



October 3, 2022

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On October 23, World Mission Sunday, we join Catholics across the globe for the annual Eucharistic celebration for the missions of the Church.

Reflecting on this year's theme: "You shall be My witnesses" (Acts 1:8), Pope Francis emphasizes the call to every Christian to bear witness to Christ, to participate in a mission of universal evangelization, and to seek strength and guidance from the Holy Spirit.

Since 1822, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith has raised millions of dollars to support new and growing dioceses in the United States and throughout the world. When you contribute to the World Mission Sunday collection, you support the Society for the Propagation of the Faith as they provide for the formation of seminarians and religious men and women, give financial help for the building of schools, orphanages and Churches in remote places with few resources, and help priests and religious obtain what they need to proclaim the Gospel and celebrate the sacraments in more than 1,100 mission dioceses in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe.

Please give what you can to the Mission Sunday Collection, but most importantly, please continue to pray for those living and working in missionary territories. With gratitude for your support for the Missions in October and year-round, and with prayers for a fruitful celebration of World Mission Sunday, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie