

A mosaic depicting three apostles, likely Jesus and two of his disciples, standing and holding staffs. The central figure is Jesus, with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a red tunic and a yellow cloak. He is flanked by two other figures, also with beards and wearing yellow cloaks. The background is a mosaic of gold and brown tiles. The text "Hearts on fire... on the move!" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Hearts on fire... on the move!

MISSIONARY MONTH – October 2023

World Mission Day – Sunday, October 22



Animation Kit



Hearts on fire... on the move!

This year, in a series of catechesis, Pope Francis calls us to develop **the passion for evangelization**, which is a **vital dimension for the Church!** The theme that has been chosen for the **97th World Mission Day (WMD)**, which will be celebrated on October 22, within the context of the Missionary Month is “**Hearts on fire, feet on the move**” (cf. Lk 24:13-35), inspired by the story of the disciples on the way to Emmaus.

In this year’s *message for World Mission Day*, the Pope explains what happens in the missionary disciples’ heart: “This setting out in haste, to share with others the joy of meeting the Lord, demonstrates that ‘the joy of the Gospel fills the heart and the whole life of those who meet Jesus. Those who allow themselves to be saved by him are freed from sin, from sadness, from inner emptiness, from isolation. With Jesus Christ, joy is always born and reborn’ (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 1).”

Missionary disciples with **hearts on fire**, it is time to be **on the move!** “**The love of Christ captivates and impels us** (cf. 2 Cor 5:14) to set our hearts on fire, to evangelize and to bring the love of Christ to humanity. [...] **A love that makes the Church, in constantly setting out anew, ever young. For all her members are entrusted with the mission of proclaiming the Gospel of Christ,**” wrote the Holy Father in his *message*.

Mission-foi (The Society for the Propagation of the Faith) offers many resources to revive the hearts to Mission and to enliven the Missionary Month in different places. You can find them in our website missionfoi.ca.

During this Missionary Month, let us **pray, celebrate and share** in order to support the Universal Mission of the baptized people and help more than 1000 poorest dioceses in the world.

Fr. Yoland Ouellet, O.M.I.
National director of the PMS — French Canada

Rosary Inspired by Pope Francis

With the collaboration of Gérald Fabrice Endaména, a seminarian from Cameroon.

Meditations of the Mysteries of the Rosary in light of Pope Francis' catechesis on the passion for evangelization, his Homily for Sunday of the Word of God 2023, and his message for World Mission Day 2023.

JOYFUL MYSTERIES

STEFANO SPAZIANI

FIRST MYSTERY

The Annunciation

"The Word is for everyone, the Word calls everyone to conversion, the Word makes us heralds." (Pope Francis, Homily for Sunday of the Word of God 2023). In the mystery of the Annunciation, the Angel announces the word to Mary; by saying "yes," she adheres to conversion and to the mission of the annunciation, which will go on during the visit to Elizabeth. Furthermore, considering World Mission Day's theme "**Hearts on fire, feet on the move,**" doesn't the final conversation between the Angel and Mary illustrate that her heart was burning as much as the disciples of Emmaus'? Let us pray so that the call of the annunciation may always be answered through conversion and zeal, by following the example of the Virgin Mary.

SECOND MYSTERY

The Visitation

The obvious and common point of this mystery, in the context of mission, is "the Church which goes forth." "How to go forth?" should interest us more, as the Holy-Father insisted, by distinguishing mission and proselytism. Mary's visit to Elizabeth teaches us everything: Mary doesn't visit Elizabeth thinking about herself, but rather about Elizabeth who is pregnant. She doesn't publicize the fact of being the Emmanuel's Mother, Elizabeth notices it by herself. Mary praises God through the "Magnificat." A good example of going forth is to put God and others first rather than us through mission. Let us pray so that we can receive that grace.

THIRD MYSTERY

The Nativity

The Holy-Father's prayer is that the missionary disciples' reward lies in the Joy of proclaiming the Good News, by being aware of the sorrows and difficulties they might encounter in their different contexts, especially in the places that are struck by

poverty, misery and wars. Meditating Jesus' birth in a stable should comfort us and renew our zeal. Jesus as "model of the annunciation" shows himself in poverty since his birth. May the Virgin Mary intercede for us to that end.

FOURTH MYSTERY

The Presentation in the Temple

The best-known fruit of this mystery is the purity of body and mind. In mission's language, it is a matter of exemplary nature: Jesus is a model for the missionary disciples, who should be themselves, an example in the world and for the world. In Pope Francis' catechesis on passion for evangelization (2nd), he invites us to experience intimacy with Jesus, the Good Shepherd (Jn 10), without whom we can do nothing (Jn 15:5), let alone be exemplary shepherds. Let us develop an intimate relationship with Jesus through prayer, so that we can be good examples in the world and for the world.

FIFTH MYSTERY

The Finding in the Temple

Jesus's parents were looking for him on their way back to Jerusalem. They found him in the Temple, the place where the Word of God was proclaimed and taught. When his parents asked him why he did such a thing, he replied that he should be about his Father's business: thus, Jesus, the Word of God, makes it his priority. The Pope teaches us in this sense, in parallel with the disciples of Emmaus, that the knowledge of the Holy Scripture is necessary to know and proclaim Christ. Let us pray so that the Love for the Word of God enliven us and for the promotion of every work of evangelization.

***"Our Lady of the Way,
Mother of Christ's missionary disciples
and Queen of Missions, pray for us!"***

— Pope Francis

Reflections on the readings for every Sunday of October 2023

For parish bulletins, homilies, etc.

By Father Alexandre Kabera

Sunday, October 1, 2023 (Mt 21:28-32)

"Son, go out and work in the vineyard today." (Mt 21:28)

Today, we begin the month of October, which is Missionary Month. For this year's theme **"Hearts on fire, feet on the move"** (cf. Lk 24:13-35), Pope Francis refers to the disciples on the road to Emmaus after the Lord's resurrection. Their Hearts were on fire **"while he opened the scriptures to us."** The Word of God enlightens and transforms the heart within the mission. In his message for World Mission Day (WMD), the Holy Father says: "Today, as then, the Risen Lord remains close to his missionary disciples and walks beside them, particularly when they feel disoriented, discouraged, fearful of the mystery of iniquity that surrounds them and seeks to overwhelm them. The Lord is greater than all our problems, above all if we encounter them in our mission of proclaiming the Gospel to the world. For in the end, this mission is his and we are nothing more than his humble co-workers, 'useless servants' (cf. Lk 17:10)." (1. "Hearts on fire," *Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2023*).

In today's Gospel, the Lord Jesus draws the attention on doing God's will and the struggle with oneself. The son who says no to his father, but carries out the task, is better than the one who says yes, but disobeys. For a human being worthy of the name is judged by his actions, not by his changing intentions. Indeed, faith is more an "acting right" than a "thinking right." With these words, **"Son, go out and work in the vineyard today,"** Jesus invites us, through mission, to be a Church that welcomes sinners who have been touched by conversion. Also, a Church that invites everyone to work in the Lord's vineyard!

This year, Pope Francis gave a series of catechesis on an urgent and decisive theme for Christian life: the *passion for evangelization*, in other words, the *apostolic zeal*. It is a vital dimension for the Church: the community of Jesus' disciples was in fact born apostolic, born missionary. Without apostolic zeal, faith withers. Mission, on the other hand, is the oxygen of Christian life: it invigorates and purifies it. During Missionary Month, let us embark, then, on a process of rediscovering the evangelizing passion, starting with the Scriptures and the Church's teaching, to draw apostolic zeal from its sources. Then, let us get closer to some witnesses who have rekindled the passion for the Gospel within the Church, like Therese of the Child Jesus, Francis of Assisi, John XXIII, John-Paul II, so

that they may help us rekindle the fire that the Holy Spirit wants to keep burning within us. (cf. Pope Francis, catechesis 2023, N° 1. *The call to the apostolate*).

Sunday, October 8, 2023

"The kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit." (Mt 21:43)

Sunday, October 15, 2023

"He dispatched his servants to summon the invited guests to the feast" (Mt 22:3)

Sunday, October 22, 2023

"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." (Mt 22:21)

This Sunday, which is World Mission Day, has the following theme: **"Hearts on fire, feet on the move"** (Lk 24:13-35). Pope Francis is amazed by the eternal youth of a Church that is always going forth. In his message, he says: "The image of 'feet setting out' reminds us once more of the perennial validity of the *missio ad gentes*, the mission entrusted to the Church by the risen Lord to evangelize all individuals and peoples, even to the ends of the earth. Today more than ever, our human family, wounded by so many situations of injustice, so many divisions and wars, is in need of the Good News of peace and salvation in Christ." Pope Francis explains to us that the Pontifical Mission Societies are rooted in a twofold love namely Christ's love for us and our love for Christ: "All of us can contribute to this missionary movement: with our prayers and activities, with material offerings and the offering of our sufferings, and with our personal witness. *The Pontifical Mission Societies* are the privileged means of fostering this missionary cooperation on both the spiritual and material levels. For this reason, the collection taken on World Mission Sunday is devoted to the *Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith*." (3. "Our feet set out on the way," *Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2023*). [...] Visit our website to read the full text.

Sunday, October 29, 2023

"You shall love the Lord, your God and your neighbor as yourself." (Mt 22:37-39)

2022 SUBSIDIES

Donations of the Pontifical Mission Societies in Canada

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY ENGLISH SECTOR	
Antigonish	7,927
Calgary	140,888
Charlottetown	13,869
Churchill-Hudson Bay	—
Corner Brook and Labrador	4,331
Edmonton	64,120
Grand Falls	4,422
Grouard-McLennan	—
Halifax-Yarmouth	5,000
Hamilton	57,500
Kamloops	—
Keewatin-Le Pas	909
Kingston	33,724
London	71,000
Mackenzie-Forth Smith	2,065
R.C. Military Ordinary of Canada	1,617
Nelson	26,740
Ottawa-Cornwall	85,379
Pembroke	12,421
Peterborough	19,266
Prince Albert	3,718
Prince George	4,245
Regina	33,350
St. Catharines	27,827
St. John's, NL	8,003
Saint John, NB	9,937
Saskatoon	21,198
Sault Ste-Marie	28,774
Thunder Bay	9,000
Toronto	451,809
Vancouver	227,369
Victoria	8,839
Whitehorse	1,740
Winnipeg	1,776
TOTAL	\$1,388,763

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY FRENCH SECTOR	
Amos	3,336
Baie-Comeau	2,953
Bathurst	6,923
Chicoutimi	5,412
Edmundston	5,604
Gaspé	4,667
Gatineau	420
Grouard-McLennan	—
Hearst-Mosonsee	2,603
Joliette	6,433
Moncton	9,450
Montréal	85,256
Nicolet	8,262
Ottawa-Cornwall	12,660
Québec	57,725
Rimouski	2,826
Rouyn-Noranda	5,133
Sault-Sainte-Marie	7,400
Sherbrooke	28,376
Saint-Boniface	17,049
Saint-Hyacinthe	34,085
Saint-Jean-Longueuil	5,800
Saint-Jérôme-Mont-Laurier	5,098
Saint-Paul	7,883
Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière	4,208
Timmins	5,849
Trois-Rivières	3,835
Valleyfield	9,359
Other dioceses	240
TOTAL	\$348,845





Blessed Pauline Jaricot (1799-1862), Founder of the Propagation of the Faith (1822).

Thank you to all our benefactors who contributed to our fundraising campaigns.

Thank you for your great generosity!



OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS		
	Society of St. Peter the Apostle	\$961,206
	Holy Childhood Association	\$319,344



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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. 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.

Statutes of the Pontifical Mission Societies

(PMS) 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 day, to any other collection that Sunday. 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. 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.

Subsidies sent in 2022

FRENCH-SPEAKING CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION	
<i>Domus Missionalis</i> Foundation — Italy	209,784
Burundi	278,942
Madagascar	412,872
India	290,851
<i>Pontificium Opus A Propagatione Fidei</i>	57,551
Sub-Total	\$1,250,000
Mass stipends	\$2,660
TOTAL FOR FRENCH SECTOR	\$1,252,660

ENGLISH-SPEAKING CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION	
Ghana	25,468
Gambia	117,611
Tanzania	276,349
Zambia	538,382
<i>Domus Missionalis</i> Foundation — Italy	202,164
<i>Pontificium Opus A Propagatione Fidei</i>	55,467
TOTAL FOR ENGLISH SECTOR	\$1,215,441

TOTAL FOR BOTH SECTORS	\$2,468,101
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Missionary animation tools for the Missionary Month available for free on the following website: missionfoi.ca

- Pope Francis' message for World Mission Day
- The animation kit for the Missionary Month (6 pages)
- The Missionary Month poster
- The Missionary Month prayer
- Reflections on the readings for every Sunday of October
- Meditations on the readings of each day of the month
- The Rosary inspired by Pope Francis

List of free material to order in French or English (see order form)

- The poster
- The Missionary Month and the Sixth American Missionary Congress prayer
- Envelopes for the collection



missionfoi.ca

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