

Missionaries **of Hope** **Among all Peoples**



Missionary Month
October 2025

World Mission Day
Sunday, October 19



Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith
Find all you need at missionfoi.ca



HAVE A GOOD Missionary Month!

This is how Pope Francis used to address the faithful. Since 2019, he would ask all the Churches of the world to take advantage of this month for praying and renewing oneself in mission.

Missionary Month is also a time when the **Universal Collection requested by the Holy Father** takes place (to be handed over to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith). Collection has been decreasing. And so we appeal to your generosity, challenging each diocese to increase their collection to support the poorest Local Churches that are counting on us and hoping to receive our help.



On October 19, we will celebrate **World Mission Day** in a missionary spirit of thanksgiving, as we anticipate its 100th anniversary that will be celebrated next year. This October, let us remind ourselves of its importance. Indeed, each year, the

Pope writes a dedicated **message with an inspiring theme** for all the Baptized to reflect upon.

This year's theme is "Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples." It's a challenge given to us by Pope Francis. The theme alludes to the Jubilee Year (Pilgrims of Hope) that we have been celebrating in which different activities have been suggested by the Church: pilgrimages, congresses, days of prayer and renewal to experience this year through a spirit of joy and faith in order to bring a **light of hope to the world we live in.**

Remembering that **Mission is the life and oxygen of our Church**, we suggest your hearts and communities be awakened so as to be in a permanent state of mission. We can't stay still while there are still men and women, near or far from us, who haven't received the great gift of coming to know the Good News. Along with Pope Leo XIV, **let us enter Missionary Month together with a joyful faith and a spirit of sharing.**

Fr. Yoland Ouellet, o.m.i.

National Director of the
Pontifical Mission Societies

Fr. Rodrigo Zuluaga

National Coordinator
of Mission for (Propagation of the Faith)

Discover our numerous resources to experience
Missionary Month 2025: daily meditations, inspiring videos,
prayers, Sunday Gospel reflections, and much more.

Visit missionfoi.ca to discover all our material



Message of his Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2025, October 19, 2025

Missionaries of Hope Among all Peoples

Here, I would like to mention some relevant aspects of our Christian missionary identity so that we can **let ourselves be guided by the Spirit of God and burn with holy zeal for a new evangelizing season in the Church, which is sent to revive hope** in a world over which dark shadows loom (cf. *Fratelli Tutti*, 9–55).

1. In the footsteps of Christ, our hope

[...] In this mystic “today,” which will last until the end of the world, Christ is the fullness of salvation for all, **particularly for those whose only hope is God**. In his earthly life, **“He went about doing good and healing all”** from evil and the Evil One (cf. Acts 10:38), restoring hope in God to the needy and the people.

Through his disciples, sent to all peoples and mystically with him, the Lord **Jesus continues his ministry of hope for Humanity**. He still bends over all those who are poor, afflicted, despairing and oppressed, and pours “upon their wounds the balm of consolation and the wine of hope” (*Preface “Jesus the Good Samaritan”*).

2. Renewing the mission of hope

Faced with the urgency of the mission of hope today, Christ’s disciples are called first to discover how to become “artisans” of hope and restorers of an often distracted and unhappy Humanity.

Missionaries of hope are men and women of prayer, for “**the person who hopes is a person who prays**,” in the words of Venerable Cardinal François-Xavier Van Thuan, who was himself sustained in hope throughout his lengthy imprisonment thanks to the strength he received from faithful prayer and the Eucharist (cf. *The Road of Hope*, Boston, 2001, 963).

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 these Churches the means to ensure the formation of catechists, support priestly vocations and consecrated life, promote faith education, etc. Therefore, it represents a tool of justice and fraternity between all the dioceses of the world. In short, it supports the Church's permanent effort to proclaim the Gospel to all nations. This mandate, received from Christ, is assumed by the Baptized and those who are jointly responsible for the Universal Mission.

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 their collections. They should make sure that all donations for World Mission Day are exclusively remitted to the Universal Solidarity Fund of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and thus encourage their priests and laity in that spirit. (Ch. 2, art. 8)

What is Mission for? (Society for the Propagation of the Faith)

Present in 120 countries, this pontifical society 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's responsible for the collection of World Mission Day, an occasion to celebrate the mission of all the Baptized.



Pauline Jaricot (1799-1862) was beatified on May 22, 2022, in her hometown of Lyon, France. She's known as the "Mother of missions." She founded the Society for the Propagation of the Faith that led to the creation of the worldwide network we now call the Pontifical Mission Societies, thus contributing to giving the Church a new missionary impulse for more than 200 years.

To find out more, visit the Website:
opmcanada.ca/pauline-jaricot (French only)



MY DONATION AMOUNT: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$200 \$300 \$500 \$1000 Other: \$ _____

A tax receipt will be issued for all donations of \$20 or more.

You can also make an online donation at missionfoi.ca (secure site ).

I would like to make a donation by pre-authorized payment. Please send me the form to that end.

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I would like to pay by:

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DATE: _____ MONTH

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SIGNATURE: _____

I have included a donation to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in my will.

Please send me more information about planned giving.

**TO MAKE
A DONATION:**



SEND YOUR DONATION TO: The Society for the Propagation of the Faith, 175 Sherbrooke Street East, Montréal, Québec, H2X 1C7 CANADA

Telephone: 514 844-1929 — Toll-free: 1 866 844-1929 — Email: info@opmcanada.ca

Subsidies Sent in 2024

Francophone Canada's Contribution

Democratic Republic of the Congo	\$186,096
Burundi	\$278,245
Morocco	\$80,588
<i>Domus Missionalis Foundation – Italy</i>	\$122,298
<i>Pontificium Opus A Propagatione Fidei</i>	\$45,105
TOTAL	\$544,929



A church being built in Burundi (2024)



Collections for World Mission Day in Francophone Canada (2024)

From July 1st, 2023 to June 30, 2024

\$321,170

Our Challenge for 2025

We must urgently increase our annual donation during this collection for the poorest Churches. As we approach the 100th World Mission Day, in 2026, our goal is to reach \$500,000.

We wish to thank all our benefactors who have contributed to our annual collections.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GREAT GENEROSITY!

You can consult previous collections
from your diocese at missionfoi.ca

Sunday Gospel Reflections for the Missionary Month of October 2025

Faith is like a seed (Sunday, October 5, 2025)

As we begin the Missionary Month of October, this Sunday makes us reflect on the faith we want to spread and grow in our world.

“Increase our faith!” Through this request, the apostles acknowledge that they have faith, although little faith. They’re aware that faith isn’t their possession but rather a gift. And Jesus doesn’t deny it. He also understands their need for a greater faith because faith embodies a developing force. He compares it to a seed that is sown in the garden, that then grows and becomes a tall tree. A seed carries, as if on hold, everything that will later become a tall tree. But it has to be sown and taken care of. In its best conditions, a sown seed starts by growing (expansion) before germinating. The better it’s taken care of, the better the sprout will grow.

Just like a seed in the garden, God sows faith within our soul, and everyone has the duty to take care of it so it can grow and develop. As a seed yet to be sown, faith is already a formidable force, capable of *uprooting a great tree and planting it in the sea*. And Jesus believes that the apostles’ faith is smaller than any seed of faith that God can ever sow within the soul: “If you have faith the size of a mustard seed.” Yet, the mustard seed, “It’s the smallest of all the seeds” (Mt 13:32). Therefore, rather than asking to increase their faith, the apostles would be better off seeing if, instead of germinating, their faith’s seed hasn’t grown thinner, and thus, stopped germinating because of an obvious lack of care.

Jesus admits that his apostles have already taken a step forward in their caring of the seed of faith sown within them. But they still have much to do. They’re like that servant who just finished plowing or herding and who must, on top of that, wear an apron, prepare dinner for his master and serve him. From Jesus their master, they have just received the formation of *disciples* by following him, listening to his word, sharing their lives with him and witnessing his actions. Now that they have become apostles, they are “sent out” to make disciples themselves, through their words and deeds, to bear fruit that will remain (cf. Jn 15:16). Thus, they celebrate Jesus, their master, and they serve God a good dinner. This is what mission is all about! Indeed, “By this is my Father glorified that you bear much fruit and become my disciples” (Jn 15:8).

You can consult the unabridged version of this text
and three other Sunday reflections for October
on the following website: missionfoi.ca



Daily prayer for the Missionary Month 2025

Prayer to Jesus, Missionary of Hope

O, Jesus, Divine Missionary of Hope,
your heart speaks to us about love.
Your life grants us life in abundance,
your resurrection, a future forever!

Through your missionary disciples,
come and embrace the whole world.
Watch over our brothers and sisters;
over the billions of poor and afflicted people.

May your Church take charge of,
among all peoples, the cry of Humanity.
May she continue your Mission of love,
salvation and peace, to console us.

Make us respond to its urgency,
as brave messengers and builders,
well rooted in Hope,
our eyes set on you, Lord.

Blessed Pauline Jaricot, pray for us.
Saint Carlo Acutis, pray for us.
Saint Therese of the Child Jesus and Saint Francis Xavier,
patrons of missions, pray for us.
Mary, Queen of missions, pray for us.

Fr. Yoland Ouellet, o.m.i.

National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies
in Francophone Canada

Inspired by *Pope Francis' Message
for World Mission Day 2025*