

In October 2017, Pope Francis announced an extraordinary missionary month for 2019. Thus, it is his hope that October, 2018 will be used to prepare for this event. (See the letter of Pope Francis, October 22, 2017.)

The Synod that will take place in October 2018, will focus on young people, with particular emphasis on faith and vocational discernment. Based on this, the Holy Father and the Pontifical Mission Societies suggest the following theme for World Mission Month: **With youth, we proclaim the Gospel to all!**

The Animation Kit for the missionary month, as well as the Society for the Propagation of the Faith's website, suggest different things, including some new material:

1. Pope Francis' address to young people around the world.
2. A calendar that will help us discover our great Canadian missionaries.
3. Some suggested young missionaries for your reflection during the Sundays in October:
 - Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys
 - Blessed Catherine of Saint-Augustine
 - Saint Kateri Tekakwitha
 - Venerable Délia Tétreault
4. A biblical reflection based on the theme.
5. A homily hint for World Mission Sunday and an exhortation for youth.

This year, we present to you, with pride and gratitude, a statement of the donations that the Canadians made to the Pontifical Mission Societies: the Propagation of the Faith (Mission Foi), Saint Peter the Apostle (Prêtres de demain) and the Holy Childhood Association (Mond'Ami). A total amount of \$6,004,964 was shared

with our brothers and sisters from developing young churches. In this way, we show our support to our own family, the Catholic Church.

The missionary month is the occasion to promote different initiatives in our environments. We wish to provide to you the necessary tools for the missionary shift that is taking place right now. You can visit our websites to see the different missionary animations that we have prepared for adults and children.

Have a good missionary month 2018!

Because the mission takes place 24 hours, we join the youth in proclaiming the Gospel to all.



Fr. Alex Osei, C.S.SP.
National Director of the PMS
English Canada
www.missionsocieties.ca



Fr. Yoland Ouellet, O.M.I.
National Director of the PMS
French Canada
www.missionfoi.ca

Letter from October 22, 2017

In light of this, and in accepting the proposal of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, I hereby call for an Extraordinary Missionary Month to be celebrated in October 2019, with the aim of fostering an increased awareness of the *missio ad gentes* and taking up again with renewed fervour the missionary transformation of the Church's life and pastoral activity. The Missionary Month of October 2018 can serve as a good preparation for this celebration by enabling all the faithful to take to heart the proclamation of the Gospel and to help their communities grow in missionary and evangelizing zeal. May the love for the Church's mission, which is "a passion for Jesus and a passion for his people," [14] grow ever stronger!