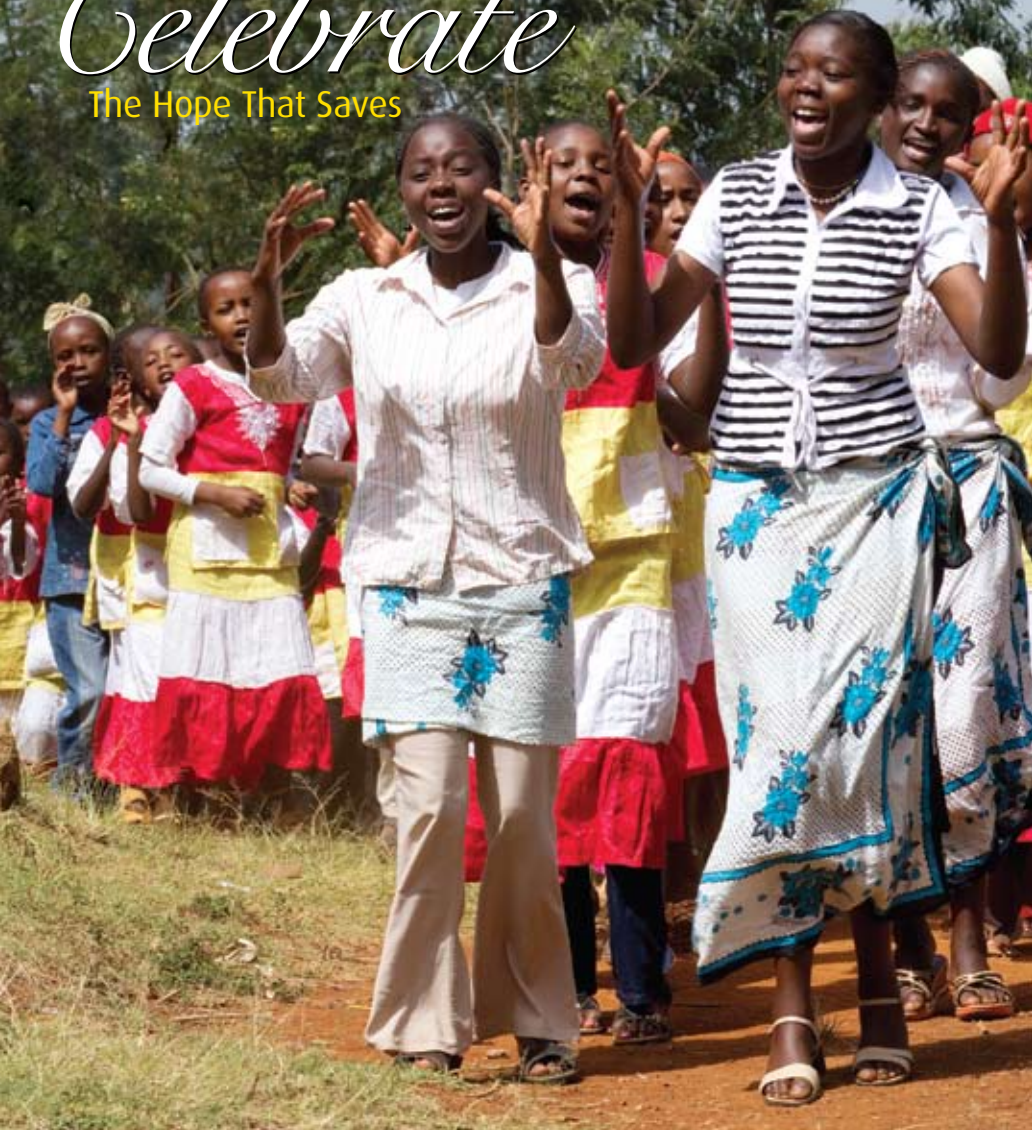


Celebrate

The Hope That Saves



Pray and Give Generously on

World Mission Sunday

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith | Pontifical Mission Societies

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n the Acts of the Apostles, we read that the early Christians held “all things in common,” and those with possessions and goods sold them to share the proceeds with the needy. ♦ A century-plus ago, the Church in Europe shared its goods with the mission territories in the New World. In those early years of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, the United States received almost two-thirds of the first collection taken up for the Missions in 1822. ♦ Now, U.S. Catholics are the largest supporters of the daily work and service that take place

in the 1,150 mission dioceses and territories around the world, covering two-thirds of the globe. ♦ The “mission story,” therefore, is our story. And

what is that story today? Ours is the story of the Kenyan Sister working with street children to rebuild lives. Ours is the story of the Bangladeshi priest celebrating Mass for rural Catholic communities who face devastating floods and journeying with them in their struggle. We are not alone, because they are not alone. ♦ On World Mission Sunday, Catholics worldwide unite in Word and Sacrament to “celebrate the hope that saves” — Jesus Himself. We pray for the Church’s missionary work, and we give generously to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. What is most abundant is what we hold in common: it is our faith working in our lives and our world, bringing about a new heaven and a new earth. — *Father Andrew Small, OMI, STD*



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Learn More on the Web

Learn more about the Pontifical Mission Societies, including the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, at OneFamilyInMission.org

Find additional materials for World Mission Sunday — including Spanish translations — at IAmAMissionary.org

Free downloads also include our audio messages, “Mission Lessons.”

Provide support for the local churches of the Missions at GiveToTheMissions.org

MISSIONARIES TODAY

Mission moments matched to the readings of the 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

“I LOVE YOU, O LORD, MY STRENGTH.” (*Psalms 18:2*)

Peter Loro Bambu was a seminarian in Juba in Sudan during the height of the civil war. Often classes were interrupted by bombings that forced students to flee the building and hide in trenches. “I came to believe that being a priest was the best way to be a voice for my own people,” he explains. Now Father Peter, he says, “The power of God was my strength and remains the strength of the Church in our new nation of South Sudan.” *May the Lord strengthen our own faith witness in our communities, and bless those who offer such witness around the world.*

“...RECEIVING THE WORD IN GREAT AFFLICTION...” (*1 Thessalonians 1:6*)

Father Tapan Camillus de Rozario, a local priest in Bangladesh, speaks of the ongoing trials of the poor there. The Garo people, for example, make a living from forest cultivation, but are plagued by yearly flooding and encroaching development. Local priests are very much a presence in their world, going and living where they are, accompanying them during their trials, visiting the sick, and, above all, praying with them and celebrating the Sacraments. *May we pray daily for those who suffer, and for those who offer them help and the hope-filled message of Jesus.*

“YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.” (*Matthew 22:39*)

Ask Sister Ella Espura to describe the community at Jardin de Maria Girls’ Center in Ngombo, Sri Lanka, and she’ll say “family.” Some of the 20 girls now in residence were orphaned by the tsunami; others were abandoned or left alone through various circumstances. “When they first arrive, the girls are often anxious, hesitant and afraid, undernourished and sick,” says Sister Ella. “We treat them like family, giving love and care in abundance.” *At all times, may all we do reflect to others God’s compassion and His boundless love.*

Please visit MissionInScripture.org for reflections and commentary on the readings of World Mission Sunday and every Sunday; see also PreachingMission.org for homily suggestions for Sundays throughout the year.

Making a World of Difference

There are gifts to bring to the celebration on World Mission Sunday.

Our greatest gift is prayer — daily prayer for the Missions and in support of those offering the poor Christ's hope and salvation.



Discovering MISSION

Many parishioners will offer a generous gift on World Mission Sunday. Help encourage their missionary spirit by returning their contribution envelopes to your Propagation of the Faith director so that donors may receive MISSION magazine.

Financial help is also needed for the young mission churches as they serve the poorest of our human family.



A gift of \$75 provides support for religious Sisters in Zambia serving at a mission hospital there. The Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Assisi care for children with disabilities, as well as those suffering from malnutrition.

A gift of \$30 covers the cost of transporting sick children from the jungle area in Peru to one of the hospitals in the country's capital.



A gift of \$15 is a week's support of a young man in a mission seminary — young men like Joshua, a student at St. Thomas Aquinas Major Seminary in Nairobi, Kenya. In between studies, he and his classmates visit local hospitals to pray with the sick and dying, and reach out to the children who have been made orphans because of HIV / AIDS, reminding them that the Lord loves them.

A gift of \$20 helps to purchase a desk and books for a student in a catechetical class in a parish in the mountainous region of northern Vietnam.

A gift of \$125 will help toward food, shelter, clothing, medical care and an education for one of the 45 young girls in the care of the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand. The Sisters also offer each girl — most rescued from human trafficking — the hope that comes from knowing the great love of Jesus.

SUGGESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS AT THE LITURGY

Week Before World Mission Sunday

(October 16, 2011 – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Isaiah 45:1, 4-6; Psalm 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b; Matthew 22:15-21)

NEXT SUNDAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY.

United with the Catholics of the world at the Table of the Lord, we recommit ourselves to our vocation, through Baptism, to be missionaries. Our prayers and Eucharistic celebration next Sunday are directed in a special way toward our brothers and sisters throughout the world who are waiting to hear the joyous “Good News” of Jesus. Through our financial gifts, offered in next week’s collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, we become partners with missionaries who proclaim the Gospel and offer help and hope to the poor in mission countries.

Week of World Mission Sunday

(October 23, 2011 – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Exodus 22:20-26; Psalm 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51; 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10; Matthew 22:34-40)

TODAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY.

We are called to this Eucharistic celebration — along with Catholics in every parish, chapel and church throughout the world — to fulfill the call we first heard at Baptism, the call to be missionaries, to share our faith.

On World Mission Sunday, we are invited to “celebrate the hope that saves” through prayer and participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Let us pray especially at this Mass for all who long to hear the hope-filled, saving message of Jesus, and for the priests, religious and lay catechists in mission countries worldwide who offer them that “Good News.”

General Intercessions for World Mission Sunday, and one for the Sunday before, may be found on our web site IAmAMissionary.org



‘AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME, SO I SEND YOU’

Highlights of Pope Benedict’s World Mission Sunday message

- ♦ *Mission is the most precious service that the Church can render to humanity and to every individual seeking profound reasons for living his or her existence to the full. In fact the ceaseless proclamation of the Gospel also revitalizes the Church; it renews her pastoral methods so that they may be ever more suited to new situations — also those that require a new evangelization — and animated by missionary thrust.*
- ♦ *All those who have met the risen Lord have felt the need to proclaim him to others, as did the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. After recognizing the Lord in the breaking of bread, they “set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled” and told them what had happened to them on the road. The beneficiaries of the Gospel proclamation are all peoples.*
- ♦ *This task has not lost any of its urgency. Indeed, “the mission of Christ the Redeemer, which is entrusted to the Church, is still very far from completion.” We cannot be content when we consider that, after two thousand years, there are still peoples who do not know Christ and have not yet heard his message of salvation.*
- ♦ *The universal mission involves everyone, everything and always. All activities are also involved in this. The Church’s missionary dimension is essential; therefore it must always be kept in mind. World Mission Sunday is not an isolated moment in the year, but a precious occasion for pausing to reflect on whether and how we respond to the missionary vocation: an essential response for the life of the Church.*
- ♦ *In missionary animation particular attention has always been given to solidarity. This is also one of the objectives of World Mission Sunday, which, through the Pontifical Mission Societies, appeals for help to carry out evangelizing activities in mission territories. Proclaiming the Gospel the Church takes human life to heart in the fullest sense.*



“MAY WORLD MISSION SUNDAY
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TAKING CHRIST TO ALL.”