**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY – October 20, 2024
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 2024 World Mission Sunday is “Go and Invite Everyone to the Banquet” (Matthew 22:9)
* 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.

**Scriptural Theme Reflections – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“For the Son of Man came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many"(Mk 10:45).

 The readings for this World Mission Sunday emphasize how Christ came to serve and sacrifice himself for the many. In the reading from Isaiah, God’s servant accomplishes his will by offering himself to fulfill God’s will. We are redeemed by his suffering. In Ps.33, we hear how God’s mercy has come to deliver us from sin and death and bring us into the feast of God’s justice and kindness. Christ is a great high priest who intercedes for us and invites to share in the banquet of his life. In the Gospel, Jesus says to the disciples that our greatness will be found in our service and sacrifice for others like Christ who came to serve and give his life for the many.

 On World Mission Sunday, we celebrate our common call to serve God’s mission in Christ to invite many more to the Banquet. It is a mission of welcome, mercy, love and service. 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 to join in his living sacrifice no matter what our state in life. Let us be ready to go forth in love and mercy; in service and sacrifice to invite many more to the banquet of God’s Kingdom and communion in the Body of Christ.

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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 (Sacramentary 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.