

# WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Hearts on fire,  
feet on the move



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

## This Year's Theme: "Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move"

Pope Francis invites us to set our hearts ablaze with faith and put our faith into action, serving God's mission with joy, enthusiasm, and tireless dedication.

### "Hearts on Fire"

As Christians, we're called to kindle the fire of Christ's love in our hearts. Our burning faith fuels our actions, inspiring us to serve others in our daily lives.

### "Feet on the Move"

Pope Francis encourages us to not only feel the faith but to act on it. It's our mission to move, serve, and spread the Good News, bringing God's love and peace to all His children.

## What is World Mission Sunday?

World Mission Sunday is an annual global celebration within the Catholic Church, observed on the second to last Sunday of October. This special day is dedicated to the support of the missionary work of the Church through prayer and sacrifices.

## Why Do We Celebrate it?

Established by Pope Pius XI in 1926, World Mission Sunday is an opportunity for every Church community worldwide to express solidarity with our brothers and sisters living in mission territories. The collection supports mission dioceses in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe.

### How to take part:

**Prayers:** Pray for the success of the Church's missionary efforts, missionary priests, religious brothers and sisters, and lay people. And also pray for the people served by them in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Pacific Islands, and some regions of Europe.

**Donations:** Your financial support helps fund missionary activities around the world, such as:

- Training future priests and religious
- Supporting religious Sisters
- Empowering catechists teaching the faith
- Funding clinics for the sick and dying
- Providing homes for orphaned children





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### Did you know?

The **Society for the Propagation of the Faith**, one of four Pontifical Mission Societies, was founded by French laywoman Blessed Pauline Jaricot in 1822. She planted the seed for what today is the **World Mission Sunday Collection** by asking her friends to pray daily and donate a penny a week for the missionaries working on spreading the Gospel to all nations.

The monies raised in 1822 supported the vast diocese of Louisiana, which then extended from the Florida Keys to Canada, as well as the missions of Kentucky and China. In the United States, we benefited from the collection until 1908. Throughout the years, we received the equivalent of over \$250 million today, while the dioceses in our country considered mission territories have continued to receive subsidies.

Fairbanks, Alaska, was the last of those dioceses and received its final subsidy payment this year!

Offerings support the formation of seminarians and religious men and women, assist in the construction of churches, schools and orphanages and help missionaries proclaim the Gospel and celebrate the Sacraments.

### Pray the rosary for the missions this October!

The World Mission Rosary is a tool used to both pray and speak about the missions. Its uniqueness is in the five colors represented in each of the decades.

This rosary honors the work of mission, our call to be missionaries, and fosters peace through its special emphasis on each of the Earth's regions, where prayers are needed for all people who live and play and pray just like each of us!

The mysteries of the World Mission Rosary are the ones you know- joyful, sorrowful, glorious, and of light. Each color, however, represents an area in particular:

- **Green** – for the forests and grasslands of Africa
- **Red** – calling to mind the fire of faith that brought missionaries to the Americas (US, Canada, Latin America, and Native Americans)
- **White** – symbolizing Europe, the home of the Holy Father
- **Blue** – for the ocean surrounding the Islands of the Pacific (Australia/Oceania)
- **Yellow** – symbolizing the morning light of the East and the "beginning of civilization" for Asia/Middle East



SUNDAY OCTOBER 22, 2023

# WORLD MISSION SUNDAY General Intercessions



## CELEBRANT

On this World Mission Sunday, we embrace the call to have our "Hearts on fire, feet on the move." We come before the Lord, asking Him to fuel our passion and direct our steps as we bear witness to His love throughout the world.

### Sample Responses:

*"Lord, Ignite Our Hearts" | "Lord, Guide Our Steps" | "God of All Nations, Hear Our Prayer"*

## LECTOR

For Pope Francis, our leading missionary, and for all those who bravely proclaim the Gospel in foreign lands, may their hearts remain ablaze with love for Christ and all of humanity...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

For the enduring legacy of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith: may our commitment to mission be rejuvenated, echoing the fervor of early believers...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

Seeking the intercession of Blessed Pauline Jaricot, may her passion for the mission of the Church continue to light our path and inspire our actions...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

For families worldwide, the domestic church, may they be ignited with a missionary spirit. As they nurture faith within the home, may they also reach out, sharing the love and message of Christ with their communities and beyond, exemplifying that every family is a vital beacon of God's love in the world...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

For all those who support the missions, may their generosity bear abundant fruit and inspire others to contribute both in prayer and deed...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

For the Church in Ukraine, Syria, Sudan, and in every region scarred by conflict, may God's peace reign and may our support bring solace and strength...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*



The Society for the  
Propagation of the Faith  
*a Pontifical Mission Society*

[www.onefamilyinmission.org](http://www.onefamilyinmission.org)



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023



# WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

## General Intercessions



In places where the faithful face persecution, may God's protective love surround them, giving them courage and hope...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

For mission territories rich in faith but in need of resources, may our collective efforts bring relief and spiritual nourishment...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

Where the name of Christ is yet unknown, may the Holy Spirit work through missionaries, drawing souls to the redeeming power of the Gospel...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

For an increase in missionary vocations, may the call to serve be heard and answered with a heart on fire and feet ready to move...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

For missionaries who have laid down their lives in service and for our departed loved ones whom we hold dear, may they experience eternal joy in God's presence...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

For the youth of our Church, that they may be filled with missionary zeal, harnessing the power of digital evangelization to spread the message of Christ far and wide, and inspiring their peers to a life rooted in faith...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

For the elderly and those in the twilight years of their lives, that they may continue to serve as pillars of wisdom and experience, sharing the stories of God's grace in their lives and encouraging younger generations to embrace their own missionary call...

*Let us pray to the Lord...*

### CELEBRANT

Almighty Father, ignite our hearts with the fire of Your love. As we strive to answer our call to mission, guide our steps and empower us to be true witnesses of Your love in every corner of the world. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.



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# Mass Announcements World Mission Sunday



The World Mission Sunday Collection **is the only mandatory collection held every year in every single Catholic parish in the world.** Though some dioceses make an exception, it is universally held on the second to last Sunday of October (Sunday, October 22, 2023)

## The week before World Mission Sunday

Next weekend, we will unite with the global Church in celebrating World Mission Sunday. This year, Pope Francis illuminates our path with the theme: **"Hearts on fire, feet on the move."** As we prepare to observe this special day, we are reminded to ignite our hearts with Christ's love and extend that warmth to the most vulnerable corners of our world. Your fervent prayers and upcoming generosity in the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith will bolster the missionaries working in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and certain regions of Latin America and Europe. Let us come together to support them in their mission of love and service. Thank you!

## The week of World Mission Sunday

Today, we celebrate World Mission Sunday, heeding Pope Francis's call to keep our **"Hearts on fire, feet on the move."** On this day, we reflect on our baptismal promise to be disciples and missionaries, sharing the Good News. The collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith directly aids priests, religious, and lay leaders in the Pope's missions, allowing them to minister to and uplift communities in dire need. Let's light up the world with our prayers and generosity. Thank you for your heartfelt contribution!

## The week after World Mission Sunday

A heartfelt thank you to each one of you for your outpouring of support on World Mission Sunday. Together, our parish raised \$(insert amount) for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Your generosity echoes the theme **"Hearts on fire, feet on the move,"** bringing warmth and hope to communities worldwide. To remain connected and engaged with the Pope's missions throughout the year, please visit [OneFamilyInMission.org](http://OneFamilyInMission.org). Your commitment to the universal mission of the Church is deeply appreciated.



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# Bulletin Announcements

## World Mission Sunday



### The week before World Mission Sunday

Get Ready to Set Your **"Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move"** for World Mission Sunday!

Next weekend, we'll unite with fellow Catholics globally to mark World Mission Sunday. As we reflect on Pope Francis' compelling theme, we're invited to kindle the flames of Christ's love and spread its warmth to mission territories in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe. Prepare to support the Society for the Propagation of the Faith with prayers and generosity. Thank you for being a beacon of Christ's love!

### The week of World Mission Sunday

Embrace the Pope's Missions with **"Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move"** this World Mission Sunday!

Today, Pope Francis echoes the universal call of our Baptism – to be Christ's witnesses to the world. As we gather with global Catholics on this World Mission Sunday, our prayers and contributions to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith bolster the Pope's missions, enabling:

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

By supporting this cause, we truly live out the call to be the spark that transforms lives. May your prayers and gifts create ripples of love and transformation. Thank you for your missionary zeal!

### The week after World Mission Sunday

Your Generosity Ignited Change on World Mission Sunday – Thank You!  
Your active participation on World Mission Sunday has been heartwarming!  
By extending your generosity to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, you've ignited change, supported missionaries worldwide, nourished the hungry, and aided the building of the Church in the Pope's mission territories. Your gifts, combined with countless others, was the spark that set "hearts on fire"! God's blessings be upon you for embodying the true missionary spirit!



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