

PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES

DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH
MISSIONARY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION
THE SOCIETY OF SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE
MISSIONARY COOPERATIVE PLAN
PERPETUAL MASS ASSOCIATION

MOST REVEREND JAMES F. CHECCHIO, JCD, MBA, BISHOP
REVEREND JOHN G. HILLIER, PH.D., DIRECTOR

October 2023

Dear Brothers in Christ,

This year, we will be observing World Mission Sunday on the weekend of October 21-22.

Bishop Checchio points us to the World Mission Sunday message of Pope Francis, urging every Christian to ignite the fire of Christ's love in their hearts and to actively share this warmth with the world. This is a call to participate in a mission of universal evangelization and seek guidance from the Holy Spirit.

Pope Francis also recalls the origins of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, founded by Blessed Pauline Jaricot, and its vital role in supporting the Church's missionary work worldwide. Your parishioners' prayers and sacrifices on World Mission Sunday will directly aid more than 1,100 mission dioceses globally, including regions across Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, Latin America, and parts of Europe. It is important that we all understand how our practical assistance - coupled with devoted prayer - fuels the missionaries' efforts to proclaim the Gospel and build the Church in these territories.

This year's theme for World Mission Sunday, "Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move," is a reminder that we are called to carry the flame of Christ's love and put our faith into action, serving as His witnesses. Please find enclosed Bishop Checchio's World Mission Sunday letter, as well as other resource material for World Mission Sunday. Your World Mission Sunday poster was sent to you in a separate mailing. Additional resources for the celebration, including bulletin announcements and related Scripture reflections and homily suggestions, may be found at www.onefamilyinmission.org/resources.

After October 22, I kindly request that you return the completed World Mission Sunday Parish Report Form along with the envelopes or provide us with a list of the donors' names and addresses. This way, they will continue to receive updates about the Missions throughout the year. The form for reporting contributions is attached.

As we partner in helping your parishioners live out the theme of "Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move" through their celebration of World Mission Sunday, I extend my sincere gratitude for all that you do for the missionary work of the Church - every October and throughout the year.

In Christ Jesus Our Lord,



Reverend John G. Hillier

Please remember The Society for the Propagation of the Faith when writing or changing your Will.



The Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

One of the four Pontifical Mission Societies.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2023

Parish Report Form

Parish: _____

Pastor: _____

Address: _____

Parish Collection:

Our parish's financial offering on World Mission Sunday was: \$ _____

- ☐ Check for the above amount is enclosed
- ☐ Check was forwarded to the Diocesan Chancery on _____
- ☐ Check will be forwarded to the Diocesan Chancery on _____

Donors / Contributors:

Approximate number of donor envelopes collected on World Mission Sunday: _____

- ☐ Envelopes or donor lists of names (including address & gift amount) enclosed
- ☐ Envelopes or donor lists of names (including address & gift amount) will be forwarded to your office on _____

Please return this form to:

**Pontifical Mission Societies
Diocese of Metuchen
P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, NJ 08840**



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center • P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-0191
P: 732.562.2458 • F: 732.562.1427 • E: office.of.the.bishop@diometuchen.org

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

October 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On October 22, as we observe World Mission Sunday, we stand in solidarity with the Missions of the Church in this annual worldwide Eucharistic celebration.

Pope Francis reflected on this year's theme: "Hearts on fire, feet on the move." The Holy Father invites us to kindle the fire of Christ's love in our hearts and to actively share this warmth with the world around us. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we go forth and bring the Good News to all corners of the world.

Founded by French laywoman Blessed Pauline Jaricot in 1822, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith is an essential source of aid for the Church's missionary work. In the United States, we benefited from these donations: up until 1908, we received close to 7 million dollars, the equivalent of over 250 million today. Those dioceses in our country, considered mission territories, continued to receive subsidies. Fairbanks, Alaska, was the last of those dioceses and received its final subsidy payment this year!

The World Mission Sunday collection assists the Holy Father meet his Petrine obligation to build up the Church in over 1,100 dioceses and territories that are too young and/or too poor to sustain themselves. Offerings support the formation of seminarians and religious men and women, assist in the construction of schools and orphanages and enables missionaries to build churches in remote and resource-limited areas, and to meet essential works to proclaim the Gospel and celebrate the Sacraments.

Embodying this year's theme, I urge you to keep your hearts aflame and your feet moving this World Mission Sunday. Your prayers are invaluable, and your financial support provides life-giving aid to our brothers and sisters in the world's most vulnerable communities.

Gratefully in the Lord,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen

For additional resources about World Mission Sunday, please visit onefamilyinmission.org/resources.



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center • P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-0191
P: 732.562.2458 • F: 732.562.1427 • E: office.of.the.bishop@diometuchen.org

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Octubre 2023

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo,

El 22 de octubre, al conmemorar el Domingo Mundial de las Misiones, nos unimos en solidaridad con las Misiones de la Iglesia en esta celebración eucarística mundial anual.

"Corazones encendidos, pies en camino" es el tema que el Papa Francisco eligió para este año. El Santo Padre nos invita a avivar el fuego del amor de Cristo en nuestros corazones y a compartir activamente este calor con el mundo que nos rodea. Inspirados por el Espíritu Santo, avanzamos y llevamos la Buena Noticia a todos los rincones del mundo.

Fundada por una laica francesa, la Beata Pauline Jaricot en 1822, la Sociedad para la Propagación de la Fe es una fuente esencial de ayuda para la obra misionera de la Iglesia. En los Estados Unidos, nos beneficiamos de estas donaciones: hasta 1908, recibimos cerca de 7 millones de dólares, lo que equivale a más de 250 millones en la actualidad. Aquellas diócesis en nuestro país consideradas territorio misionero continuaron recibiendo subsidios incluso hasta la actualidad. ¡Fairbanks, Alaska, recibió su último subsidio este año!

La colecta del Domingo Mundial de las Misiones ayuda al Santo Padre a cumplir con su obligación petrina de edificar la Iglesia en más de 1,100 diócesis y territorios donde la Iglesia es demasiado joven y/o pobre para sostenerse por sí misma. Las ofrendas apoyan la formación de seminaristas y religiosos y religiosas, ayudan en la construcción de escuelas y orfanatos, y permiten a los misioneros construir iglesias en áreas remotas y con recursos limitados, y realizar obras esenciales para proclamar el Evangelio y celebrar los Sacramentos.

Incorporando el tema de este año, les insto a mantener sus corazones encendidos y sus pies en camino este Domingo Mundial de las Misiones. Sus oraciones son invaluable y su apoyo financiero brinda ayuda vital a nuestros hermanos y hermanas en las comunidades más vulnerables del mundo.

Agradecidamente en el Señor,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Obispo de Metuchen

Para recursos adicionales sobre el Domingo Mundial de las Misiones, por favor visite onefamilyinmission.org/resources.



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center • P.O. Box 191, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-0191
P: 732.562.2458 • F: 732.562.1427 • E: office.of.the.bishop@diometuchen.org

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

October 21, 2023

Dear Brothers in Christ,

On October 21-22, the Universal Church celebrates World Mission Sunday. This global Eucharistic celebration for the Church's missions is an opportunity to remind our parishioners of their own call to be missionary disciples. We assist the Holy Father exercise his Petrine obligation to support the Church in the missions by praying for our missionaries and financially supporting their ministry.

World Mission Sunday, organized by the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith, one of the four Pontifical Mission Societies, is the only canonically mandated collection in the Church. This year, the spirit of Pope Francis's theme, "Hearts on fire, feet on the move," resonates with us as we are reminded of the energetic and unwavering faith that fuels our shared mission.

For the past 201 years, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith has extended its arms to support growing Churches globally, reaching more than 1,100 mission dioceses across Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, Latin America, and parts of Europe. This assistance bolsters the proclamation of the Gospel, the building of the Church, and service to the poor. Let us echo this spirit in our parishes, inspiring our congregations to contribute both prayer and sacrifice to this cause on World Mission Sunday.

The World Mission Sunday collection in the United States supports CNEWA (Catholic Near East Welfare Association) aiding the Oriental Churches in need with 9% of the contributions. It also supports the Pontifical Council on Latin America, that directs 5% of the gifts to aid the poorest jurisdictions in South America and the Caribbean. The balance (86%) supports the Church in those dioceses in Africa and Asia which are designated as mission territories. Last year, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in the United States sent over \$23 million to the bishops, priests, religious brothers and sisters and lay missionaries who help spread the Gospel in these territories.

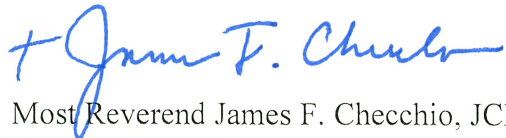
As Cardinal-elect Christophe Pierre's wrote to us bishops in the United States last year, our support to World Mission Sunday "makes possible the proclamation of the Gospel, the celebration of the Sacraments, and service to the poor in mission dioceses. For the first decades of its life, the fledgling Church in the United States received essential support from the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, and the Catholics of this country have returned that generosity in abundance."

Your role in echoing this call to your congregations is paramount. Your voices carry great influence and can be the spark that inspires the "hearts on fire, feet on the move" spirit that Pope Francis calls us to embody.

Materials to enrich our World Mission Sunday celebrations can be found at www.onefamilyinmission.org/resources. Our dedicated Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith/Office of Missions, Reverend John Hillier, is available to assist you as you guide your parish in preparation for this momentous day.

May the fire in our hearts continue to inspire our feet to move in service to God's mission.

Sincerely in the Lord,



Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen