



Diocese of Worcester
Office of the Bishop
49 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

October 9, 2025

My dear friends in Christ,

Before his death, Pope Francis shared the following for his message for World Mission Day 2025: "Through his disciples, sent to all peoples and mystically accompanied by him, the Lord Jesus continues his ministry of hope for humanity. . . May we too feel inspired to set out in the footsteps of the Lord Jesus to become, with him and in him, signs and messengers of hope for all, in every place and circumstance that God has granted us to live. May all the baptized, as missionary disciples of Christ, make his hope shine forth in every corner of the earth!"

This year **World Mission Sunday** is celebrated around the world on the weekend of October 19. Our diocese joins with the worldwide church in supporting the work of the Holy Father through the various missionary societies.

The Holy Father continued, "In the human and divine heart of Jesus, God wants to speak to the heart of every man and woman, drawing all of us to his love. "We have been sent to continue this mission: to be signs of the heart of Christ and the love of the Father, embracing the whole world."

Your donation on the weekend of October 19 is critical. The Pontifical Mission Societies serve the Church's universality as a global network of support for Pope Leo XIV in his missionary commitment by prayer, the soul of mission, and charitable offerings from Christians throughout the world. These donations assist the Pope in the evangelization efforts of particular Churches (the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith), in the formation of local clergy (the Pontifical Society of Saint Peter the Apostle), and in raising missionary awareness in children (Pontifical Society of Missionary Childhood).

In a world where so much divides us, World Mission Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries by our Baptism. It also provides an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the poor and marginalized in nearly 1,200 mission dioceses. Thank you for prayerfully reflecting on your own baptismal call, and support World Mission Sunday in your parish.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

Please announce the Collection for World Mission Sunday in your parish on the weekend of October 12 and take up the collection on the weekend of October 19.