



Archdiocese of Winnipeg

Office of the Archbishop

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October 14, 2025

Dear Father,

World Mission Sunday stands as a impressive sign of our shared Catholic identity. Held annually on the third Sunday in October, this special day unites Catholics in every parish around the world in support of missionary activity. Instituted by Pope Pius XI nearly a century ago, this collection remains unique as the only worldwide effort directly sustaining 1,124 mission territories where the Church is developing, vulnerable, or facing persecution.

Your prayers and generous donations provide essential resources for communities that cannot sustain themselves, funding church construction, pastoral care, education, training of seminarians, building of convents, and supporting missionaries and catechists. Our generosity is part of our baptismal call to share the Gospel, bringing hope to all peoples.

Missionary activity is especially important to our present Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV who spent twelve years as a missionary in Peru. The morning after he was elected as pope, he said in his homily at Mass "There are many settings in which the Christian faith is considered absurd, meant for the weak and unintelligent---settings where other securities are preferred, like technology, money, success, power, or pleasure." These are places, he added, "where it is not easy to preach the Gospel and bear witness to the truth, where believers are mocked, opposed, despised, or at best tolerated and pitied. Yet these are precisely the places where the missionary outreach of the Church is desperately needed."

The theme for Mission Sunday during this Jubilee Year 2025 is **Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples**. This theme reminds all the baptized of our fundamental vocation to be, in the footsteps of Christ, messengers and builders of hope in a fallen world. We are encouraged to share the Good News with others, pray for missionaries and contribute to the missions from our financial resources. The collection on Mission Sunday comes under the pastoral care of the Holy Father and goes in its entirety to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith which is part of the Pontifical Missions Societies.

Please direct parishioners to make their cheques payable to their parish, indicating that it goes toward Mission Sunday. The total is then forwarded with the names of the donors to: **The Society for the Propagation of the Faith**, 2219 Kennedy Road, Toronto, Ontario, M3T 3G5.

In closing, thank you for supporting the Pontifical Missions Societies.

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Murray Chatlain
Archbishop of Winnipeg