



THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO

I have made you a light for the nations  
so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.  
Acts 13:47

October 5, 2021

Dear Monsignors/Pastors,

October 23-24, 2021, will be the annual worldwide celebration of World Mission Sunday.

Pope Francis' message for World Mission Sunday reflects on the theme: **“We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard”** (Acts 4:20). The Holy Father shares his zeal, reminding us that, “as Christians, we cannot keep the Lord to ourselves,” as we “recall with gratitude all those men and women who by their testimony of life help us to renew our baptismal commitment to be generous and joyful apostles of the Gospel.” He invites us to speak of our faith!

Let us answer our baptismal call with exuberance and zeal on World Mission Sunday along with all the Catholics throughout the world. Our assistance helps to bring God's love, hope and peace to all His children – especially the poor who have suffered most throughout this pandemic crisis, as well as those persecuted for the faith, and those who have yet to know the salvation of the Gospel.

I want to thank you very much for the generosity the people of your parish have shown in their contributions to World Mission Sunday. Through this collection, your parish provides for more than 1,100 mission dioceses in territories covering more than half the globe. Your parishioners' prayers and sacrifices will support priests, religious, and lay pastoral leaders who are proclaiming the Gospel, building the Church, and serving the poor and most vulnerable.

We have sent materials to help you celebrate the World Mission Sunday. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any further guidelines. You can also download additional materials from the diocesan Missions Office website.

I keep you in prayer and assure you of the constant prayers of the recipients of these offerings. Thank you for encouraging your parishioners' generous response. I thank you as well for all you do for the missionary work of the Church throughout the year, especially during the Mission Month of October.

Yours Gratefully,

Rev. Soney Sebastian, SVD  
Director, Office for the Missions