

# FEATURE

## *Fruits of the Mission*

### Presentation

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Although the composition of this number of *VINCENTIANA* reflects a practical reason, it is still possible to find a theoretical justification. The practical reason is the gathering of some items which, for various reasons, have been left out of the bimonthly issues of *VINCENTIANA*. It seems fair to acknowledge the effort and emphasis by the authors. In trying to sort through them, it is easy to find them related in some way to the three purposes Saint Vincent proposed to missionaries as a target for their perseverance in the Congregation: their own perfection, the evangelization of the poor and the training of clergy. Without intending to, we have in this issue, continued the small tribute that we wanted to make to the Common Rules on the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their being given to the missionaries. Issue n. 2 was devoted entirely to them, and we have continued with a study of them in each of the remaining issues of the year.

The theme of our perfection is exemplified in the figure of the Blessed Ghebra. Antonio Furioli, M.C.C.J., in preparing his doctoral thesis on St. Justin of Jacobis, brings us closer to this figure who by his relentless search for truth and unwavering defense of the same, was exhausted to death in prison. Blessed Ghebra is undoubtedly an ideal of a faithful follower of Christ.

The evangelization of the poor is represented by a specific mission, the mission of the province of Zaragoza in Honduras, which is shared in some way throughout the province. Undoubtedly we could have chosen many other missions, all of them very worthy of attention and memory; but when we encountered this work we

saw it as a good example of a mission of integral evangelization, undertaken communally by the whole province, with the different competencies of its communities and individuals.

Finally service in the training of clergy has been treated by a man who has devoted many years of his life to this ministry. The subject is presented from the viewpoint of the importance the Social Doctrine of the Church must take in the formation of future priests. Different circumstances made it impossible for the article to be published in the previous issue of *VINCENTIANA*, and so it is presented in this issue.

We illustrated the mission by these examples because they represent how the objectives of the mission are successfully carried out.

*VINCENTIANA* closes once again for this year with a theme relating to the Common Rules. Although the Rules about the Community were not developed in terms which are used the same today, they are based on permanently valid principles such as the following of Christ in a community for the mission, which is built on love, the basis of a respectful and cordial service to the brothers.

Translation: Sister MARY HALE