

GO AND INVITE
EVERYONE
to the banquet 



CATHOLIC MISSION / S. MEDRI

MISSIONARY MONTH — OCTOBER 2024

World Mission Day — Sunday, October 20



**GO AND INVITE
EVERYONE**
to the banquet 



ISTOCK

**This text from Matthew's Gospel inspired Pope Francis
for the Missionary Month of October 2024.
Its purpose is to remind us that we are a "Church which goes forth"
which cannot stay still and wait for everyone to come to her.**

Read the Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2024.

"Go" and "invite" are two verbs that set us in motion and on a missionary going forth.

They encourage us to be open and welcoming to those who do not know the Good News or, for different reasons, do not feel concerned by this invitation. This can transform our life if we respond to it and freely decide to be part of the invited guests.

In this year of preparation for the Jubilee of 2025, which is specially dedicated to prayer, and in this final stage of the synodal journey, whose motto is: "communion, participation, mission," we offer you resources and tools to animate our communities, parish groups and these missionary leaders who have mission at heart.

During the Missionary Month of October, we are invited to pray fervently for the Church's mission of evangelization and the celebration of the Eucharist. Pope Francis explains: "In obedience to the Saviour's command, she does not cease to pray, at every Eucharistic and liturgical celebration, the 'Our Father,' with its petition, 'Thy kingdom come'" (Pope Francis' Message for WMD 2024). This prayer that Christ gave us and specially the Eucharist, "make us pilgrims and missionaries of hope, journeying towards everlasting life in God, towards the nuptial banquet that God has prepared for all his children."

**On October 20, may you have a beautiful celebration
for World Mission Day!**

**May you have a fruitful Missionary Month and tirelessly, in the name of the Lord,
go and invite everyone to the banquet!**

Fr. Yoland Ouellet, o.m.i.
National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies
in Francophone Canada

Fr. Rodrigo Zuluaga
National Coordinator of Mission for
(Propagation of the Faith)

Suggested materials for your events

- *Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Day*
- Missionary Month poster
- Missionary Month prayer
- Sunday Gospel Reflections for Missionary Month
- 31 meditations for Missionary Month
- Meditations of the mysteries of the Rosary inspired by Pope Francis

Consult: missionfoi.ca



Blessed Pauline Jaricot

Meditation of the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary in light of Pope Francis' homilies and catechesis on the passion for evangelization

Rosary Inspired by Pope Francis

With the collaboration of Fr. Gérald Fabrice Endamena, a priest from Cameroon.

Joyful Mysteries

FIRST MYSTERY

The Annunciation

"Yet it is not so much that we go to the Lord, but that he comes to us, to fill us with his grace, to fill us with his joy."

Pope Francis, Homily for the celebration of the sacrament of penance with the act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, March 25, 2022.

Let us pray so that the missionary disciples of Canada and the whole world might be open to the graces and joy of the Annunciation in order to bring them to those to whom the Lord sends them.

Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us!

SECOND MYSTERY

The Visitation

"However, when Mary clearly understood what God is asking of her, what she has to do, she does not loiter, she does not delay, but goes with haste"

Pope Francis, Recital of the Holy Rosary for the Conclusion of the Marian Month of May, May 31, 2013.

Let us pray so that the missionary disciples of Canada and the whole world might obtain from God the grace to always discern his will and to act efficiently and promptly within their mission.

Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us!

THIRD MYSTERY

The Nativity

"God was born in a manger, as if to remind us that, in order to live, we need him, like the bread we eat"

Pope Francis, Homily for the Nativity Mass, December 24, 2020.

Let us pray so that the missionary disciples of Canada and the whole world might always find in Jesus the bread of life and share him with everyone who needs God.

Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us!

FOURTH MYSTERY

The Presentation in the Temple

"Jesus who goes out to meet his people. It is the feast day of encounter: the newness of the Child encounters the tradition of the Temple; the promise finds fulfillment; young Mary and Joseph encounter the elderly Simeon and Anna. Everything, therefore, meets as Jesus arrives"

Pope Francis, Homily for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and the 23rd World Day for Consecrated Life, February 2, 2019.

Let us pray so that the missionary disciples of Canada and the whole world might always distinguish themselves through a spirit of openness and meeting in Jesus Christ.

Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us!

FIFTH MYSTERY

The Finding in the Temple

"We come from a story that was woven with bonds of love, and the person we are today was born not so much out of the material goods that we enjoyed, but from the love that we received"

Pope Francis, December 26, 2021, Angelus.

Let us pray for the missionary disciples of Canada and the whole world whose vocation is misunderstood and unwelcome by their families, so that their love for God and their families keeps growing.

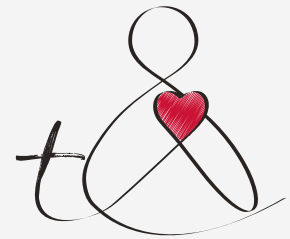
Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us!

You can find
all the meditations of the Rosary
on our website: missionfoi.ca/mois-missionnaire

Sunday Gospel Reflections for Missionary Month 2024

For parish bulletins, homilies, etc.

By Father Yoland Ouellet, o.m.i.



World Mission Day – Sunday, October 20, 2024

Reflection on the Gospel of Mark 10:35–45

The theme chosen by Pope Francis for World Mission Day is: “Go and invite everyone to the Banquet!” (Mt 22:9). This banquet takes place during the Son’s wedding, the One who comes to marry all humanity and thus, wants everyone to be present at the nuptial rendezvous. He said: “The cup that I drink, you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized.” What is this baptism for Jesus, if not of being immersed in our humanity from birth to his passion and death, where he will give his life for many? The Bridegroom has been tried in every way and offers us a Love of compassion, kindness and liberation (Psalm of the day). More than that, he offers us his Life in return, what could be more beautiful than this grace, this gift? We are invited to take part in a sublime, marvellous and merciful wedding [2nd reading]!

The Bridegroom wishes to serve us, but this is not customary in a wedding. He is the Servant that was crushed with pain and shall justify all his brothers and sisters in humanity [1st reading]. Therefore, he offers to serve us salvation on the banquet menu, nothing less! Through his sacrifice offered in the Holy Eucharist, a restorative grace is given to our wounded humanity. Indeed, we await our new Life from Him, sings the Psalm, may his Love be upon us, our hope is on him. Let us invite everyone to the Banquet of the Eucharist, the wedding day of the Lamb, that is our Universal Mission, *ad gentes*, in every nation. Today, Pope Francis tells us in his message that: “While the world sets before us the various ‘banquets’ of consumerism, selfish comfort, the accumulation of wealth and individualism, the Gospel calls everyone to the divine banquet, marked by joy, sharing, justice and fraternity, in communion with God and with others. This fullness of life, which is Christ’s gift, is anticipated even now in the banquet of the Eucharist, which the Church celebrates at the Lord’s command in memory of him. The invitation to the eschatological banquet that we bring to everyone in our mission of evangelization is intrinsically linked to the invitation to the Eucharistic table, where the Lord feeds us with his word and with his Body and Blood” (Message for World Mission Day 2024).

Let us take a closer look in the life of a baptized person to see what this grace of serving our loved ones means, even to the point of drinking the cup of

suffering and sacrifice. Pope Francis gives us the example of Josephine Bakhita of Soudan: Born in Darfur in 1869, she was abducted from her family at the age of seven, and made a slave. She had eight different masters—each one sold her on to the next. The physical and moral suffering she experienced as a child left her with no identity. She suffered cruelty and violence. But she herself testified: “As a slave I never despaired, because I felt a mysterious force supporting me.” What was Saint Bakhita’s secret? We know that a wounded person often wounds in turn: the oppressed easily becomes the oppressor. Instead, the vocation of the oppressed is that of freeing themselves and their oppressors, becoming restorers of humanity. Only in the weakness of the oppressed can the strength of God’s love, which frees both, be revealed. Saint Bakhita expresses this truth very well.

One day her tutor gave her a small crucifix and she treasured it jealously, given that she had never owned anything. She experienced inner liberation while looking at it, because she felt she was understood and loved and therefore capable of understanding and loving: this was the beginning. She felt she was understood, she felt loved, and as a consequence, capable of understanding and loving others. Indeed, she would go on to say: “God’s love has always accompanied me in a mysterious way... The Lord has loved me very much: you have to love everyone... you have to have pity!” This is Bakhita’s soul. Truly, to feel pity means both to suffer with the victims of the great inhumanity in the world, and also to pity those who commit errors and injustices, not justifying, but humanizing. This is the caress she teaches us: to humanize. When we enter the logic of fighting, of division among us, of bad feelings, one against the other, we lose our humanity. And very often we think we are in need of humanity, of being more humane. Saint Bakhita teaches us: to humanize, to humanize ourselves and to humanize others.

You can find the full version of this text
and three other reflections on missionfoi.ca



2022 World Mission Day collections in Canada

ENGLISH SECTOR*	
Antigonish	7,929
Calgary	112,051
Charlottetown	6,759
Churchill-Hudson Bay	1,500
Corner Brook and Labrador	5,184
Edmonton	67,226
Grand Falls	3,885
Grouard – McLennan	16,869
Halifax – Yarmouth	5,000
Hamilton	45,425
Kamloops	---
Keewatin-Le Pas	733
Kingston	29,952
London	20,417
Mackenzie – Forth Smith	1,706
R.C. Military Ordinary of Canada	---
Nelson	26,151
Ottawa–Cornwall	19,828
Pembroke	9,842
Peterborough	20,837
Prince Albert	4,602
Prince George	10,399
Regina	40,816
St. Catharines	27,139
St. John's, NL	8,384
Saint John, NB	19,360
Saskatoon	21,958
Sault Ste-Marie	15,850
Thunder Bay	5,000
Toronto	436,135
Vancouver	---
Victoria	12,297
Whitehorse	1,231
Winnipeg	13,863
TOTAL	\$1,018,328

FRENCH SECTOR	
Amos	4,940
Baie-Comeau	1,179
Bathurst	5,237
Chicoutimi	2,207
Edmundston	5,121
Gaspé	3,643
Gatineau	700
Hearst – Moosonee	2,638
Joliette	7,912
Moncton	17,809
Montréal	81,905
Nicolet	5,876
Ottawa – Cornwall	16,623
Québec	26,680
Rimouski	4,606
Rouyn-Noranda	3,437
Sault-Sainte-Marie	7,175
Sherbrooke	11,606
Saint-Boniface	13,617
Saint-Hyacinthe	1,645
Saint-Jean – Longueuil	1,835
Saint-Jérôme – Mont-Laurier	22,059
Saint-Paul	9,296
Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pocatière	3,653
Timmins	4,933
Trois-Rivières	7,040
Valleyfield	5,211
Other dioceses	730
TOTAL	\$279,313

*Source: Pontifical Mission Societies – Toronto

TOTAL FOR BOTH SECTORS: \$1,297,641

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS FROM FRENCH SECTOR From July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023	
Œuvre pontificale de la propagation de la foi missionfoi.ca	\$714,594



PMS FRANCE



Limited edition souvenir stamps from Canada Post to commemorate the beatification of Pauline Jaricot on May 22, 2022.

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

**Thank you
for your great generosity!**

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

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. [Ch. 2, art. 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 in 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.



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is available at:
missionfoi.ca/mois-missionnaire

Subsidies sent in 2023

FRANCOPHONE CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION	
Fondazione <i>Domus Missionalis</i> – Italy	140,699
Burundi	268,982
Madagascar	281,292
<i>Pontificium Opus A Propagatione Fidei</i>	48,539
Mass stipends	2,615
TOTAL FOR FRENCH SECTOR	\$742,127

ANGLOPHONE CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION*	
Ghana	1,196,309
Gambia	117,023
Fondazione <i>Domus Missionalis</i> – Italy	364,210
<i>Pontificium Opus A Propagatione Fidei</i>	125,568
TOTAL FOR ENGLISH SECTOR	\$1,803,110

Total for both sectors: \$2,545,237

Other donations 2023

FRENCH AND ENGLISH SECTORS	
Œuvre pontificale de Saint-Pierre-Apôtre pretresdedemain.ca	1,498,737
Society of St. Peter the Apostle missionsocieties.ca	440,752
Œuvre pontificale de l'enfance missionnaire (Mond'Ami) mondami.ca	172,543
Holy Childhood Association missionsocieties.ca	199,599
AMOUNT COLLECTED BY BOTH SOCIETIES	\$2,311,631

*Source: Pontifical Mission Societies – Toronto

- Poster for 2024
- Prayer for Missionary Month 2024
- Prayer to Our Lady of Missions
- The Missionary Disciples Prayer
- Meditations of the mysteries of the Rosary
- Novena with Blessed Pauline Jaricot
- Envelopes for the collection



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