

# A Moment For The Missions With **mca** missionary childhood association

Thanks for joining MCA for this month's journey!

IN THIS MONTH OF FEBRUARY, AS WE PREPARE FOR THE BEGINNING OF LENT, THE MISSIONARY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION (MCA) OFFERS A "MOMENT FOR THE MISSIONS" FOR EACH DAY. THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY, TO ACT, TO REFLECT AND DISCUSS, AND TO STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN THE POPE'S MISSIONS. THESE "MOMENTS" CAN BE PART OF A RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM – IN PERSON OR REMOTE – OR BE THE FOCUS OF FAMILY LIFE ON A PARTICULAR DAY.

These "MCA Moments" are opportunities this month to:



reflect / discuss



learn



take action



pray



stand in solidarity

FEBRUARY - WED

**01** Catholic Schools Week

February begins halfway through the national celebration of Catholic Schools Week, promoting the value Catholic education provides children to be able to contribute to our Church, our communities, and our nation. As missionaries we are all called to contribute to the common good of all, making this a better world. Think of one catholic value you have learned that will help you make a difference in the world.

FEBRUARY - THU

**02** Catholic Schools Week: Mission Spotlight

Very few of us know what is like to be homeless or have a divided family. Can you imagine how difficult that would be for child? For children in Zambia this is their reality. With MCA Donations the **St. John Eudes Rehabilitation Centre** help children who face homelessness and have divided families. Giving them an education and a chance to live to dignity as the children of God.

FEBRUARY - FRI

**03** Catholic Schools Week: Mission Spotlight

What is your favorite subject in school? Could you imagine not having the opportunity to learn? In the **Diocese of Harare - Zambia**, children are getting the opportunity to go to school with the help of farming project funded through MCA Donations.

FEBRUARY - SAT

**04** Catholic Schools Week

Today is the end to Catholic Schools Week when parents, guardians and other loving adults who are part of a child life are recognized for their efforts in passing on our Catholic Values to our young church. Pray a Hail Mary and one Our father for all adults helping to form the young church.

FEBRUARY - SUN

**05** Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. **Read!** and reflect on today's scripture with your family.

"The just man is a light in darkness to the upright." A friendly gesture from us can be a way to brighten someone else day. Do you have a classmate who is having a hard time in school? Now is your chance! This week, make it your goal to befriend them and stand beside them.

FEBRUARY - MON

**06** Today, we are 12 school days away from the start of Lent. Each day lets focus on one of the 12 apostles, who were some of the first Missionaries. Say a prayer, asking them to walk with you during Lent, just as they walked with Jesus. May your prayers strengthen you as a Missionary Disciple.

Let's begin with **PETER!**

FEBRUARY - TUE

**07** "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." MATTHEW 22:39

Today is **National Wave All Your Fingers At Your Neighbor Day!** But you knew that already right? Of course! Now go ahead and give a big friendly wave to all your neighbors! It is not part of the rules, but include a friendly smile too!

**JAMES**

FEBRUARY - WED

**08** Following Jesus' death, John the Apostle wrote 3 letters, reminding people of His teachings. If he were alive today, he would write an email or a text message. Compose a text to a friend, reminding them of one of Jesus' teachings!

**JOHN**

FEBRUARY - THU

**09** Today is the 40th day of the year, can you believe it? Reflect on how you've spent it so far. What were your New Year's Resolutions? Reflect on how you can be a better missionary in the next 325 days!

**ANDREW**

FEBRUARY - FRI

**10** **The Feast of Saint Scholastica.** Scholastica is traditionally regarded as the founder of the Benedictine nuns and their Patron Saint. She is considered the patron saint of nuns and education. Pray to her and ask her to guide and care for religious sisters working in schools or religious education programs.

**PHILLIP**

FEBRUARY - SAT

**11** Our Lady of Lourdes is another title given to the Blessed Mother. On this day, we celebrate when she appeared to Saint Bernadette at a grotto in Lourdes, France 18 times! Could you imagine? Bernadette was only 14 years old. Reflect on what you would do. Who would you tell first?

FEBRUARY - SUN

**12** Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. **Read!** and reflect on today's scripture with your family. Quiz Time! The readings this week focus on the commandments. Test yourself! On a blank page of paper, challenge your parents and siblings to see how well each of you knows them.

FEBRUARY - MON

**13** We know that ultimately Jesus was betrayed by Judas. When people betray our trust, it hurts us deeply, but Jesus taught us the power of forgiveness. This week, focus on forgiving those who seek our forgiveness.

**JUDAS ISCARIOT**

FEBRUARY - TUE

**14** The color **RED** is synonymous for love, especially as we celebrate the Feast of Saint Valentine on February 14th. **RED** in the World Mission Rosary symbolizes the fire of faith that brought the first Missionaries to the Americas. There can never be too much love in the world and it should be celebrated, not just on Valentine's Day. We can spread Love to the Missions all year round.

**MATTHEW**

FEBRUARY - WED

**15** As missionary disciples we are called to tell others about God's love for them. Share with someone that God loves them.

**THOMAS**

FEBRUARY - THU

**16** Pray a Hail Mary and one Our Father for all children who might not have a safe place to live or a warm meal to eat.

**JAMES**

FEBRUARY - FRI

**17** **Sharing is caring.** If you get an allowance at home place some of it in your mite box to give to children who are living in mission countries.

**BARTHOLOMEW**

FEBRUARY - SAT

**18** Ask if you can help make a meal for your family and then say grace before eating.

FEBRUARY - SUN

**19** Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. **Read!** and reflect on today's scripture with your family. After mass go up the priest who celebrated mass and say thank you for their service to the parish community.

FEBRUARY - MON

**20** We are about to start Lent this Wednesday. Think of a habit you would like to change to get closer to God this Lent.

**THADDEUS**

FEBRUARY - TUE

**21** Did you know that the ashes you will receive tomorrow are from the palms used in last year Palm Sunday?

**SIMON**

FEBRUARY - WED

**22** **Ash Wednesday** Dear Lord, today on the first day of Lent. We come to you with humble hearts asking that you forgive us. Give us the wisdom to change for the better and help make this a better world. Helping to care for one another.

FEBRUARY - THU

**23** "How wonderful it would be if, at the end of each day, each of us could say, today I have performed an act of charity towards others!" - POPE FRANCIS

FEBRUARY - FRI

**24** Every Friday of Lent we are called to fast. We can fast from many things not just food. Think of one habit you would like to change to spend more time with God in prayer?

FEBRUARY - SAT

**25** Take note of how the church is decorated during the season of Lent. What is the color that is most used during this season?

FEBRUARY - SUN

**26** **First Sunday of Lent.** **Read!** and reflect on today's scripture with your family. "A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me." Ps 51:12 When we are friends with Jesus our hearts and spirit are renewed. This Lenten season see if there are any new changes in you.

FEBRUARY - MON

**27** Begin your day and week with a prayer. Pray a Hail Mary and Our Father for your family. Invite them to join you!

FEBRUARY - TUE

**28** Did you know that MCA receives donations from children all over the world? This is because we are all called to be in solidarity with one another. Giving not because we have extra but because we want to share and help others.

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