

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

Thanks for joining MCA for this month's journey!

IN THIS WORLD MISSION MONTH – WHEN WE CELEBRATE WORLD MISSION SUNDAY (OCTOBER 24) – THE MISSIONARY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION (MCA) OFFERS A "MOMENT FOR THE MISSIONS" FOR EACH DAY OF OCTOBER. THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN, 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:



01 | **FRI**

St. Thérèse of Lisieux - Patroness of Missionaries and the Missions

"The splendor of the rose and the whiteness of the lily do not rob the little violet of its scent nor the daisy of its simple charm. If every tiny flower wanted to be a rose, spring would lose its loveliness."

- ST. THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX

During this World Mission Month bring your own unique gifts to your daily mission to reveal God's love to all.

02 | **SAT**

Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels

Jesus said, in the Gospel of St. Matthew, that the guardian angels of children "always look upon the face of my heavenly Father" (Matthew 18:10).

Pray for your guardian angels' help in guiding you to serve the poor – in your neighborhood and in the Missions.

03 | **SUN**

Reflect with your family on the readings for the **Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**. What messages do you hear? What do they say about your call to be Jesus' missionaries?

04 | **MON**

Learn about the missionary works of St. Francis of Assisi. Did you know that when Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio was elected Pope on March 13, 2013, he chose the name Francis in honor of this saint?

05 | **TUE**

Learn about **St. Faustina Kowalska** and her connection to the Divine Mercy. Read **Psalm 136**, which repeats with each line how "God's mercy lasts forever." Reflect on God's love in your life. **Make a donation to the Missionary Childhood Association**, so that children in the Missions can experience God's love and mercy.

06 | **WED**

Pray a decade of the World Mission Rosary for Africa

The **World Mission Rosary** was envisioned by Venerable Servant of God Archbishop Fulton John Sheen in 1951, then the national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. He made the request on his radio show (The Catholic Hour) that his listeners "embrace the world in prayer." To do so he introduced this Rosary, with different colors for each decade representing each of the five continents. Green reminds us of the forests and grasslands of Africa.

We begin our journey around the world in prayer this World Mission Month with Africa. As we pray a decade of the Rosary, let us focus our prayers on children and families in need on this continent.

07 | **THU**

Learn about **Our Lady of the Rosary**. Gather family and friends this day to pray a rosary for missionaries around the world.

08 | **FRI**

Pope Francis' October prayer intention: *"For Missionary Disciples: We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel."*

How have you been a missionary disciple, witnessing to the Good News of Jesus, this October? How will you be?

09 | **SAT**

Pray for children in the Pope's missions who go without food, clean water, and health care. **Donate to the Missionary Childhood Association**, to support missionaries who help them.

10 | **SUN**

Reflect with your family on the readings for the **Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**. What messages do you hear? What do they say about your call to be Jesus' missionaries?

11 | **MON**

Learn about St. Pope John XXIII. Reflect on his life as a Pope and as the head of the Pope's missions in Italy before that.

12 | **TUE**

Read the witness of a Tanzanian missionary, in this resource from MCA in Washington, DC

13 | **WED**

Pray a decade of the World Mission Rosary for the Americas

Each decade of the **World Mission Rosary** is a different color representing each of the five continents. Red calls to mind the fire of faith that brought missionaries to the Americas, including the United States.

We continue our journey around the world in prayer with the Americas. As we pray a decade of the Rosary, let us focus our prayers on children and families in need on this continent.

14 | **THU**

Read from your Bible from the first letter of Peter about how each of us has received a gift from God to help us serve others (**1 Peter 4:10**). What is your gift that will help you as you do good deeds and be a witness to your faith?

15 | **FRI**

Friday Fact Find:

On a map or globe, find Africa and then pick a country in Africa. In this **World Factbook**, look up statistics about children in that country. Discuss with your family what you have learned. Pray for children and missionaries there.

16 | **SAT**

"You need to hold fast to two virtues: kindness toward your neighbor and humility toward God."

- ST. PADRE PIO

Reflect on how you show these virtues in your own life.

17 | **SUN**

One Week to World Mission Sunday!

Together with your family, create a "missionary prayer box." Use a shoe box or other delivery box, and decorate it with a map of the world. Each day this week, pray for missionaries in one part of the world, and circle that country or continent on the box.

18 | **MON**

Pray a decade of the World Mission Rosary for Europe

Each decade of the **World Mission Rosary** is a different color representing each of the five continents. White symbolizes Europe, the home of our Holy Father, Pope Francis.

We continue our journey around the world in prayer with Europe. As we pray a decade of the Rosary, let us focus our prayers for children and families on this continent, and for Pope Francis.

19 | **TUE**

In this week before World Mission Sunday, learn about the life of **Pauline-Marie Jaricot**, who at 19 years old founded the Society for the Propagation of the Faith – one of the Pope's mission societies like MCA!

20 | **WED**

How to be a missionary right where you are!

Pray – Set time every day to have a conversation with God. Throughout the day talk to Jesus. Simply say an Our Father or a Hail Mary, two MCA daily prayers. These Hail Marys will draw our hearts and minds closer to God.

Bring love and joy to the family – Spend time with your parents, brothers and sisters, and other relatives as you are able. Pray together, eat meals together, play games together, laugh together, etc.

Make holy the work that God has given to each of us – All that we do throughout the day – school work, chores, games, etc. – do it with love and offer it to God.

21 | **THU**

In the Psalm for today's Mass, we read: *"Blessed are they who hope in the Lord."*

This day, how will you share hope with others?

22 | **FRI**

Saint Pope John Paul II

Learn about this Pope who made missionary visits to 124 countries!

23 | **SAT**

"Jesus, thank you for always being with me. Please be with children in our world that feel alone or abandoned. Please help them know that You are with them always! Amen."

24 | **SUN**

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2021

"We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard." (ACTS 4:20)

PRAY for missionaries throughout the world.

GIVE what you can for the Pope's missions.

25 | **MON**

Pray a decade of the World Mission Rosary for Asia

Each decade of the **World Mission Rosary** is a different color representing each of the five continents. Yellow symbolizes the morning light which rises in the East.

We continue our journey around the world in prayer with Asia. As we pray a decade of the Rosary, let us focus our prayers for children and families on this continent.

26 | **TUE**

Take the time with your parents and/or guardians to research the following saints. Together discuss how their prayers and actions were missionary: St. Thérèse of Lisieux, St. Francis Xavier, Saints Peter and Paul, St. Augustine, St. Patrick, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Ignatius of Loyola.

27 | **WED**

Read a book about a missionary and their work with the poor. Perhaps one of the saints you researched yesterday!

28 | **THU**

Is there someone you know – maybe in your school or at your church, in your neighborhood – who is from the Missions? Perhaps you and your family can talk to them and learn about life in their country, especially for children.

29 | **FRI**

Donate canned goods to a local food pantry. And **donate** the cost of those canned goods to MCA.

30 | **SAT**

Pray the World Mission Rosary for Oceania

Each decade of the **World Mission Rosary** is a different color representing each of the five continents. Blue recalls the waters surrounding the Islands of the Pacific (Oceania).

We conclude our journey around the world in prayer with the Islands of the Pacific. As we pray a decade of the Rosary, let us remember children and families living there.

31 | **SUN**

Today is Halloween!

"Treat" children in the Pope's missions by **donating the cost of the candy you received to MCA!**

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