

Faith Lived

Faith Loved

G.I.G

## Purpose and Rationale

### Vision of Mission experience

Missio Scotland is the official mission agency of the Catholic Church in Scotland. One of our goals is to continue the mission of Jesus that all may have life, and have it to the full (John 10:10b).

A GIG Mission experience is where a small group of adults or students visit church and school communities in an overseas country for 12 to 14 days. The purpose of an immersion is for participants to experience life, faith and justice from a new perspective and return home inspired to live a personal sense of 'mission' in Scotland.

Mission Experience is a powerful strategy in helping us understand and involve ourselves in Jesus' mission. The experience is first and foremost an experience of being with others. Just as God the Father, through Jesus, came to be with us; as Jesus sat at the table of the poor, the outcast and vulnerable.

Through mission experience we come face-to-face with local people and recognise them as our brothers and sisters. We empathise with them and share their daily joys and sorrows, celebrating their richness and gifts, and feeling for their pain. We learn as much from them, if not more, than they learn from us.

Guided throughout the experience by critical and prayerful questioning, we recognise that we are involved in and are partly responsible for their reality in this global society. Missio Scotland immersions highlight how the reign of God is becoming present in each community, at the pace of the local people through their own efforts and supported by the universal Church.

As Pope Francis is challenging each of us to live the 'Joy of the Gospel', we hope that participants' learning and experience will continue long after they have returned home. They return with newfound friends and a broader vision of God's family and their responsibility: to continue the mission of Jesus in the world. The hope is that participants will try to carry out in their own lives what they learned from their mission experience.



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