

Useful key messages for your presentations, talks, or homilies

What is mission?

Mission can mean so many things. At its core it is an invitation to experience God's unconditional, compassionate, life-giving love, and to want to share it with everyone, everywhere.

Pope Francis tells us, 'Mission is a tireless going out to all men and women, in order to invite them to encounter God and enter into communion with him' and that 'the mission for all requires the commitment of all'.

Faithful to the mission received from the Lord, we – the Church – are called to go to the ends of the earth. To set out over and over again, without growing weary or losing heart in the face of difficulties and obstacles.

One of the many wonderful ways to support mission is through the annual celebration of World Mission Sunday in October.

Who is involved in World Mission Sunday?

Every single Catholic parish in the world is asked to play their part through their prayers and offerings. Everyone gives what they can and those who are in greatest need of support receive the most. Every Catholic community, in every country, will be sending a powerful message of faith, hope, and love through their prayers and donations.

In 2023, Malawi contributed £15,762 to the World Mission Sunday collection, while Bolivia contributed £25,341 and Malta contributed £246,720.

Here in England and Wales, £595,648 was raised to support the work of missionaries and local faith communities who requested our help in order to share the Gospel in areas of great poverty, conflict, and turmoil.

Who benefits from the World Mission Sunday appeal?

All worldwide Mass collections and every single donation supports churches, hospitals, schools, and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor.

Your prayers and support enable these new, young or poor communities to grow and become self-sufficient. Most importantly, they enable them to celebrate the Sacraments, hear God's Word, support each other, and pray with and for one another.

Why is it important for me to donate and pray?

The local community requests support from the Missio network. These requests are then reviewed and agreed upon by Missio's National Directors throughout the world. This support from the global Missio family transforms lives. It creates a hub from which the young Church can spread the Good News of the Gospel, minister to the faithful, and deliver essential services in health and education.

Why has the Pope chosen the theme 'Go and invite everyone to the banquet'?

The theme for World Mission Sunday reminds us that everyone is invited to God's table – to experience God's love, grace, and forgiveness, and take part in a community of faith.

God invites us to build communities that reflect his unconditional love for humanity, where all are welcome, and where the gifts we have received are shared and put at the service of the whole community.

World Mission Sunday reminds us that we are called by Jesus – in person – to bear witness to his words in our everyday lives. We are called to reach out to the lost, the oppressed and discouraged, and to tenderly care for those who suffer.

We are invited to live out our call to mission by proclaiming the coming of God's Kingdom, serving those in need, promoting peace with justice, and inviting people to know God's goodness.