

YOUR GUIDE TO

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

18 October 2026

- FAQs & useful key messages
- Intercessions
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ONE IN CHRIST

IN MISSION

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

A On World Mission Sunday (WMS) every Catholic parish around the world celebrates Mass and has a special collection for Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission. WMS is one of only three Papal collections and has been especially chosen by the Holy Father to support the mission of the Church via Missio.

Mission is the responsibility of the whole Church, and this global celebration of WMS is a reminder that we are one family in Christ. This special day is our chance to show love and solidarity to our brothers and sisters overseas. In offering our prayers, we unite 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.

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**

Useful key messages for your presentations, talks or homilies

Q How do we understand mission today?

A The Church's mission remains the same: to proclaim Christ and to serve humanity. Today, that mission is understood as the responsibility of every baptised person and is carried out through dialogue, justice, peace, care for creation, respect for cultures and witness to the Gospel.

Today we see mission as an **invitation** to experience God's goodness. We discover God's unconditional, compassionate, life-giving love by encountering, getting to know and loving Jesus. A love in truth that sets us free.

The Church exists to help us carry out the mission we have all received from the Lord 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. Through the Church, we support and encourage each other to set out over and over again; never losing heart in the face of difficulties and obstacles.

Q Who is involved in World Mission Sunday?

A The Pope asks Missio, his charity for world mission, to coordinate World Mission Sunday (WMS) every year so that support can reach missionaries and communities living in great poverty, conflict and turmoil.

Missio exists to help all Catholics take part in Christ's mission. So, on WMS, every parish, in every country contributes according to its means, so that churches in greatest need receive support from the worldwide Catholic family. For example, in 2025 Catholics in Myanmar raised £13,395; Malawi gave £31,310; Ecuador contributed £312,896; France donated £921,000; and here in England and Wales, we raised £713,954. This year we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday!

Q Who benefits from the World Mission Sunday appeal?

A Donations to WMS go directly to missionaries and local churches in mission dioceses. These communities request the support they need to share their faith and to bring lasting change – whether it's help to build a simple chapel, provide vital healthcare, set up a school or create a safe space for children. Your support encourages communities to grow in faith, dignity and self-reliance.

Q Why has the Pope chosen the theme 'One in Christ, united in mission'?

A The mission of every disciple, and of the Church as a whole, is to continue Christ's mission in the Holy Spirit: a mission 'born of love, lived in love and leading others to love' (Pope Leo XIV).

To be **'one in Christ'** means keeping our gaze fixed on the Lord, so that he remains at the centre of our lives and communities – at the centre of our words, our actions and our relationships with one another.

We are united in Christ so that we can share in his mission. Jesus makes this clear when he prays for his disciples: 'That they may all be one... so that the world may believe that you have sent me' (John 17:21).

When we live as a reconciled, loving and united community, our lives become a powerful witness to the Gospel. Our unity gives credibility to our proclamation and invites others to encounter Christ. The more deeply we are united in him, the better able we are to work together in carrying out the mission he entrusts to us.

The global Missio network, the Pontifical Mission Societies, has a unique role in making this unity visible. As a worldwide network of prayer, solidarity and support, Missio is a living sign of the Church's missionary communion, uniting Catholics together in prayer and support of the Church's mission.

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: *As we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday and give thanks to God for the mission of the Church in the world, let us pray to the heavenly Father that all Christians may be one in Christ and united in the mission of love and the proclamation of the Gospel.*

- **For Pope Leo, for all bishops, priests, religious brothers and sisters, and for all missionaries:** may the Lord strengthen their zeal and grant them the joy of witnessing to God's love even in the most difficult circumstances.
- **For those who suffer because of war, poverty, persecution and loneliness:** that through the closeness of Christians and works of charity they may experience God's consolation and hope.
- **For all of us gathered around the Lord's table:** may we be living witnesses of the Gospel – missionaries in our families, communities and daily lives.
- **For the work of Missio across the world:** may our prayers and our gifts enable missionaries to share their faith and God's great love which transforms the hearts and lives of those who welcome it.

Celebrant: *God, our Father, you have called your Church to be a sign of unity and salvation for all nations. Hear our prayers and help us to remain united in Christ and faithful witnesses of the Gospel in the world. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Inserts for your Parish newsletter

'One in Christ, united in mission' Pope Leo XIV



Copy this 'donate' QR code
for your newsletter from
missio.org.uk/wms

Sunday 11 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 18 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. The Holy Father has chosen the theme **'One in Christ, united in mission'** to celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday and encourages us to unite with missionaries as they strive to reach out with God's love to communities in need. Please pray for the work of mission and give what you can to this vital collection. 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 25 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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