVICE IN NORTH AMERICA

## First Catholic foreign mission seminary in the United States of America

Brother Homobonus Stiller SVD was sent to the United States to help Brother Wendelin Meyer SVD, and in 1897, more missionaries joined them. They settled in Shermerville, Illinois, now known as Northbrook, about 35 miles north of downtown Chicago. In 1909, encouraged by successful recruiting efforts, the Society of the Divine Word opened St Mary's Seminary at Techny, the first seminary established in the United States primarily to train men for foreign missions and the first seminary to serve African Americans. In 1905, at the urging of St. Arnold Janssen, Divine Word Missionaries undertook its pioneering ministry among African Americans, leading to the opening of St. Augustine's Seminary in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. About 40% of African American clergy ordained in the United States, including nine Divine Word Bishops, have been trained by the Society of the Divine Word.



## DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES AROUND THE WORLD

### EUROPE

Rome (International Headquarters), Germany, Austria, Netherlands, Belgium, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Italy, Switzerland, England, Scotland, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Croatia, Latvia, Serbia, France, Moldavia, Czech Republic, Wales, and Albania

### THE AMERICAS

Canada, United States of America, West Indies, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama

### ASIA-PACIFIC

China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Macau, India, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, East Timor, Thailand, South Korea, Vietnam, Australia, New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea

### AFRICA

Angola, Benin, Botswana, Tanzania, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Togo, Madagascar, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda, and Liberia