

MISSIONARY MONTH — OCTOBER 2022

World Mission Day

October 23, 2022

*“You will be
my witnesses!”*

(Acts 1:8)



The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

175, Sherbrooke Street East, Montreal (Quebec) H2X 1C7 Canada
Telephone: 514 844-1929 – Toll Free: 1 866 844-1929 – Fax: 514 844-0382

info@opmcanada.ca – missionfoi.ca



STEFANO SPAZIANI — ROMÉ

You will be my witnesses!

(Acts 1:8)

The example of a Christian life and the proclamation of Christ are inseparable. One is at the service of the other. They are the two lungs with which any community must breathe, if it is to be missionary. This kind of complete, consistent and joyful witness to Christ will surely be a force of attraction also for the growth of the Church in the third millennium.

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2022

We are called to be witnesses!

Witnesses of whom or what? Of the Risen Christ and his message! He himself calls for witnesses and he tells us how this will be done: **“you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you”**. Being his witnesses does not mean that we have to do this on our own, but together, with our brothers and sisters! Thus, it is by grace that we receive, the power to BECOME witnesses. He also tells us that this would set us out: **“to the ends of the Earth!”**

The Holy Father’s message for World Mission Day 2022 is a great gift of the year, delivered on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. Why did he choose this feast to publish his message which he normally does on Pentecost day? It is because travelers, walkers and seekers who represent all peoples welcome the One who comes to gather them, enlighten them, feed them, enliven them, and save them! They become worshippers of the God who became man, happy witnesses of this beneficial encounter! It is a joy to imagine them!

The theme of Missionary Month 2022 is both Christ’s call and request: **“You will be my witnesses!”** Therefore, we have to take this seriously because we have been chosen to bear witness of Him: through words and deeds. In short, by experiencing the Word!

We offer many resources for the missionary-disciples who are passionate about being Christ’s witnesses through the power of the Spirit. You can find them at the following website: missionfoi.ca (as well as animissio.ca).

Enjoy the daily readings, meditations for the month and reflections for every Sunday. Discover witnesses who experience their faith locally with a **series of 8 video segments entitled: Baptisés et envoyés (Baptized and sent)**. You can also use

the video series ***Je suis mission (I am mission)*** and our new material for different activities in your parish or group.

Pauline Jaricot is an impressive model and witness that we suggest to you on this year of her beatification. Discover this woman who committed herself and gave herself completely in the name of her faith out of love for Christ, and the Mission with 31 reflections about her life. We also offer to you a novena that you can pray along with Pauline, which will inspire you through its missionary spirituality.

Have a good Missionary Month and World Mission Day! On October 23, let us **pray, celebrate** and **share** to support the Universal Mission, which is ours, with renewed enthusiasm: you will be my witnesses to the ends of the Earth! (Acts 1:8)

Fr. Yoland Ouellet, o.m.i.
National Director of the PMS — French Canada

“You will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8)

This is the central point, the heart of Jesus’ teaching to the disciples, in view of their being sent forth into the world. The disciples are to be witnesses of Jesus, thanks to the grace of the Holy Spirit that they received. Wherever they go and in whatever place they find themselves. Christ was the first to be sent, as a “missionary” of the Father (cf. Jn 20:21), and as such, He is the Father’s “faithful witness” (cf. Rev 1:5). In a similar way, every Christian is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ.

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2022

Cover: detachable poster for the Missionary Month.

2021 SUBSIDIES

Donations of the Pontifical Mission Societies in Canada

Your donations are sent to the poorest Churches of the world.

French-speaking Canada's contribution (\$ CAD) ŒUVRE PONTIFICALE DE LA PROPAGATION DE LA FOI

Domus Missionalis Foundation — ITALY	94 805
Burundi	188 108
Madagascar	212 382
India	224 705
SUB-TOTAL	720 000
Mass stipends	8 800
TOTAL FOR FRENCH SECTOR	\$ 728 800

English-speaking Canada's contribution (\$ CAD) PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

Ghana	427 130
Liberia	55 120
Tanzania	680 036
Zambia	177 700
Domus Missionalis Foundation — ITALY	260 014
TOTAL FOR ENGLISH SECTOR	\$ 1 600 000

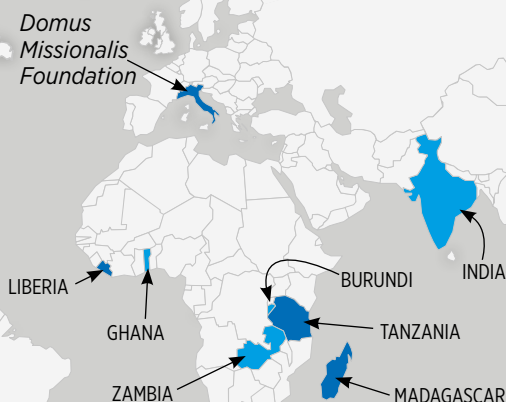
TOTAL FOR ENGLISH AND FRENCH SECTORS \$ 2 328 800

Other Contributions from Canada (\$ CAD)

Saint-Peter-Apostle and Œuvre pontificale de Saint-Pierre-Apôtre	\$ 1 598 460
Holy Childhood Association and Œuvre pontificale de l'enfance missionnaire – Mond'Ami	\$ 646 576

Donations from the French Canada Dioceses and Archdioceses (\$ CAD)

	2021	2020
Alexandria-Cornwall	12 065	15 629
Amos	4 494	2 626
Baie-Comeau	3 824	5 829
Bathurst	11 166	7 893
Chicoutimi	9 866	7 773
Edmundston	7 089	6 661
Gaspé	9 975	585
Gatineau-Hull	17 232	6 477
Grouard-McLennan	—	—
Hearst	2 144	3 189
Joliette	7 489	8 162
Moncton	12 854	18 588
Mont-Laurier	2 752	4 890
Montréal	96 420	80 287
Nicolet	15 557	11 854
Ottawa	1 915	23 703
Québec	44 484	48 978
Rimouski	3 746	4 713
Rouyn-Noranda	430	2 150
Sault-Sainte-Marie	8 394	10 631
Sherbrooke	8 225	20 887
Saint-Boniface	15 602	18 275
Saint-Hyacinthe	37 718	1 405
Saint-Jean-Longueuil	42 725	1 700
Saint-Jérôme	7 931	9 986
Saint-Paul	8 622	13 408
Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière	5 351	3 814
Timmins	3 701	7 485
Trois-Rivières	11 565	10 014
Valleyfield	2 047	5 978
Other dioceses	2 489	520
TOTAL	\$ 417 872	\$ 364 090



We thank all of you who contributed to our fundraising campaigns.

Thank you for your generosity!



Reflections on the readings for every Sunday of October 2022

(For parish bulletins and homilies)

By Father Alexandre Kabera

Sunday, October 2, 2022

“We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.” (Luke 17:10)

One day, a famous artist was about to go on stage for a theatrical performance and he had the leading role. He was informed that his son had just died. He called one of his collaborators, who was also a friend. He told him with tears in his eyes: “My son has just died; could you please replace me at the theatre?” His friend felt embarrassed and replied: “I would be honoured to perform in your place. But if you reach out to others, you will give them great love and they will give it back to you. This will help you stay strong during hardships.” He agreed to go on stage and he revealed his son’s death on the evening of his show. People were moved by his courage and wondered how he had managed to overcome this tragedy to bring joy to others.

In this Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus recounts the parable of the Master and his Servant. But before doing so, he uses a metaphor to explain the power of faith, however small it may seem, to his disciples who had asked him to increase their faith. The parable invites the disciples to put themselves in the place of an employer paying a labouring servant; this leads them to recognize themselves in the opposite situation. They are simple servants who do whatever they have to do. We then move from the story of daily life to an evocation of the relationship between God and those who serve him. For Jesus, with little faith, his disciples can achieve an unthinkable result.

The theme of this Missionary Month is: “You will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8). We are also called to be servants in any way, simple servants that do what they should do. The missionary call leads us to others. Despite our cross, we entrust the Lord with our burdens, and we agree to serve as witnesses of love, joy and kindness. Evangelizing is an ecclesial act, said Paul VI, and everyone is attached to the very heart of their missionary undertakings, to the evangelizing activity of the whole Church. Everyone bears witness to the Gospel, to Christ, and offers it in many different ways: “in union with the mission of the Church and in her name” (*Evangelii nuntiandi*, n° 60). May Mary, humble servant of the Mission, intercede for us.

Sunday, October 23, 2022

“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” (Luke 18:14)

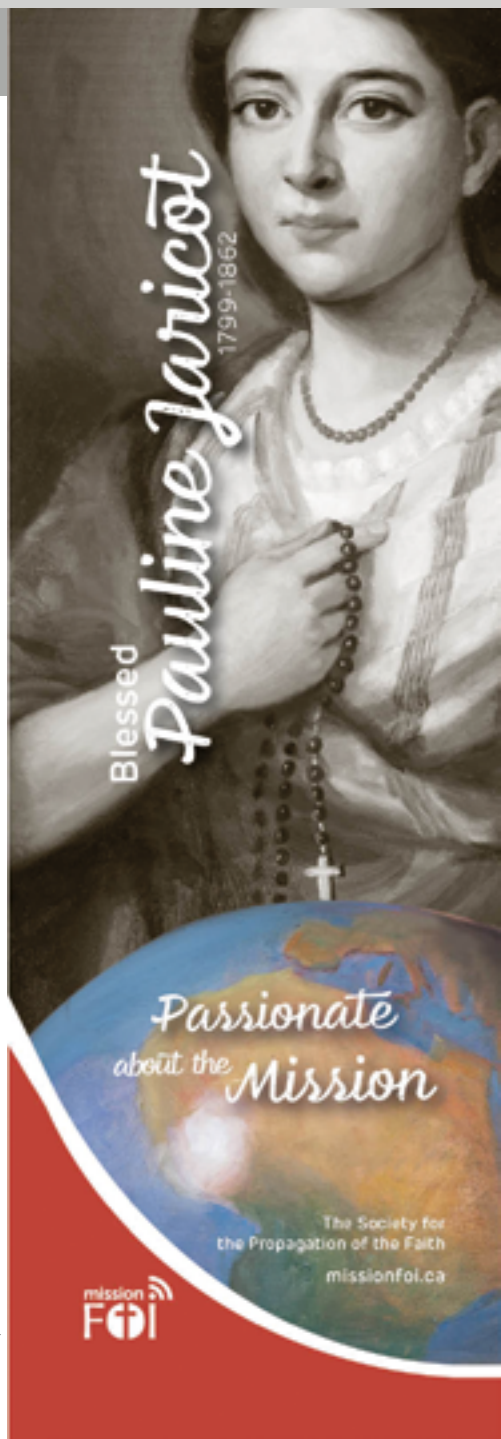
A woman had lost her husband and children; all of them were killed in a country in armed conflict. She found herself alone. She cried all the time and her grief was painful. She felt down. She wasn’t receiving any visitors. One day, a little girl knocked on her door. — *I lost my parents*, she said in tears. *I want you to become my mother*, she implored. The woman was filled with pity and felt shivers all over her body. Without saying anything, she took the little one in her arms and cried with her. Once again, she found the maternal warmth that had left her a while ago by giving love to this child who was lost. The little girl felt fulfilled. They lived together and every time she looked at her, the woman had tears in her eyes and love grew in her heart!

This Sunday’s Gospel suggests to us the parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector who went up to the temple to pray. Jesus teaches us an unexpected lesson from God’s perspective. While he went up to the temple as a public sinner, one of them returns to his house, secretly recognized by God as just. He who went up righteously returns unaware that his righteousness has not been recognized by the Most High. Jesus invites his audience to understand divine behaviour. God declared one of them as righteous; but not the other who asked nothing. God is full of mercy for a sinner who converts himself.

The theme of this Missionary Month is: “You will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8). One of the essential attitudes to every missionary action is humility. For the mission belongs to Christ. The Holy Spirit inspires in us both the will and work according to his good pleasure. The Holy Pope John Paul II said that if we want to stand in front of humans, we should always kneel in front of the Lord. The seeds of the missionary action take root in a humble and docile heart to God and bears fruit within the missionary apostolate. It is important to be aware of the urgency of bearing witness to our contemporaries. All baptized people are called to be witnesses of Christ and to support the Universal Church in her mission. May Mary, Mother of all missionary disciples, intercede for us.

Novena to blessed Pauline Jaricot

Foundress of the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith



Day One: “Made to Love and to Act.”

To respect oneself is to respect our profound nature of being made to love. At a very young age, Pauline Jaricot discovered that her heart was made to love and sought infinite Love. She then listened to this source within her that told her: “Come to the Father!” This source that led her to pray, allowed her to discover that Jesus is love.

In these nine days’ prayer, let us return to the Father and rediscover our purpose and our life as missionary disciples made to love. Let us be challenged by Pauline and her words: “To be able to love without measure, without remorse, without interruption, without fear, this is what I was looking for.”

Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...

Blessed Pauline Jaricot, pray for us!



Consult the website for the complete version of the Novena, watch videos and find out more about the blessed Pauline Jaricot:

opmcanada.ca/pauline-jaricot

Prayer to Blessed Pauline Jaricot

Blessed Pauline Jaricot,

Your life shows us that being constantly united with Jesus gives good fruits, fruits that remain.

Woman won over one day by Christ, you gave yourself totally for the good of the Kingdom, and since then prayer and charity have become your daily offering, your fruitful life every day.

Your passion in support of the Mission made you the foundress of a Society of universal prayer and charity! Your concern for justice made you meet the poor and fight with them to the root of their evils.

You are a model for us who want to be missionary disciples in our time, for the baptized, who commit themselves to following in the footsteps of the Risen One.

Accompany us in our conversion to Mission, which simply requires that we let Jesus make his house in us and that the Spirit of love does everything.

Amen.

**Blessed Pauline Jaricot,
a woman passionate for the Mission, pray for us!**

Collection for World Mission Day

The universal collection for World Mission Day is unique: its fruits are distributed worldwide, according to the needs of the poorest dioceses. Everyone contributes to the cause and this allows the survival of the poorest dioceses, especially those that do not benefit from twinning or privileged contact with the West. The universal collection provides each bishop the means and freedom of action for the formation of catechists, solidarity, priestly vocations and consecrated life, education, health care, etc. Therefore, it represents a tool of justice and fraternity between all the dioceses. Furthermore, it aids in supporting the permanent effort of the Universal Church to go and proclaim the Gospel to all nations. This mandate, received from Christ, is assumed by the baptized people and those who are jointly responsible for the Universal Mission along with the Church of Africa, Asia, South America, Central America, Europe and Oceania.

(cf. Statutes of the Pontifical Mission Societies/
Vatican — Chapter 2, article 8)

Bishops are invited to ask the people in charge of the Catholic organizations and the Christians, to renounce, during all the celebrations of that special Sunday, to any other collection of particular nature. They should also ensure that all donations for World Mission Day are exclusively remitted to the Universal Solidarity Fund and they should encourage their priests and laity in that spirit. (Article 8)

What is Mission Foi?

Officially known as the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, this society is present in 120 countries, it is the Vatican's most important one, supporting the missionary action of the poorest Churches in the world.

What does Mission Foi do?

It develops great solidarity with the universal mission of evangelization, through prayer and sharing.

It is responsible for the collection of World Mission Day, an occasion to celebrate the missionary activity around the World.

Our projects

- Construction of churches, chapels, presbyteries and convents
- Renovation and extension of churches
- Construction of parish halls and missionary animation centers
- Fitting out of premises for catechesis and evangelization groups
- Formation of catechists
- Purchase of means of transport for the missionaries
- Media resources

Mission Foi offers you new tools for the Missionary Month 2022 on the following website: missionfoi.ca

- The Missionary Month leaflet (6 pages)
- World Mission Day poster
- Pope Francis' message for World Mission Day
- Meditations on the readings of each day of the month
- Reflections for every Sunday of October for the parish bulletins
- Prayer: "Here we are, send us!"

List of free material to order

- English or French material (see order form)
- Missionary Month leaflet (6 pages)
Includes a detachable poster on the cover page
- Missionary Month prayers
- Envelopes for the collection



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