

eulogiums and enriching it with numerous indulgences. It would take too long to enumerate them in this place but you may do so, when explaining this devotion to your parishioners.

And then, when we consider how easy it is to become a member of the Propagation of the Faith, what Christian would refuse to enroll his name? Where is the man so busy that he cannot find time, during the day, to say one *Our Father* and one *Hail Mary*, with this invocation: *St. Francis Xavier, pray for us*. Where is the man so utterly poor, that he cannot set aside one cent a week? Ah! Beloved Colleagues, make the faithful understand well that that alms is the word which will convert poor infidels, the doctrine which will enlighten the blind, the balm which will soften the most barbarous hearts. Without going from home, they will preach with the missionary, baptize with him, visit abandoned Christian stations, bear the last sacraments to the dying and open the gates of heaven. By this means they will secure perpetuity of faith in the bosom of their families. A nation of apostles can never become impious!

In thus inviting you so earnestly, my Dear Colleagues, to establish and spread the work of the Propagation of the Faith, I am only carrying out the intentions of Our Holy Father Leo XIII. In an encyclical letter, dated December 3, 1880, he says to the bishops of the Catholic world:

"You therefore, Venerable Brethren, who are called to share our solicitude, we exhort you to work unanimously toward helping with zeal and ardor the apostolic missions, putting your trust in God and allowing no difficulty to frighten you. The salvation of souls is at stake for whom our Redeemer sacrificed his life