

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Missionary Work

**Directions:** Read about Saint Francis Xavier and Blessed Liduina Meneguzzi and then answer the questions that follow. Use the back of this page if you need more room to write.



Saint Francis Xavier (1506–1552) began his mission work in India. His mornings were usually spent in hospitals and prisons, comforting people. After that he walked through the streets, ringing a bell to summon the children to catechism. He taught them prayers and how to live like Jesus. By his gentleness and his deep concern for others, Francis won the people’s respect. He wrote: “The country is so utterly barren and poor. The native Christians have no priests . . . I have not stopped since the day I arrived. I conscientiously made the rounds of the villages. I bathed in sacred waters all the children who had not yet been baptized . . . The older children would not let me say my Office or eat or sleep until I taught them one prayer or another. Then I began to understand, ‘The kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.’”



Blessed Liduina Meneguzzi (1901–1941) was a humble person. She came from a poor Italian family. She entered a religious community and worked doing various everyday tasks. In 1937 she went to Ethiopia as a missionary. She worked as a nurse and helped wounded soldiers who came to the hospital during World War II. During the bombings she bravely ran to help those who were wounded, and she baptized dying children. She worked with all people, regardless of ethnicity or religious beliefs. She loved to talk about God and his goodness and attracted many people to Jesus. People gave her the nickname “Sister Gudda” (Sister Great).

Describe the work of a missionary.

---

How can you do missionary work in your community?

---