

MISSIONARY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION



Founded in 1843, the Missionary Childhood Association (formerly Holy Childhood Association) is an international organization whose membership is made up of students in Catholic elementary schools and religious education programs. It is an organization dedicated to fostering children's awareness of the missionary nature of the Church.

The Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) program in the Mission Office exists to be of service to schools and religious education programs in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Dear Holy Family Families:

As part of our schools connection with the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA), each year we are asking for the students of Holy Family to help in the annual HCA Lenten Program.

Lent is a time for special prayer, fasting and abstinence in preparation for the great Easter celebration. It is a very special time to journey with young people as they deepen their love and commitment for Our Lord.

As Catholics, we are called to be missionaries. While we may not be able to travel to other countries, we can still bring the love of God to others.

We are asking that our Holy Family students to help other less fortunate children. This year the MCA Lenten contributions are going to the children of **Malawi**.

*"The Nzama Primary School in **Dedza, Malawi**, is caring for the minds, bodies and souls of its students. It is located in one of the poorest countries in the entire world where more than half of the people live significantly below the poverty line. Most families do not have the money to pay for school, clothes, food and medicine. Many of the children are orphans."*

This is a great opportunity for our families to put their Lenten thoughts into actions and help children who are in need. It takes as little as \$2.00 per family to make a difference. Join us to help make this Lenten journey more meaningful.

If you or your child could drop off an envelope with your contribution to the school office marked **"HCA Lenten contribution" with your child's grade and name**. We will be sending this to the main Mission Office in the Los Angeles Archdiocese by April 17th.

Let's continue our journey by keeping the spirit of "children helping children" alive through your participation.

Sincerely,

Ruel and Gia Villaluna