

21.10.71  
19.10.72  
21.10.74

Lamb of God (DER:10)  
RHK  
TAPE (An Name)  
L-Victoria

ANGELUS.

There seem these days to be an increasing number of Sundays for this as Sundays for that, added to no doubt by the growing practice of ecumenical sharing of these special days. <sup>yesterday</sup> (last Sunday), for instance, was observed as Medical Sunday or Hospital Sunday, drawing attention to the work of caring for the sick and their needs, on the occasion of the nearly feast-day of St Luke the evangelist who's reputed to have been himself a medical man, and certainly gives in his gospel the impression of particular interest in the healing-retreats of Jesus and the debilitated of the ill-afflicted people were suffering from. <sup>And now this coming Sunday</sup> (But last Sunday was also) in the Catholic Church <sup>But yesterday was also</sup> throughout the world, observed as Mission Sunday, a day for special attention and concern for the missionary work of the Church everywhere. Besides praying for the pioneering work of the Church in places and <sup>societies</sup> ~~communities~~ where the community of Christians is still very small or very young, we're ~~also~~ asked [and with a special emphasis from Pope Paul this year] to give of ourselves in support of this work. Of course, medical social service has long been one of the ways in which the Church has given service in new areas and made her presence known: Hong Kong has experienced this too - only now, for various reasons, many of the Christian-sponsored and supported medical services here are likely to rely more and more on local help and financial contribution. Tho' this ~~does~~ cause difficulties, it is as it should be - if HK Christians will give this support. But there are other places in the world with greater needs than ours, and this is a dimension of Christian service we ought to be becoming more aware of, and more ready to contribute to.

So Mission Sunday and its appeal is not really, still, optional. Even if the idea of 'foreign missions' <sup>has lost its former glamour</sup> ~~doesn't appeal to you~~, you should realize that the Church herself has progressed beyond the perhaps rather limited meaning that term used to have - today, the stress of Mission is rather more on every Christian's obligation towards his fellowmen and the society he lives in; as well, the work for others which the contributions we make on Mission Sunday go towards, <sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ to a large extent the kind of social service to a needy community which Christian hospitals and schools and similar organisations give. Not that the mission of the Church in the world doesn't - - - -

→ MP 135 p 2 t.