

missio
Today. Tomorrow. Together.

YOUR GUIDE TO

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

20 October 2024

GO AND INVITE
EVERYONE
to the banquet 

- FAQs & useful key messages
- Intercessions
- Newsletter Inserts & Online

Q Why are all parishes throughout the world asked to support World Mission Sunday?

A World Mission Sunday is our chance to show love and solidarity to our brothers and sisters overseas. In offering our prayers, we join with missionaries everywhere in communion and compassion to support them in spreading the Good News, and by giving a donation we respond to Christ's call to share our faith in Jesus so that all may experience God's love. The funds raised build much-needed infrastructure, from chapels and schools to orphanages, clinics and dispensaries. World Mission Sunday is one of only three Papal collections and has been especially chosen by the Holy Father to support the mission of the Church in the world via Missio.

Q Where do I send the World Mission Sunday collection?

A Please send donations from your parish directly to Missio in the Freepost envelope provided. Cheques from parishioners, made out to World Mission Sunday or Missio, can be sent directly to us together with the parish collection and any completed Gift Aid forms and Donation envelopes. **Please do not send to your diocesan offices.** If parishioners wish to complete the form on our prepaid Donation envelopes to give by card, please remind them to return these directly to Missio, rather than place them in the parish collection. They will be added to your parish total.

Q How can people donate online?

A Individual supporters can give directly through our secure website. Simply visit missio.org.uk/wmsdonate to help build a future of hope around the world.

For more information, please visit missio.org.uk, call 020 7821 9755 during office hours, or email info@missio.org.uk

2024
**WORLD
MISSION
SUNDAY**

Useful key messages for your presentations, talks, or homilies

Q What is mission?

A 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.

Q Who is involved in World Mission Sunday?

A 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.

Q Who benefits from the World Mission Sunday appeal?

A 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.

Q Why is it important for me to donate and pray?

A 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.**

Q Why has the Pope chosen the theme ‘Go and invite everyone to the banquet’?

A 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.

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: *On this World Mission Sunday we unite with the whole Catholic Church in praying for the joyful proclamation of the Gospel to all nations.*

- **For Pope Francis, our Bishop.... and all Church leaders:** may they be given the strength to follow the example of Christ who came not to be served, but to serve.
- **For missionaries, especially those working in places of danger and persecution:** may they find the courage and wisdom to witness to the Gospel of peace and justice.
- **For those who suffer through poverty, violence, and oppression:** may the power of the Gospel heal division, dispel the darkness of ignorance, and bring hope to those who despair.
- **For the work of Missio across the world:** may our prayers and gifts be a means by which God’s grace reaches out in love to our brothers and sisters in need of help.

Celebrant: *God our Father, your Son Jesus Christ calls us all to the banquet of your Kingdom. Hear our prayers as we place all our hope in you, through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

Inserts for your Parish newsletter

‘Go and invite everyone to the banquet!’ cf. Matthew 22:9

Sunday 13 October – Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday

Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio, his charity for world mission, through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity, and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God’s love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, use the **Missio envelopes**, call **020 7821 9755** (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit, and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

Sunday 20 October – Today is World Mission Sunday

Today, parishes worldwide celebrate World Mission Sunday. By supporting Missio, the Pope’s charity for world mission, we stand united as God’s global family, in prayer, solidarity, and action. We are called to ‘go and invite everyone to the banquet’ for the joy of Christ’s Resurrection is a gift meant to be shared with the entire world. Please pray for missionaries and give what you can to this vital collection, bringing God’s compassion, peace, and justice to those in need. To donate, use the **Missio envelope**, call **020 7821 9755** (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit, and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

Sunday 27 October – Thank you for celebrating World Mission Sunday

Thank you for your donations to the World Mission Sunday appeal. Your prayers and support will help missionaries work alongside communities worldwide, regardless of background or belief. Please continue to pray for all who share the love and hope of Christ with our sisters and brothers in need throughout the world. To support mission year-round, visit missio.org.uk or call **020 7821 9755** (office hours).

Your guide to online

World Mission Sunday materials are available on Missio’s website.

This will make it easier for you to copy and paste directly into your own materials, for example, your parish newsletter.

Here is a list of the available material:

World Mission Sunday – missio.org.uk/wms

- The Holy Father’s Message
- FAQs, Intercessions & Newsletter Inserts
- World Mission Sunday posters
- Children’s Activity Sheets (only online)

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