

# WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - October 24, 2021

## Liturgy Suggestions

### General Considerations

- World Mission Sunday, organized by the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith, is a day set aside for Catholics worldwide to join in recommitting to the Church's missionary activity through sharing prayer, learning and offering financial support.
- Funds collected on World Mission Sunday go towards supporting the pastoral, catechetical, charitable and evangelizing work of the Church in over 1,100 mission dioceses in over 100 countries.
- The theme for 2021 World Mission Sunday is **"We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20)**
- Funds collected on World Mission Sunday are to be sent to the Center for Mission, 777 Forest Street, St. Paul, MN 55106. All funds collected in the archdiocese are then forwarded to the national office of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith.
- The environment can add a lot to our liturgies. Please consider how you might enhance the worship space on World Mission Sunday to more fully reflect the universal nature of Catholic mission. Some ideas include: displaying cultural cloths, devotional figures or sacred art pieces from different parts of the world or highlighting parishioners who have chosen to be missionaries and a "Witness of Life."

### Scriptural Theme Reflections – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." (Mk 10:49)

The readings for this World Mission Sunday emphasize how God is calling everyone to salvation. In the reading from Jeremiah, God announces that the time has come to return home from exile. God is calling the blind and the lame, mothers with children and those who mourn to be part of his saving plan. There is a place for everyone in God's house. In Ps.126, we hear the joy of those who have experienced all the good that God has done for them. God hears their cry. God leads them back to Jerusalem. God heals them and comforts them in their grief. God is so good! How can we remain silent to what we have seen and heard?

In the Gospel, Jesus hears the cry of the blind man, Bartimaeus. He sends his disciples to lead him in spite of rebukes to the contrary. The disciples say, "Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." Those who follow Jesus can be instruments of his love by witnessing to God's presence in their lives and leading others to Christ.

On World Mission Sunday, we celebrate our common call to join in God's mission in Jesus Christ to bring good news to the poor, sight to the blind, liberty to captives. It is a time to rejoice in the love that Christ has shown us through his sacrifice on the cross. God calls us each by name, has a place for each of us in his saving plan no matter what our state in life. He says to each of us, "Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." We can give witness to Jesus through our particular life circumstance. This is the missionary spirit that Pope Francis affirms when he says that we, the Church, live in a permanent state of mission. Let us not remain silent to what we have seen and heard.



CENTER for MISSION

Society for the Propagation of the Faith / St. Paul and Minneapolis

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### **Suggested General Intercessions**

**Presider:** The Lord is merciful and accompanies us as we go forth to proclaim the Good News of salvation. On this World Mission Sunday, let us turn to our God for help to strengthen our witness to the world.

**Lector:** Let us pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis, the bishops and all who oversee the cooperation of churches for the sake of mission to all nations. Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lector:** Let us pray for missionaries at home and abroad who are willing to offer their lives as living bridges of faith that cross many borders. Let us pray to the Lord

**Lector:** Let us pray for a deeper missionary spirit. May we be generous in our response to the Gospel planted in our hearts. Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lector:** Let us pray that sharing the Gospel of joy will renew our hearts and transform the world into the image and likeness of Christ. Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lector:** Let us pray for the sick, the lonely and the oppressed. May they be touched by the hand of healing and lifted up in friendship and justice. Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lector:** Let us pray for those who have died; especially those who have given their lives in witness to the Faith. May their union with the Crucified Christ in this world bring forth the fullness of life in the resurrection. Let us pray to the Lord.

**Presider:** Merciful Lord, hear our prayers today as we renew our commitment to share in the worldwide mission of Jesus. We ask this in His name who is the Redeemer of the world.

### **World Mission Sunday Collection**

Today, in every parish around the world, a collection is being taken up for Catholic missions in over 1,100 dioceses in 120 countries. Your contributions today will go towards helping teachers and catechists to teach the faith in urban centers and remote villages. You will help to build churches and chapels in mission stations for people to worship, hear God's word and receive the sacraments. You will help efforts to raise up and train new leaders who will minister to people in their own language. You will provide material support to the poor and suffering lifting up individual dignity through the love of Christ.

Your financial gift will go to **the Society for the Propagation of the Faith**, which is the official worldwide Catholic network of mission cooperation enabling the Gospel of Jesus Christ to reach to the ends of the earth. Thank you for joining in this central work of the Church!

### **Liturgy of the Eucharist**

To highlight the missionary intention of World Mission Sunday, it is most appropriate to celebrate the ***Mass for the Evangelization of Peoples (Sacramental Masses and Prayers for the Church, #18)***. "This Mass may be celebrated whenever there are special celebrations for the missions, even on Sundays of Ordinary Time" (Roman Sacramentary).

It is also suggested to use **Eucharistic Prayer III** because of its explicit references to the universality of salvation, Church and mission.