

Dear Pastor/Administrator,

This year, we mark the annual **World Mission Sunday Celebration** on the weekend of October 23/24. We join with Catholics around the world to pray and offer our support for the missionary life of the Church. It also gives us the opportunity to renew our own missionary call according to our own state in life.

This year's theme is, **"We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20)**. Pope Francis asks us to consider the missionary journey of the whole Church during this year when many still feel the burdens brought on by the pandemic and the struggle to find hope amidst the sounds of division and disappointment. By its very nature, the life of faith calls for a growing openness to embrace everyone, everywhere. We have highlighted two missionaries in the Catholic Spirit, as examples, of those who heard this call and serve through a "Witness of Life."

This World Mission Sunday gives us a chance to learn about the mission church today and consider how we can participate in the Church's evangelizing mission. We have the opportunity to reach beyond ourselves and beyond our borders to embrace God's mission around the world.

I offer you the enclosed materials to enhance your World Mission Sunday celebration and support of efforts of more than 1,100 mission dioceses in over 100 countries. These materials and more are located on our Website for your use at www.centerformission.org/downloads.
Thank you for all you will do to prepare your parish for the fullest celebration of World Mission Sunday.

May you be blessed in your ministry to serve God's mission of Love to the world.

Sincerely in Christ,

Deacon Mickey Friesen
Director