

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, or over social media.

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 1,150 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 remote villages, 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 churches, clinics, schools and parish halls.
- prepares the future leaders and carers of the Church by supporting the training of sisters, priests, brothers and catechists.
- 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?

For Mission Sunday 2024, Pope Francis has chosen the theme 'Go and invite everyone to the banquet'. Mission, he said, is a tireless going out to all men and women, in order to invite them to encounter God.

Go and invite everyone to the banquet
(Mt 22:9)

**WORLD
MISSION
SUNDAY**

**20th October
2024**

MISSION SUNDAY POSTER



The Parish of Dakawa, Morogoro Diocese, Tanzania, was founded on 2 February 2004. This is one of the areas in northern Tanzania where the Maasai tribe live. They are also to be found living in Kenya. Local children can be seen carrying water on their heads in this picture.

The Pallottine Missionary Sisters opened a mission in Magogo Village, Dakawa Parish in 2017. It is in the Bush about 9 kms from the main Morogoro Road. The people of this area are mainly from the Maasai Nomadic Pastoralists, who live in the forest of Mvomero. To help the Maasai children to obtain an education, the Sisters opened a Day and Boarding School. They began in 2018 with 21 pupils with numbers increasing ever since. Boarding is expensive, so the majority of pupils are day pupils. Children from other areas outside the locality, whose families can afford to pay the school fees, are accepted into the school. These fees are needed to pay the teachers' salaries. The aim is to make the school viable and self sustaining.

Initially, a second hand Hiace minibus was purchased with a capacity of carrying 16 pupils to the school. The number of pupils continued to increase, so a larger bus was needed to take them to and from school. Though fundraising efforts and financial support from individuals outside Tanzania, a new 34 seater Tata minibus was purchased. Before the purchase of this new minibus, the Sisters struggled to collect the children using the Hiace minibus and their landrover, as they were so overcrowded. It is quite dangerous driving through the Bush. A second minibus was subsequently purchased, and 76 pupils are now being transported to and from school each day.

Through World Mission Sunday, each and every one of us is connected to the universal Church. Through prayer and donation, World Mission Sunday is the biggest solidarity action in the world! I extend a very special thank you to our donors and supporters, whose generosity makes so much possible.

MISSION MONTH UPDATES



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 **6th 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. 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 **13th October**

Next weekend we will celebrate World Mission Sunday, the Holy Father's annual appeal to support overseas mission and missionaries.

SUNDAY **20th October**

This weekend parishes worldwide celebrate **World Mission Sunday**. 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.

SUNDAY **27th 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. 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 *

** 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).*

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

Go and invite everyone to the banquet
(Mt 22:9)