

***“For everything
there is a season...”***



**Missionaries
of the
Sacred Heart**
MSC MISSIONS

A letter from the Irish Provincial Superior

Dear mission friends,

I am writing today to share the news that, after 22 years as Director of the MSC Missions Office, Fr Michael O’Connell MSC will be standing down from this post in the new year.

I am glad to be able to tell you that Fr John Fitzgerald MSC will be stepping into the role of Director; having worked in close proximity with the Missions Office for many years now, I know that Fr John will bring with him many gifts and will be a wonderful addition to the team there.

As it is written in Ecclesiastes, “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven” (3:1-2) - and with the dawn of the new year comes a new season for the MSC Missions Office.

I’m sure you will join me in thanking Fr Michael, most sincerely, for all that he has done to help our Missions Office contribute to the work of our MSC communities all over the world, playing its part in feeding the hungry, helping the poor, building schools and churches, and ministering to those affected by natural disasters and, most recently, the coronavirus pandemic. This work has played a vital role in enabling us to grow and expand the support we offer to our own Irish mission projects and those of other Provinces around the MSC world.

Fr Michael has built a very close and special relationship with our mission friends; while I know that we will all feel his absence keenly, we are very grateful for having had the benefit of his warmth, his energy, and his enthusiasm, and I am sure that you will echo me in wishing him all the very best on this new chapter of his life.

Fr Michael will be working closely with Fr John as we look ahead to this new beginning, making sure that the transition will be a smooth, pleasant, and successful one for everybody.

Once again, I would like to extend sincere thanks to Fr Michael, along with a heartfelt congratulatory welcome to Fr John on his new appointment. We look forward to embarking on this new path together with you, our mission friends, as we continue on our shared journey to make the Sacred Heart of Jesus everywhere loved.

*With my prayers and very best wishes,
Fr Carl Tranter MSC,
Irish Provincial Superior*



**United in faith,
we will continue to work together
to shine the light of God’s love where it is needed most.**

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved.