



Presence
Compassion
Liberation

Christian Brothers Oceania Province



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Oceania Province Mission Statement

The Oceania Province Mission Statement draws its life and vision from the Charism of Edmund Rice and the Mission of the Congregation.

Daring to be disciples of Jesus
and inspired by Edmund Rice,

We, living in solidarity with the whole earth community,
And walking with those whom society has marginalised,
particularly young people,
proclaim liberation and justice for all creation.



The Values for the Oceania Province

- PRESENCE :** Alive to the wonder of all creation opening us to intimacy with the Mystery of God
- COMPASSION :** Opening our hearts to and standing in solidarity with the suffering world
- LIBERATION :** Freeing and enlivening a world groaning under the weight of injustice

MISSIOLOGY FRAMEWORK

Moved by the Spirit

A framework to engage the Oceania Province in its reflection and action cycle as it responds to the call to live *in solidarity with the whole earth community* and to walk *with those whom society has marginalized, particularly young people, to proclaim liberation and justice for all creation* (Oceania Mission Statement, 2008).

Endorsed by the Oceania Leadership Team
September 2011 – December 2014

Introduction

The missiology framework is the result of an Oceania Province mission revitalization process and is intended to stimulate our mission imagination and engage us with theological reflection about our mission practice. The framework's contribution to the work of the Oceania Province is to enrich our discernment about and responsiveness to new missiological insights.

Oceania Province is hopeful that the missiology framework will encourage openness to new perspectives and new possibilities and will encourage a dynamic approach to ministry as we continually seek to be in right relationship as we respond to the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth.

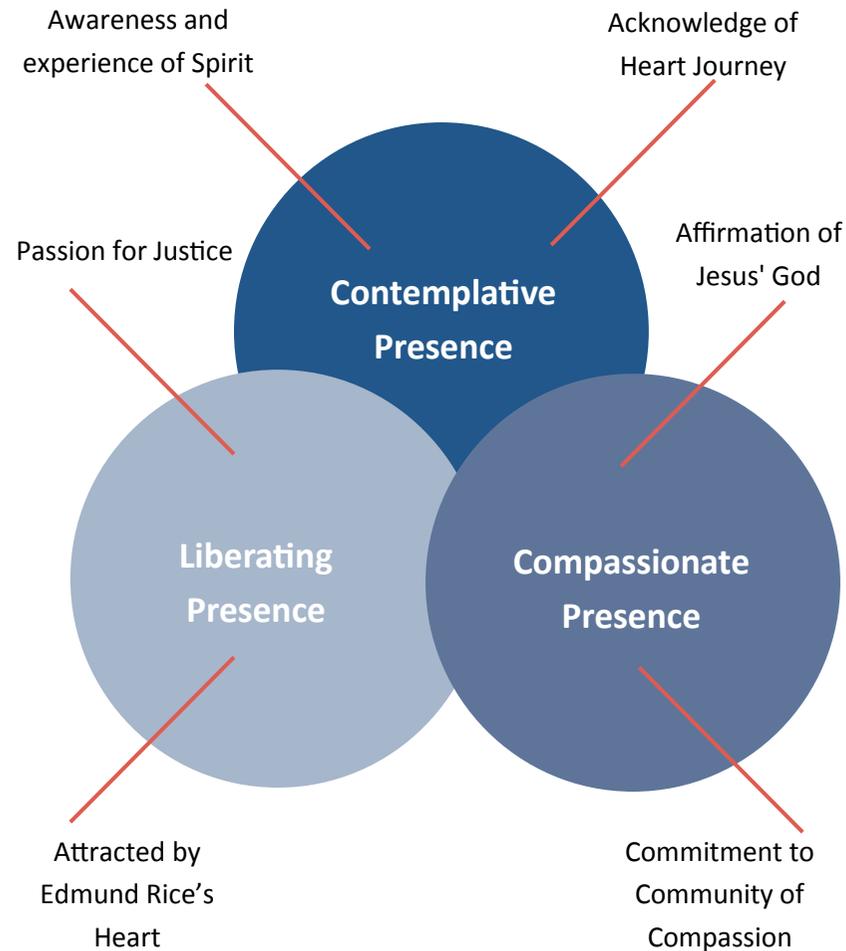
The missiology framework is informed by the experience of people's individual reflective practice, the Christian Brothers' discerned directions, the liberatory work of Edmund Rice, the radical inspiration of Jesus and the movement of Jesus' Spirit alive and active in our midst. Further to this, the missiology framework is attentive to the revelatory insights of the unfolding Universe and the expanding images of the Mystery that we call God.

This information and attentiveness have generated six entry points for engagement with a shared mission identity.

Six Entry Points of the Missiology Framework

- ◆ An awareness of the profound experience of Spirit which is confirmed in our sacred story and our emerging consciousness of the cosmic story;
 - ◆ An acknowledgement of the sacredness of the inner journey that is the essence of a heart-centered spirituality that calls us into an experience of connectedness with all life;
 - ◆ An affirmation of the radical and intimate nature of Jesus' experience of God that transformed his view of people and of the whole world;
 - ◆ A commitment to a community of compassion that recognizes interdependence with all life and respects the dignity of each person especially the vulnerable peoples and those in need of healing;
 - ◆ An attraction to the particular way Edmund Rice discerned his calling and responded to it through liberating the minds and hearts of those made poor;
 - ◆ A passion for justice and truth that transcends social and economic boundaries and advocates for the rights of all life by challenging injustice and oppression.
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Three Dimensions of the Missiology Framework



The first two entry points relate to an awareness and acknowledgement of the Mystery that connects all life at the deepest level of human experience. We open our hearts to the awe-inspiring diversity of life and the possibilities it holds. Therefore we are moved by the Spirit into a **CONTEMPLATIVE PRESENCE**.

The next two entry points relate to an affirmation of Jesus' life and commitment to participate in the healing and reconciling processes that dignify and nurture all life. Therefore we are moved by the Spirit to a **COMPASSIONATE PRESENCE**.

The final two entry points relate to the passion for advocacy and liberating action in our world as we respond to the human, ecological and cosmological crises of our time. Therefore we are moved by the Spirit to a **LIBERATING PRESENCE**.

Five Principles of Praxis

The missiology framework promotes five principles of praxis for discerning mission engagement and mission effectiveness. These five principles generate implications for practice.

1. Dialogue and Discernment Processes: This principle is about seeking wisdom from people and sources that present alternative perspectives about mission.

Implications:

Engage in dialogue and discernment sessions with people who are evaluating and/or exploring opportunities for ministry work;
Support vision quests and new partnerships that encourage new possibilities for mission.

2. Critical Analysis and Creative Thinking: This principle is about critiquing, interpreting and creating relevance for mission by energizing traditional and contemporary concepts and practices.

Implications:

Provide forums for critical analysis and evaluation of current practice within ministry work and cross-cultural engagement;
Ensure induction programs are informed by and address the missiology framework;
Develop course work to explore the implications elements of the missiology framework.

3. Integrative and Inter-Cultural Approaches: This principle is about respecting the diversity of wisdoms and the richness of global influences upon mission.

Implications:

Explore new possibilities when synergies and alignment of passions occur across boundaries;

Train ministry workers in the use of inclusive processes, facilitation and dialogue processes to achieve clarity of thought and unity of vision and purpose for mission.

4. Contextual and Congregational Significance: This principle is about continually refining, enriching and amplifying mission concepts to reflect new insights and respond intelligently to specific contexts.

Implications:

Embrace the possibility that is revealed in both the contemporary and traditional insights of the Edmund Rice charism and the multi-national nature of the Oceania Province;

Explore new ministry work, new partnerships and new pathways of commitment that are integral to mission development.

5. Openness to Spirit: This principle is about accepting challenges, even discomfort, associated with the process of generating clearer articulations of meaning and relevance for mission.

Implications:

Deal with challenges respectfully and live creatively with the questions;
Name the tensions and accept the fragility of ourselves and the planet;
Listen for God in the stillness and the signs of the times and respond courageously when moved by the Spirit to open your hearts to Christ present and appealing in the poor.
