

MISSION MONTH TOOLKIT

The Mission Month Toolkit can be used to help understand, celebrate and share the message of Mission Month and World Mission Sunday. The information enclosed is for everyone. Feel free to share it from the pulpit, on your website, over social media - basically anywhere you update or post information.

What is World Mission Sunday?

World Mission Sunday is the Holy Father's annual appeal to support overseas mission and missionaries. It takes place in every single parish worldwide where the Church is present. In Ireland, Missio Ireland is tasked with organising the Mission Sunday collection. Missio Ireland is the Pope's official charity for overseas mission.

Why is it so important?

All offerings made on behalf of World Mission Sunday become part of the Holy Father's Universal Solidarity Fund. This Fund supports missionary activities in over 1,100 young dioceses, mostly in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. As young dioceses grow, so do their needs. On top of this, they are often found in remote areas devastated by conflict or natural disasters. The Universal Solidarity Fund provides aid so that missionaries can continue to go to these places to share the love of God.

What does it support?

The needs of young dioceses vary, anything from a motorbike so a priest can celebrate Mass in a remote village, to a community hall so local people can gather in safety; or more urgently, vaccinations and medicines so that parish dispensaries can protect vulnerable children. In essence:

- it provides basic infrastructure by helping communities to build schools, clinics, parish halls and churches.
- it prepares the future leaders and carers of the Church by supporting the training of sisters, priests, brothers and catechists.
- it supports missionary programmes to care for children's spiritual and physical wellbeing by offering safe shelter, healthcare, education and hope for the future.

What is the theme for World Mission Sunday?

This year's theme is 'You Will Be My Witnesses' (Acts 1: 8). Every Christian is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ. The Church, the community of Christ's disciples, has no other mission than that of bringing the Gospel to the entire world by bearing witness to Christ. Each baptised person is called to mission, in the Church and by the mandate of the Church.

You Will Be My Witnesses
(Acts 1:8)

**WORLD
MISSION
SUNDAY**

**23rd October
2022**

MISSION MONTH UPDATES

Copy and
paste from
www.missio.ie

You can help spread the message of World Mission Sunday by including the following updates in your parish newsletter, website and/or social media. If the text is too long, please feel free to edit.

Sunday 2nd October

The world is in crisis. In many poorer parishes in Africa, Asia, and Latin America it is overseas missionaries who are on the front line. Show them your support. Donate €4.00 by texting the word 'Mission' to 50300. Alternatively donate at www.missio.ie or call Missio Ireland on 01 497 2035. To learn more go to www.missio.ie *

Sunday 9th October

October and World Mission Sunday is a time for the faithful of the world to show their appreciation towards the work of overseas missionaries. The generosity offered will be used to support missionary activities in over 1,100 struggling dioceses, mostly in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. You can help right now. Please donate €4.00 by texting the word 'Mission' to 50300. Alternatively donate at www.missio.ie or call Missio Ireland on 01 497 2035. To learn more go to www.missio.ie *

Sunday 16th October

Next weekend we will celebrate World Mission Sunday, the Holy Father's annual appeal to support overseas mission and missionaries. Since the pandemic, there have been less people physically attending Mass, meaning less offerings in the basket. The implications for overseas missionaries and the communities they serve over the coming months will be very challenging. You can help right now. Please donate €4.00 by texting the word 'Mission' to 50300. Alternatively donate at www.missio.ie or call Missio on 01 497 2035. To learn more go to www.missio.ie *

Sunday 23rd October

This weekend parishes worldwide celebrate World Mission Sunday. The kindness shown will help overseas missionaries to continue to share the love of God with some of the world's most marginalised and vulnerable people. Thank you for supporting in whatever way you can, and please remember it is more than an appeal for financial help. Missionaries also need spiritual support. On World Mission Sunday missionaries take great strength in knowing that the faithful of the world are keeping them in their thoughts and prayers. Help right now. Donate €4.00 by texting the word 'Mission' to 50300. Alternatively donate at www.missio.ie or call Missio Ireland on 01 497 2035. To learn more go to www.missio.ie *

Sunday 30th October

On behalf of Pope Francis, thank you for supporting World Mission Sunday. Your kindness means that overseas missionaries can continue to share the love of God with some of the world's most marginalised and vulnerable people. If you value the work of overseas missionaries, you can donate €4.00 by texting the word 'Mission' to 50300. Alternatively donate at www.missio.ie or call Missio Ireland on 01 497 2035. To learn more go to www.missio.ie *

**Missio Ireland is the Holy Father's official charity for overseas mission. Through your generosity they support missionaries who are caring for some of the most vulnerable communities in the world. (Texts cost €4. Missio will receive a minimum of €3.60. Service Provider: LikeCharity. Helpline: 076 680 5278. Republic of Ireland only).*

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

As a growing world church, we share responsibility for all those who so urgently need our help. We must not forget the needs of those whose stories do not reach our televisions or newspapers. For many people in Africa, Asia and Latin America, the church is the first place they turn to for help in the fight against hunger, misery and lack of prospects. This is certainly the case in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where small children have to live on the streets or are exploited in cobalt mines. Thousands of children in Congo dig for cobalt every day and in so doing, they risk their lives. This valuable metal is used for a range of products.

The cobalt mines are deep and dangerous and the work is arduous. The dark, slightly shimmering dirt and mud covered rocks cause serious damage to health. The children use their bare hands to pound the rough rocks and they carry heavy sacks of rocks to storage areas. The families that are engaged in this work have no other choice. If they do not work at the cobalt mines, they will starve. Gaston and Felix are two 10 year old boys, who have been working at the mines and hauling heavy sacks of rocks for four years. They have never been to school.



Nothing moves without cobalt. The metal is in our batteries, in our smartphones, e-cars and laptops. The largest mines are located in the Congo. Two thirds of worldwide production comes from there. The country is under the control of a corrupt elite that only wants one thing: to make money, no matter what the price. Approximately 40,000 minors are exploited in the mines.



But there is hope. Sister Jane Wainoi Kabui, Superior of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, saved thousands of children from the mines. The Sisters want children to stop working in the mines and to take action against modern slavery. They have already been awarded for their commitment and honoured as **Heroines in the Fight Against Slavery**. Sister Jane hopes it will raise awareness for the inhumane working conditions in the mines. Through their efforts, the sisters were able to give many children an opportunity to stop working in the mines and to provide them with an education as well as food and medical treatment, where necessary. Many children have their own bed for the first time in their lives. Through Sister Jane and the Good Shepherd Sisters, the children have hope. Hope for a good future.

Sister Jane is just one example of thousands of missionaries who are living and working with some of the most marginalised and vulnerable communities in the world. Generosity and prayers for World Mission Sunday means missionaries like her can keep loving, serving and sharing God's love with others.



The above photo shows one of the Good Shepherd Sisters, educating some of the Congolese Children.

RETURNING COLLECTIONS

Most parishes, specifically ones outside of Dublin, will return their World Mission Sunday collections directly to their diocesan office. For other parishes the safest way to return is via bank lodgement. When making a lodgement, please remember to use your parish or community name as reference. If you don't, we won't be able to confirm receipt and acknowledge your return.

Returning via
post? Please
include the
Donation Return
slip



BANK LODGEMENT

Euro Bank Details

Account Name	Missio Ireland
IBAN	IE12 BOFI 9007 5456 9616 36
BIC	BOFIE2D

Sterling Bank Details

Account Name	Missio Ireland
IBAN	IE 63 AIBK 9300 6763 0039 98
BIC	AIBKIE2D



SEND CHEQUE / POSTAL ORDER / BANK DRAFT

Missio Ireland
64 Lower Rathmines Road, Dublin D06 N2H1



RETURN OVER THE PHONE

Call Missio Ireland on: +353 1 497 2035



RETURN ONLINE

Go to: www.missio.ie/donate