



**The Four Pontifical Mission Societies
as Instruments of
Missionary Animation and Formation in the Local Churches
for a New Missionary Movement in the Church**

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Pontifical Missionary Union Refresher Course in Missiology
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The Ascension and Mission



- Today, the 40th Day after Easter, is the Ascension of the Lord.
- Jesus' 40 days of appearances were to prepare the Church for mission.
- His chief message, his valedictory address, is the great commission, to proclaim the Gospel to the ends of the earth, to everyone, baptizing, teaching them to observe all he has commanded, conscious of his presence.
- He ascends in the very act of blessing us.
- He bids the Church to pray for the Holy Spirit.



Feast of St. Matthias



- In those places that celebrate the Ascension on Sunday, today is the Feast of St. Matthias, chosen to take the place of Judas.
- His election shows not just the importance of apostolic succession but the importance of the continuation of mission.
- The selection of the individual seems less important than the office of apostle, of the “one sent.”



Outline of Today's Talk



- The theme is: “The Four Pontifical Mission Societies as instruments of missionary animation and formation in the local Churches for a new missionary movement in the Church.”
- I'd like to break the theme down into three parts:
 - The four Pontifical Mission Societies
 - How they are means of missionary promotion and formation in local churches
 - How they aim to catalyze a new missionary movement



A New Missionary Movement



- We are living in a special missionary moment in the history of the Church.
- From *Ad Gentes* (Vatican II) to *Evangelii Nuntiandi* (Paul VI), *Redemptoris Missio* (John Paul II), and *Evangelii Gaudium* (Francis), the popes have been summoning us to renewed mission. Pope Leo's election is a great stimulus to that endeavor.
- While every pope is a successor of the apostles and called to be apostolic, Pope Leo is the first Pope since St. Peter who served as a missionary *ad gentes*. He was 22 years as a missionary priest and bishop in Peru and served 12 years as a missionary Prior General of the Augustinians visiting its 3,000 members in 50 countries.



A New Missionary Movement



- On the night of his election, last May 8, he said: “I thank my brother Cardinals, who have chosen me to be the Successor of Peter and to walk together with you as a Church, ... **ever seeking to act as men and women faithful to Jesus Christ, in order to proclaim the Gospel without fear, to be missionaries. ... Together, we must look for ways to be a missionary Church.**”



A New Missionary Movement



- Pope Francis has sought to pour gasoline on the fire of recent decades. “I dream,” he wrote, “of a ...**missionary impulse capable of transforming everything**, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures, **can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world** rather than for her self-preservation” (27).
- He tried to codify that missionary impulse in his new Apostolic Constitution for the Church, which he entitled, *Praedicate Evangelium* (“Preach the Gospel”). The four Pontifical Mission Societies are part of that constitution (Article 67).



A New Missionary Movement



- *Ad Gentes* and subsequent documents have stressed that **the Church does not “have” a mission but “is” a mission** — the continuation of Jesus’ saving mission entrusted to the Church on the Ascension. Pope Francis made that personal in *The Joy of the Gospel*, underlining that none of us *has* a mission, but each of us *is* a mission: **“I am a mission on this earth,”** he wrote. **“This is the reason why I am here.”**
- One of the chief tasks of the Pontifical Mission Societies is to help every disciple grasp this truth flowing from our baptismal identity.



A New Missionary Movement



- The reason we need a new missionary movement is because, of the 8.1 billion people alive today, nearly 2,000 years after Jesus' saving life, passion, death, resurrection, and ascension, 5.5 billion are not Christian. The fields remain white and ripe for the harvest!
- It's therefore time for a renewed sense of mission. A time for more intense prayer to the Harvest Master for laborers. A time for more missionary saints. A time for greater support across the Church.



A New Missionary Movement



- The new missionary age began just over 400 years ago.
- In responding to the needs of the missions, the **Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith** (Propaganda Fide) was established by Pope Gregory XV in 1622.
- It had an eye to the new world and the missions in the Americas and in Asia, to the regions of Europe that had become Protestant, and to the Orthodox Churches.
- It came on the heels of the canonizations of 1622, including of St. Francis Xavier.
- It led immediately to the establishment of the Pontifical Urban College (1627) to begin training people for the missions and from the missions.



A New Missionary Movement



- In 1967, after Vatican II, the name of Propaganda Fide was changed by Pope Paul VI to the **Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples**.
- In 2022, Pope Francis changed the name again to the **Dicastery for Evangelization** (2022), and, in the reshaping of the Roman Curia, giving it two sections:
 - The Section for the First Evangelization and new Particular Churches, headed today by Pro-Prefect Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, under which the Pontifical Mission Societies fall.
 - The Section for Fundamental Questions Regarding Evangelization in the World, led today by Pro-Prefect Archbishop Salvatore Fisichella. This is the former Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, founded in 2011 by Pope Benedict.



A New Missionary Movement



- In carrying out the missions, there have been:
 - **Many missionary religious orders**, male and female (Jesuits, Franciscans, Dominicans, Vincentians, Comboni, Holy Ghost, Society of African Missions (SMAs), Divine Word, LaSalette, OMI, Sacred Hearts, Scalabrinians, White Fathers (MAfr), Marists, Salesians and many others).
 - **Priestly Missionary Societies** (like the Missions Étrangères de Paris (MEP, 1658), Pontificium Institutum pro Missionibus Exteris (PIME, 1850, Italy), Maryknoll (1911 USA))
 - Programs like **Fidei Donum** (1957) for diocesan priests who serve for a time in the missions.



The Four Pontifical Mission Societies



- As you heard last week from Fr. Jose Maria Calderon, the four Pontifical Mission Societies were all Holy Spirit led movements to assist the Church in missionary promotion and support. We briefly review them here:
 - The **Society of Propagation of the Faith** (1822), founded by Blessed Pauline Jaricot (1799-1862) and others.
 - The **Holy Childhood Association** (1843), also known as Missionary Childhood Association, founded by Bishop Charles de Forbin-Janson (1785-1844)
 - The **Society of St. Peter the Apostle** (1889), founded by Jeanne Bigard (1859-1934) and her mother Stephanie.
 - The **Missionary Union** (1916), founded by Blessed Father Paolo Manna, PIME (1872-1952)
- In 1922, the first three societies received the title “Pontifical” from Pope Pius XI and their central offices were moved to Rome. The Missionary Union was named Pontifical in 1956.



The Society of the Propagation of the Faith



- Founded by Blessed Pauline Jaricot (1799-1862), a spiritual directee of St. John Mary Vianney.
- The impact of letters from her brother Phileas
- The dream of Oil Lamps
- She established small groups of ten women in father's silk mill in Lyon to pray for missions and contribute a *sou* — penny — a week.
- First contributions went to care for the Church's mission in China and in the United States.
- The Society continues to support 1,130 missionary dioceses and territories across the globe.
- Pauline was beatified in Lyons in 2022 by Cardinal Tagle.



The Missionary Childhood Association



- In 1843, Bishop Charles de Forbin-Janson (1785-1844) of Nancy and Toul, who helped found the Fathers of Mercy to help re-evangelize France, talked with Pauline Jaricot about incorporating a specific focus on the evangelization of children in the Society of the Propagation of the Faith. This had been his lifelong hope, especially to bring the Gospel to children in China, many of whom were dying without knowing Christ.
- She and the leadership thought that it would be best to have a separate organization and he suggested he appeal to the children of France to help children around the world. As a result, the Missionary Childhood Association, “children helping children,” was born.
- The commitment was “one Hail Mary a day, one small coin a month.”



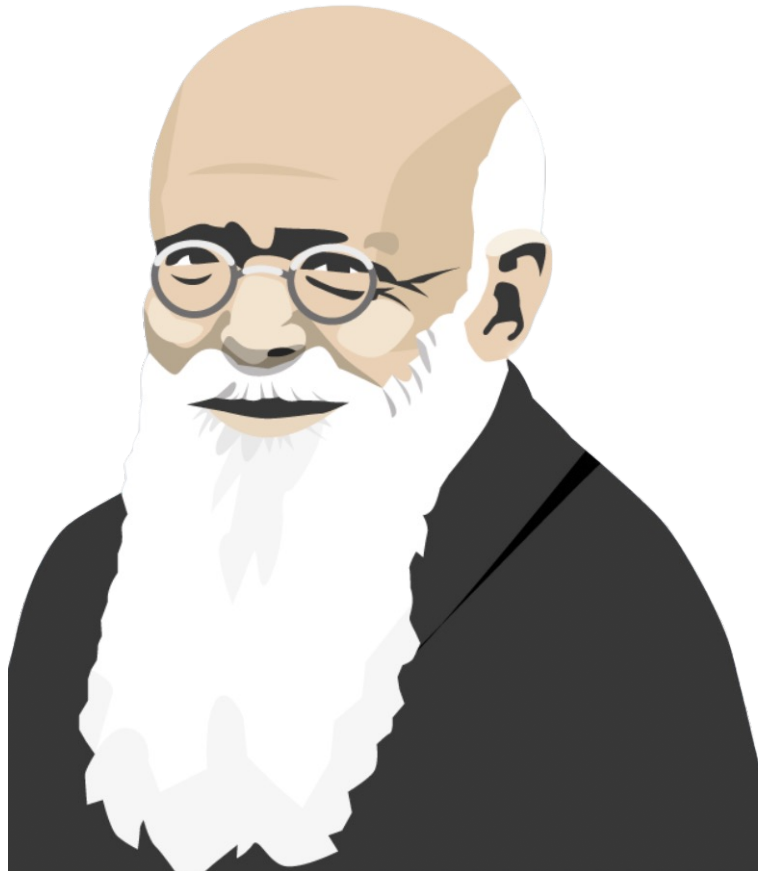
The Society of St. Peter the Apostle



- In the late 19th century, Jeanne Bigard (1859-1924) and her mother Stephanie, in Caen, France, who had been involved in an apostolate sending religious items to French missionaries, received a letter from Bishop Jules-Alphonse Cousin in Nagasaki, asking for financial help to expand his seminary.
- They began gathering funds to support those seminarians and in 1889, they founded the Society of St. Peter the Apostle to support mission vocations, both priestly and religious.
- In its first year, it supported 2,700 seminarians. Today nearly 82,500 seminarians in Africa, Asia, Oceania and other missionary fields are supported with an annual stipend, as well as tens of thousands of religious novices.



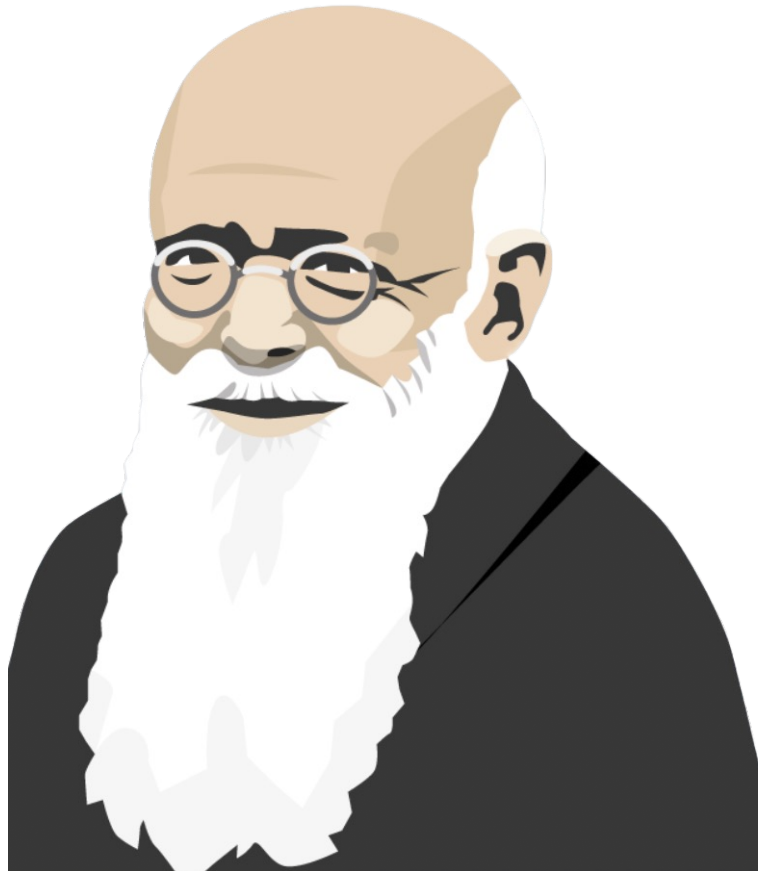
The Missionary Union



- In 1907, Blessed Paolo Manna, PIME (1872-1952), who had worked for a decade as a missionary in East Burma before having to return to Italy for tuberculosis.
- He spent the rest of his life stimulating missionary zeal among the clergy and faithful. His idea was that if clergy and religious were zealous for the missions, all the faithful would be.
- He established the Missionary Union of Priests and Religious. He founded two publications to spread knowledge and love of the missions. At the request of Pope Pius XI, he also established a seminary for missionaries in Ducenta, Italy in 1926. He was beatified in 2001 by St. John Paul II, who said, “He spent his entire life promoting the missions.”



The Missionary Union



- His motto for the Pontifical Missionary Union was “the whole Church for the whole world.”
- Paul VI in 1966 gave it the mission of the missionary formation of the entire people of God.
- The Pontifical Missionary Union focuses today on providing for the needs of permanent formation for the faith and evangelization of local Churches, especially those in missionary territories, focused not just on the clergy, but also on lay faithful, families, the young, catechists, and religious, especially those of diocesan rite.
- Paul VI called it the “soul of the other Pontifical Mission Societies” and said it “helps and completes the activity of the other Pontifical Mission Societies, so that, in turn, they are schools of Christian and missionary training.”



The Societies as Means of Animation & Formation



- The Society of the Propagation of the Faith (POPF) is famous for sustaining missionary dioceses and territories and helping to build the infrastructure in nascent Churches through its “Universal Solidarity Fund”: churches, chapels, convents, rectories, pastoral, formation, and retreat centers, conferences, vehicles, radio stations, catechist subsidies, and more. This makes possible the animation and formation of those in the missions.
- But that generosity to and through the Society is a fruit of the Society’s formation of Catholics in missionary identity. Generosity to the missions is an expression of missionary co-responsibility and a means to make it grow, as people invest in the missions and become “invested” in them.
- One of the great ways this is done each year is through World Mission Month (October) and World Mission Day (the penultimate Sunday of October).



The Societies as Means of Animation & Formation



- This year we are marking the 100th anniversary of World Mission Day.
- On April 14, 1926, Pope Pius XI responded to a request from the Society of the Propagation of the Faith for a **“a day of prayer and propaganda for the missions** to be celebrated on the same day in **every Catholic diocese, parish** and institute **in the world.**” This was to “foster **understanding of the greatness of the missionary task**, encourage **zeal among the clergy and the people**; offer an opportunity to make [POPF] **ever more widely known** and encourage **offerings for the missions.**”



The Societies as Means of Animation & Formation



- The Society also **arranges for missionary appeals** — like the Missionary Cooperative Program in the USA — whereby missionaries come to parishes to preach and teach about the missions.
- Through books, magazines, newspaper articles, videos and television programs, radio programs, podcasts and other **media**, the Society of the Propagation of the Faith tries to help people grow as missionary disciples and in awareness of the needs of the missions.
- A key means is by encouraging **prayer for the missions**, through the World Mission Rosary (created by Blessed-to-be Fulton Sheen, National Director of TPMS-USA, 75 years ago in 1951), Eucharistic Adoration, meditation on the Word of God and other opportunities.



The Societies as Means of Missionary Formation



- The Holy (Missionary) Childhood Association (MCA) has a key role in forming children in missionary identity, mindset, spirituality, co-responsibility and generosity.
- Children who join MCA first **pray for their peers** in the missions and beyond to come to know Jesus.
- It encourages them to **consider missionary vocations** and pray for missionaries.
- It complements catechetical programs and the work of parents in **forming them for leadership**, especially in evangelizing other children. MCA, technically for those 4-14, provides the opportunity for those who age out to serve as mentors, teachers and catechists for those younger.



The Societies as Means of Missionary Formation



- MCA urges them to **support the missions** through things like “mite” boxes. It also encourages the whole people of God to support the passing on of the faith to children, through collections on the Epiphany, or on the Memorial of St. Therese (Oct. 1) or other occasions.
- These collections go to needy children in the missions, so that they can receive formation in the faith. In addition to sustaining MCA national and diocesan offices, it builds schools, catechetical and training centers, orphanages, hostels and boarding centers, nutritional and food centers, centers for the blind and disabled, subsidizes activities and conventions for children, picks up musical equipment and more.



The Societies as Means of Missionary Formation



- In some countries, MCA is also the chief means by which young people **grow in their sense of belonging to the Church**, through national uniforms, programs, Eucharistic commitments, charitable works and more.
- MCA provides the opportunity for all those in the Church, however young, to “convert and become like little children” so that they might enter the Kingdom of God.



The Societies as Means of Animation & Formation



- The main emphasis of the Society of St. Peter the Apostle (POSPA) is to form and support indigenous clergy and religious.
- POSPA promotes the awareness of this needs in the Church universal and encourages prayer and concrete support for seminarians, novices and their formators.
- In various countries, it does this through a special focus and collection on Good Shepherd Sunday. In others it does so through various programs to raise awareness and encourage generosity.
- Two out of five seminarians in the world (82,500 out of 201,000) are supported by POSPA!



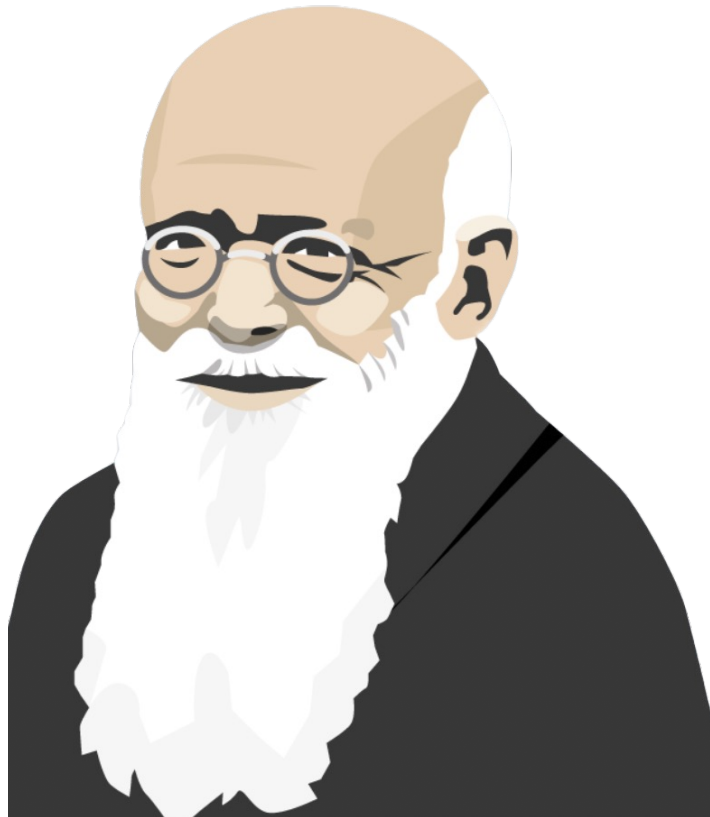
The Societies as Means of Animation & Formation



- POSPA makes possible the formation of indigenous priests and religious in several ways:
 - Ordinary subsidies to seminaries and novitiates.
 - Extraordinary subsidies to build new seminaries and houses of formation and maintain those that exist.
 - Mass intentions for priest formations.
 - Scholarships for those training to be formators.
 - Continuing formation resources for formators.
 - Scholarships or grants for seminarians and novices to study at universities in their region.



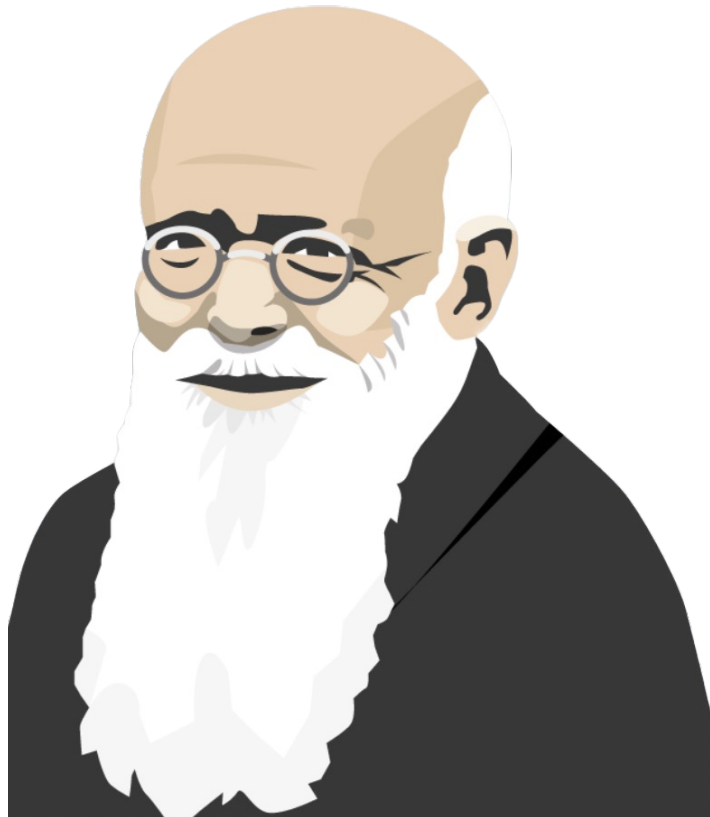
The Societies as Means of Animation & Formation



- The stated aim of the Pontifical Missionary Union (PUM) is the formation of priests, religious, consecrated, catechists, families, lay people and all those engaged in the pastoral ministry of the Church to have a missionary mind, heart and commitment.
- It does this through various means at its disposal, but particularly through formation programs by which people can mature in their Christian discipleship and apostolate: courses on missionary themes, seminaries, symposiums and conferences at local, regional or national levels.



The Societies as Means of Animation & Formation



- It seeks to “unite” all the formation activities of the four Societies. The first appointment of a National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies is to the PUM, then to the other three.
- In various countries, Catholics pastoral leaders are actively encouraged to join PUM so as to be able to receive formation materials and invitations. This is a hope for every country. Among the materials to receive are missionary Scripture reflections and commentaries, meditations on the World Mission Day letters from the Popes, selections from the writings of Bl. Paolo and more.



TPMS: Catalysts for a New Missionary Movement



- United, the four Pontifical Mission Societies are seeking to foster the much needed missionary renewal we spoke about at the beginning of today's session.
- Together they are directed toward forming the whole people of God in missionary zeal, prayer, involvement and support, so that the whole Mystical Body works organically to continue Jesus' saving mission.
- In every Diocese and territory, in most countries, TPMS directors, their teams and programs strive try to stir into a flame Pentecost fire.



TPMS: Catalysts for a New Missionary Movement



- They do so united, but also with a certain division of labor: PUM forms and deepens the missionary mind and heart of pastoral leaders through the Church; POPF educates the whole people of God in the needs of the missions and in particular supports missionary bishops to run their dioceses and build up the Church; POSPA educates about the importance of forming indigenous priests and religious and then works to provide that formation; MCA forms children to be missionaries and leaders today and tomorrow.
- National and Diocesan Directors carry out this work in a coherent and coordinated way, as signs and agents of the unity of the Societies and their aims.
- We can focus on some practical means to carry out TPMS' work to help people pray for the missions, form people for the missions, preach the missions, and support the missions that we try to do in the United States.



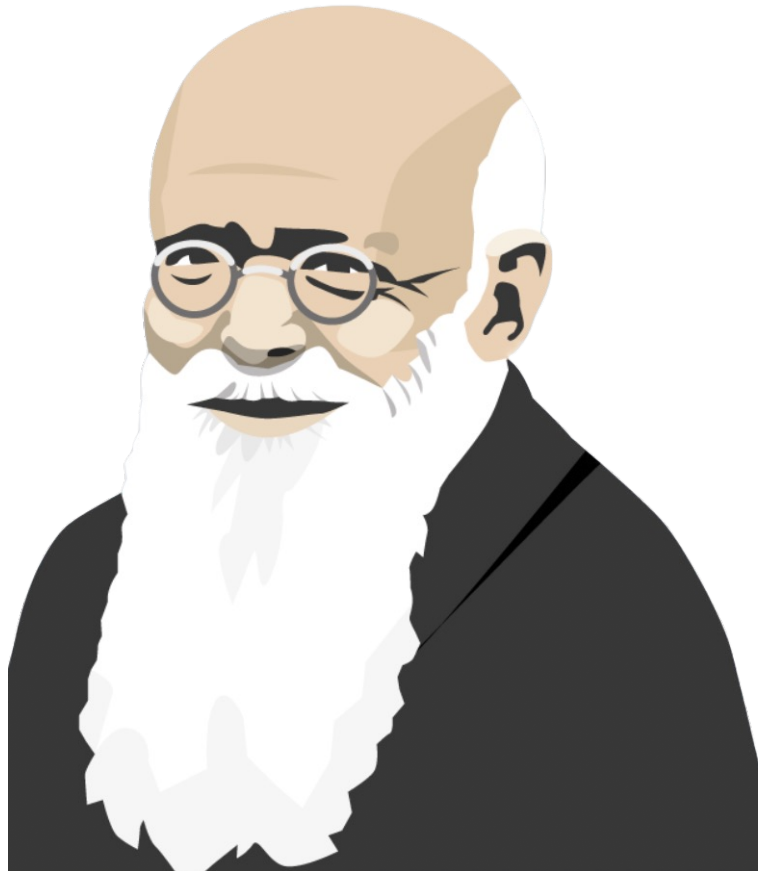
Practical Ideas on Praying for the Missions



- **Mass for the Evangelization of Peoples** (Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions #18, A and B)
- **Prayers of the Faithful at Mass** for the Church's missionary work, for missionaries, for the suffering Church in missionary areas (like in Nigeria, where more Christians are killed every year than in all other countries combined).
- **World Mission Rosary** created by Archbishop Sheen.
- **Holy Hours for the Church's Missions**, either in World Mission Month, on Thursdays, or on other opportune occasions
- **Parish missions or Days of Recollection led by missionaries** on missionary themes.



Practical Ideas on Forming for the Missions



- **World Mission Month**
- **World Mission Sunday**
- **Study** of the Annual Message for World Mission Day
- **Mission Trips**
- **Mission Magazine subscriptions** and reading groups.
- **MCA Modules** in Religious Education Programs
- **Study of the great missionary documents** of the Church: *Ad Gentes* (1965), *Evangelii Nuntiandi* (1975), *Redemptoris Missio* (1990), *Evangelii Gaudium* (2013).
- **Book studies on great missionaries** or on accessible missiology.
- Use and catechesis on the **blessing and dismissal**: “Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.” What “*Ite, missa est*” means.



Practical Ideas on Preaching the Missions



- The Sundays and Weekdays of **World Mission Month**
- **World Mission Sunday**
- When the **Gospel Passages are about the Church's mission** — when Jesus sends out the 12 or the 72 or the Great Commission.
- Through a regular focus on **missionary discipleship** across homilies.
- On the **major feasts of mission**, like Easter, the Ascension, Pentecost, Epiphany, the Visitation, the Birth and Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist, Good Shepherd Sunday, The Sacred Heart, Christ the King.



Practical Ideas on Preaching the Missions



- **On the feast of missionary saints**, including applications on Sundays. For example: St. Paul, St. Barnabas, SS. Timothy and Titus, St. Peter, any of the apostles, any of the evangelists, St. John the Baptist, SS. Cyril and Methodius, St. Francis Xavier, St. Peter Claver, St. Peter Chanel, St. Therese, St. Francis de Sales, St. Dominic, St. Peter Canisius, the North American Martyrs, among those on the universal calendar.
- On the American calendar, we have St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, St. John Neumann, St. Junipero Serra, St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, St. Mother Theodore Guerin, the Martyrs of Georgia, St. John Neumann, Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, Bl. Stanley Rother, St. Damien of Molokai, St. Marianne Cope, and Bl. Fulton Sheen (soon).



Practical Ideas on Supporting the Missions



- **World Mission Sunday**
 - Only collection in the Code of Canon Law (791)
 - (Peter's Pence and the Good Friday collection for the Holy Land are by papal decree).
 - Supports Pope's 1,130 missionary territories and lands.
 - Nigerian practice of priest exchanges on WMS.
- **Missionary Cooperative Appeal**
 - Specific appeals by missionary institutes and dioceses to raise funds to help in their respective missions.
 - These can likewise be done for MCA and POSPA in countries without national collections for them.
- **Diocesan and Parish Mission Partnerships**
 - These can make a huge difference for individual parishes and dioceses.



Practical Ideas on Supporting the Missions



- **Mass Stipends for the Missions**
 - Many priests survive only on a daily Mass stipend, from which they also support their parish and poor families. Most don't have stipends for more than a small portion of the year.
- **St. Peter the Apostle**
 - Many take up a collection on Good Shepherd Sunday.
 - Adopt a priest (\$3,650 a year by underwriting a daily stipend)
 - Adopt a seminarian (\$1,000 a year)
- **Missionary Childhood Association**
 - Mite boxes or other means for children to support.
 - Many countries take up a collection on the Epiphany or on on October 1.
- **Wills, Trusts, Annuities, Qualified Charitable Distributions, Donor Advised Funds, Life Insurance, Real Estate.**



Final Words from Our Missionary Pope



- In his first year as our Holy Father, Pope Leo has underlined several times the importance of The Pontifical Mission Societies as instruments of missionary animation and formation in local churches across the globe and as catalysts for a new missionary movement, so that, together, we can find ways to be a missionary Church and proclaim the Gospel without fear to the ends of the earth.



Final Words from Our Missionary Pope



- Last May 22, meeting with TPMS National Directors, he said:
 - “I want to begin by expressing my gratitude to you and your associates for your dedicated service, which is **indispensable to the Church’s mission of evangelization**, as I can personally attest from my own pastoral experience in the years of my ministry serving in Peru.”
 - “The Pontifical Mission Societies are effectively **the primary means of awakening missionary responsibility among all the baptized** and supporting ecclesial communities in areas where the Church is young.”



Final Words from Our Missionary Pope



- Last May 22, meeting with TPMS National Directors, he said:
 - “We see this in the **Society for the Propagation of the Faith**, which provides aid for pastoral and catechetical programs, the building of new churches, healthcare, and educational needs in mission territories. **The Society of the Holy Childhood**, too, provides support for Christian formation programs for children, in addition to caring for their basic needs and protection. Likewise, **the Society of Saint Peter the Apostle** helps to cultivate missionary vocations, priestly and religious, while the **Missionary Union** is committed to forming priests, religious men and women, and all the people of God for the Church’s missionary activity.”
 - “The promotion of apostolic zeal among the People of God remains an **essential aspect of the Church’s renewal.**”



Final Words from Our Missionary Pope



- Last May 22, meeting with TPMS National Directors, he said:
 - “Today, as in the days after Pentecost, the Church, led by the Holy Spirit, pursues her journey through history with trust, joy and courage as she proclaims the name of Jesus and the salvation born of faith in the saving truth of the Gospel. **The Pontifical Mission Societies are an important part of this great effort** ... in their work of coordinating **missionary formation and animating a missionary spirit on the local level.**”



Final Words from Our Missionary Pope



- Last October 19, for World Mission Sunday 2025, he became the first Pope to record a video in support of POPF's work to raise missionary awareness and generosity he said:
- “On World Mission Sunday every year, **the whole Church prays, united**, particularly for missionaries and the fruitfulness of their apostolic labors. When I served as a missionary priest and bishop in Peru, **I saw first-hand how the faith, the prayer and the generosity shown on World Mission Sunday can transform entire communities.** I urge **every Catholic parish in the world** to take part in World Mission Sunday. **Your prayers, your support will help spread the Gospel,** provide for pastoral and catechetical programs, help to build new churches, and care for the health and educational needs of our brothers and sisters in mission territories.... **Thank you for everything you will do to help me help missionaries throughout the world.”**



Final Words from Our Missionary Pope



- Finally, this year, in his Jan. 25 Message for the 100th World Mission Sunday this Oct. 18, he focused on the theme “**One in Christ, United in Mission,**” by which he meant to refer to the whole Church, but that theme certainly refers to the four Pontifical Mission Societies.
- “I encourage all institutions in the Church to **strengthen their sense of ecclesial missionary communion** and to **develop creative and concrete ways of cooperating with one another for and in the mission.**”
- “In this regard, **I would like to thank the Pontifical Mission Societies for their service to missionary cooperation,** which I experienced with gratitude during my ministry in Peru.”



Final Words from Our Missionary Pope



- **“These Societies** — Propagation of the Faith, Holy Childhood, Saint Peter the Apostle, Saint Peter the Apostle and Pontifical Missionary Union — **continue to nurture and form missionary awareness for the faithful of all ages, and to promote a network of prayer and charity that connects communities throughout the world.”**
- “Here, it is worth noting that the founder of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, Blessed Pauline Marie Jaricot, established the Living Rosary two hundred years ago. Even today **it continues to bring together many of the faithful throughout the world to pray for every spiritual and missionary need.** It is also worth remembering that, following a proposal from the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, Pius XI established World Mission Day in 1926. **The annual offerings collected on this day are distributed by the Society, on behalf of the Pope, to support the various needs of the Church’s mission.**
- **“The four Societies, therefore, as a whole and each in its own specificity, still play a valuable role for the entire Church. They are a living sign of unity and ecclesial missionary communion. I invite everyone to work with them in a spirit of gratitude.”**

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Welcome!

I warmly welcome you to this website, put together at the insistence and with the assistance of friends.

During my diaconal ordination, Cardinal Edmund Szoka gave me the following instruction from the Ordination Rite as together we gripped the Book of the Gospels:

*"Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you now are.
Believe what you read.
Teach what you believe.
Practice what you teach."*

Those words have never lost their resonance.



Since that day -- October 8, 1998 -- I have tried to live up to that commission to be a "herald of the Gospel," by striving to teach what the Church believes, to practice what I preach to others, and to spread with joy and enthusiasm the truth Christ has entrusted to His church -- in and out of season, in and out of the pulpit.

This website is a chronicle of those attempts. You may also follow postings of articles, homilies and teachings on Facebook, Twitter and Youtube.

You can also subscribe to the podcast of daily homilies, lectures and talks through Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts and iHeart Podcasts.

It constitutes the "five loaves and two fish" (or even less!) that I have placed into the hands of the Lord as an attempt to feed a hungry crowd, confident that, if He wishes, He can multiply and supplement that meager offering to nourish many more (Jn 6:1-14).

In Christ,
Msgr. Roger J. Landry

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Blood of the Lord, June 22, 2025

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Thank **you!**