



ROMANIAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE

Eparchy of St. George in Canton



Office of the Bishop

September 22, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Every year, something special happens on the next-to-last Sunday of October. WORLD MISSION SUNDAY joins all Catholics of the world into one community of faith. At Mass that Sunday, we recommit ourselves to our common vocation, through Baptism to be missionaries, through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

In 1926, Pope Pius XI instituted World Mission Sunday for the whole Church with the first worldwide World Mission Sunday collection taking place in October 1927.

Pope Francis' message for World Mission Sunday this year reflects on the theme: "You shall be my witnesses" (Acts 1:8). He reminds us that the Church is missionary in nature and that we are called at Baptism to share in this mission together. The Holy Father exclaims, "Would that all of us in the Church were what we already are by virtue of baptism: prophets, witnesses, missionaries of the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to the ends of the earth!"

On World Mission Sunday, we join our Holy Father in supporting his missions. As we pray and respond here at home, we share in those celebrations taking place in every parish and school throughout the world. Together, through our prayers and financial support, we bring the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions.

In a world where so much divides us, World Mission Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries by our Baptism, as it offers each one of us an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the poor and marginalized in more than 1,100 mission dioceses.

WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS FOR YOUR MISSION SOLIDARITY!

Sincerely yours in Christ-God,

(Most Reverend) John Michael Botean, DD
Bishop of the Eparchy of St. George

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See www.missio.org for more information.