

Church Makes **Mission Changes**

To better align resources to changing needs, the Church has created 10 new missions and consolidated others with neighboring missions. The resulting number of missions will be 340.

The Church has created the following missions:

Democratic Republic of Congo Lubumbashi, Guatemala Retalhuleu, Mexico Mexico City Northwest, Mexico Villahermosa, New Mexico Farmington, Nicaragua Managua North (the Nicaragua Managua Mission will be called the Nicaragua Managua South Mission), Peru Cusco, Peru Lima West, Philippines Iloilo, and Utah St. George.

The Church has combined the following missions:

The Australia Melbourne East and West Missions will become the Australia Melbourne Mission.

The Australia Sydney North and South Missions will become the Australia Sydney Mission.

The Puerto Rico San Juan East and West Missions will become the Puerto Rico San Juan Mission, with parts of the east mission being consolidated into the Dominican Republic Santo Domingo East and the West Indies Missions.

The Germany Hamburg Mission will become part of the Germany Berlin Mission.

The Germany Munich/Austria,

Switzerland Zürich, and portions of the Germany Frankfurt Missions will become the Alpine German-Speaking Mission.

The Illinois Chicago North and South Missions will become the Illinois Chicago Mission.

The Illinois Peoria Mission will be consolidated into a realignment of the Iowa Des Moines, Missouri St. Louis, and Nebraska Omaha Missions.

The Ireland Dublin and Scotland Edinburgh Missions will become the Scotland/Ireland Mission.

The Italy Catania Mission will be consolidated into a realignment of the Italy Rome and Italy Milan missions.

The Japan Hiroshima Mission will be consolidated into a realignment of the Japan Fukuoka and Japan Kobe Missions.

The Korea Seoul West Mission will become part of the Korea Seoul Mission.

The New Jersey Cherry Hill Mission will be consolidated into a realignment of the New Jersey Morristown and Pennsylvania Philadelphia Missions.

The Ohio Cincinnati Mission will be consolidated into a realignment of the Ohio Columbus and West Virginia Charleston Missions.

The Spain Bilbao Mission will be consolidated into a realignment of the Spain Barcelona, Spain Madrid, and Spain Málaga missions. ■

Elder Oaks Addresses Harvard Law Students

Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles recently addressed students at Harvard Law School during their fifth annual Mormonism 101 Series.

Each year a member of the Church is invited by the Harvard Law School Latter-day Saint Students Organization to speak about the basic beliefs of Mormonism and to answer questions students may have.

Elder Oaks explained the LDS belief in Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost as three individual beings, separate in identity and unified in purpose. He also explained the purpose of life through a brief account of the plan of salvation.

He offered his testimony of Jesus Christ and the power of the Atonement, saying, “To me, the miracle of the Atonement of Jesus Christ is incomprehensible, but the Holy Ghost has given me a witness of its truthfulness, and I rejoice that I can spend my life in proclaiming it.”

He went on to explain the Church’s reliance on sources of truth, including modern-day revelation and scripture.

“We are not grounded in the wisdom of the world or the philosophies of men—however traditional or respected they may be,” he said. “Our testimony of Jesus Christ is based on the revelations of God to His prophets and to us individually.” ■

Cardinal Lauds Joint Efforts to Defend Religious Freedom

In the first address given by a cardinal at Brigham Young University, his Eminence Francis Cardinal George said Catholics and Latter-day Saints must stand together in defense of religious freedom in the United States.

“When government fails to protect the consciences of its citizens, it falls to religious bodies, especially those formed

by the gospel of Jesus Christ, to become the defenders of human freedom,” he said.

Cardinal George, the Archbishop of Chicago and President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, addressed a group of 12,000 Latter-day Saint students and faculty members in the Marriott Center in Provo, Utah, USA.

He expressed his gratitude that “Catholics and Latter-day Saints have come to see one another as trustworthy partners in the

defense of shared moral principles.”

Both churches have stood together on issues such as abortion, pornography, and gay marriage, he noted.

“Religious freedom cannot be reduced to freedom of worship nor even freedom of private conscience,” he said. “Religious freedom means that religious groups as well as religious individuals have a right to exercise their influence in the public square.” ■

WORLD BRIEFS

Ogden Temple to Undergo Renovation

The nearly 40-year-old Ogden Utah Temple will undergo a major 18- to 24-month renovation.

The core design of the temple interior will remain the same, but the exterior will feature a new design, with new stone and glass.

The building will be remodeled to meet seismic requirements, feature the latest technology, and include more energy-efficient equipment. An underground parking structure will also be added.

Honor Bee Charm Created

In conjunction with several changes to the Personal Progress program, an Honor Bee charm is now available to young women who go beyond the regular requirements.

To receive the charm, a young woman may reread the Book of Mormon and complete 40 additional hours of service after receiving her Young Womanhood Recognition medallion. Part of this service must include helping another young woman complete her Personal Progress goals. This award is a small charm is worn on the same necklace with the medallion.



Exhibit Features Latin American Saints

The Church History Museum recently opened a new bilingual exhibit called “Mi Vida, Mi Historia: Stories of Faith and Inspiration from Latin American Saints,” which highlights spiritual experiences from the lives of 24 members. Their photos are hung throughout the exhibit, and interactive audiovisual kiosks allow visitors further insight into participants’ lives. The exhibit is available online in Spanish and English at lds.org/museum. Click on **Exhibits and Galleries**, then on **Current Exhibits**. ■