



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Sunday, October 22, 2023

“Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?” – Luke 24:13

Hearts on fire, feet on the move (cf. Luke 24:13-35)

Pope Francis invites us to renew our zeal for evangelization by meditating on the story of the disciples on the way to Emmaus. He says, “Let us set out to make other hearts burn with the word of God, to open the eyes of others to Jesus in the Eucharist, and to invite everyone to walk together on the path of peace and salvation.” All of us contribute to the missionary movement of the Church with our prayers and activities, material offerings and personal witness.

“Everyone has a right to receive the Gospel” (Evangelii Gaudium 14)

The **Pontifical Mission Societies** are a worldwide network within the Church that foster missionary cooperation on both the spiritual and material levels. We all have a responsibility to care for our brothers and sisters in mission areas and to support young local churches. The Societies have been pontifical since 1922, which means they are official instruments of the universal Church under the guidance of the Holy Father himself.

The **World Mission Sunday** collection contributes to the Pontifical Society of the Propagation of the Faith, enabling:

- Over 844,000 catechists to share the faith.
- 258,540 Religious Sisters to tend to families and children.
- 38,140 seminarians journeying towards the priesthood.
- Education for 26 million children.
- Medical assistance in 12,000 clinics.
- Comfort in 8,750 homes for the orphaned and elderly.

How to participate:

Pray: According to Pope Francis, prayer is the soul of mission! Ask the Holy Spirit to inspire you to go forth and witness to the Gospel in your daily life. Talk with Jesus about our brothers and sisters who struggle for dignity and freedom around the world. Listen for God’s call in your life.

Sacrifice: Offer your time and energy to people and organizations who carry out the loving mission of Jesus at home or far away. Offer a financial gift in the World Mission Sunday collection to support training future priests and religious, empowering lay catechists, funding clinics for the sick and dying, and providing homes and education to vulnerable children.

What is

World Mission Sunday?

Established in 1926, World Mission Sunday is an annual global celebration within the Catholic Church. This special day is observed in every local church around the world on the second to last Sunday in October.

How do we celebrate it?

We renew our own call to be missionary disciples of Jesus Christ and offer our support for the Church’s missionary activity in the most remote and resource-limited areas of the world. The collection taken this day supports mission dioceses in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands and parts of Latin America and Europe.