

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Which Organizations Make Up the Pontifical Mission Societies?

The Pontifical Mission Societies are Roman Catholic mission societies active throughout the whole world. Almost every country has a national office for the Pontifical Mission Societies and a national director. Offices for the Pontifical Mission Societies in Canada are located in Toronto and Montreal.

Since 1922, the Pontifical Mission Societies has been the official missionary arm of the Church charged with the work of evangelization and charitable works throughout the world to which funds for today's Mission Sunday Collection will go. Their work also provides mission awareness and supported by our benefactors, raises funds for the poorest mission churches of the Catholic Church. Pontifical Mission Societies is made up of four missions:

Propagation of the Faith (SPF)

Pauline Marie Jaricot is "the founder of the largest aid agency in the history of the Catholic Church: the Association of the Propagation of the Faith." Launched in 1818, the Association is officially recognized on May 3, 1822 and later became the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, before being elevated by Pope Pius XI to "Pontifical" in 1922.

St. Peter the Apostle (SPA)

Jeanne Bigard, encouraged and guided by her mother Stephanie's objective in life preparing for the priestly ministry of youth in mission countries. In 1894, she launched the first manifesto for the Society of St. Peter the Apostle, whose activity started in 1886, before finally settling in Caen in 1889. It was recognized "Pontifical" by Pope Pius XI in 1922.

Holy Childhood Association (HCA)

The Holy Childhood Association was founded in France in 1843 by Bishop Charles de Forbin-Janson. Its purpose is to encourage all children to be aware of the needs of children living in mission diocese through the world. Bishop de Forbin-Janson always had a keen interest in the missions. He was a great preacher and traveled throughout France preaching the Gospel. He received letters from missionaries in China requesting his financial help for starving and abandoned babies. With the help of Pauline, he started a children's charity in 1943. They believed that no one could understand the needs of children better than children.

Pontifical Missionary Union (PMU)

Father Paolo Manna, a missionary in Burma, observing the vast missionary work and suffering from the indifference of the clergy, cares about the small number of missionaries. As he founded the Missionary Union of the Clergy to animate priests for world evangelization, and to promote awareness and prayer for the Missions. On October 23, 1916, Pope Benedict XV approves the Union. After a quick and fruitful diffusion in the world, the missionary union was declared "Pontifical" by Pope Pius XII in 1956.

www.missionsocieties.ca

Kidnapped and Released Priest Meets Pope Francis

Pope Francis has met with the Indian priest who was held by Islamic militants in Yemen for 18 months. The Indian government announced on Tuesday that Salesian Father Tom Uzhunnalil - a missionary priest kidnapped in Yemen on March 4, 2016, at a home for the elderly in the southern port city of Aden where he served as a chaplain - had been released.

Fr. Uzhunnalil was kidnapped during an attack on the missionary compound in which gunmen posing as relatives of one of the residents at the home burst inside, killing sixteen people, including four Indian nuns belonging to the Missionaries of Charity, the order founded by Mother Teresa.



Photo: Salesians of Don Bosco.

He met with Francis on Wednesday in the Casa Santa Marta, immediately following the general audience. Uzhunnalil was accompanied by the Archbishop of Bombay, Cardinal Oswald Gracias, who was in Rome for the meeting of the C9 Council of Cardinals.

According to L'Osservatore Romano, the Vatican newspaper, the priest kissed both the pope's hands and the ground at his feet when he greeted the pontiff. Francis hugged the priest, and told him that he was praying for him during his captivity.

Fr. Uzhunnalil told the newspaper that during his captivity, although he was not able to celebrate Mass, he internally said the words every day. He also said he prayed especially for the four nuns killed in the attack.

After his release, the Vatican press office released a statement saying, "The Holy See fervently thanks all those who worked for his release, and especially His Majesty the Sultan of Oman and the competent authorities of the Sultanate."

www.cruxnow.com

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VANCOUVER
B.C. V6R3V9
ESTABLISHED 1923

MASSES & SERVICES

Saturday: 5pm

(Anticipated Mass)

Sunday: 9am, 11am & 5pm

Monday – Wednesday 8am

Thursday Mass/Novena:

8am & 7pm

Friday, Saturday, Holidays: 9am

(Fridays in July & August: 8am)

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4-4:45pm

Adoration

Saturday 9:30-10am

Library Hours

Sunday: 10-10:45am, 4:30-5pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm

STAFF

Pastor

Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R.

Associate Pastor

Joseph Horo, C.Ss.R.

Office Manager

Virginia Fong

Pastoral Coordinator

Bertilla Watanabe

Bookkeeper

Corinna Siy

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Theresa Barao

OLPH School Principal

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olphchurchvancouver



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

October 22, 2017

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mary was a True Missionary

Dear Friends & Parishioners,

Today is World Mission Sunday. I would like to share a reflection with you from perhaps, the most well-known missionary in the world, Mother or Saint Theresa of Calcutta. She wrote:

"It is very, very important for us to have a deep love for our Lady. For she was the one who taught Jesus how to walk, how to pray, how to wash, how to do all the little things that make our human life so beautiful. She had to do them. And the same thing now – she will always be willing to help us and teach us how to do all for Jesus alone, how to love only Jesus, how to touch him and see him, to serve him in the distressing disguise of the poor.

"Mary was a true missionary because she was not afraid to be the handmaid of the Lord. She went in haste to put her beautiful humility into a living action of love, to do the handmaid's work for her cousin Elizabeth. We know what this humility obtained for the unborn child, John: he leapt with joy in the womb of his mother - the first human being to recognize the coming of Christ, and then the Mother of the Lord sang with joy, with gratitude and praise.

"The greatness of our Lady was in her humility. No wonder Jesus who lived so close to her, seemed to be so anxious that we learn from him and from her but one lesson: to be meek and humble of heart."

Brothers and sisters, in carrying out our mission, let us draw inspiration from Mary, Mother of Evangelization. May she obtain for us renewed zeal in bringing the Good News of the gift of salvation to every man, woman and child with meekness and humility.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Babu Mathew, C.Ss.R.

World Mission Sunday Prayer

God our Father,
your greatest gift to
mankind is your love for us
and your desire that we live
in your love.

Your Son Jesus established
your kingdom of fraternal
and unconditional love
on earth among us.

May all believers become
missionary disciples,
keen to build your
kingdom here on earth.

May your Spirit
be the breath that guides
all our actions.

May your Mission become
our mission, and that
of the whole Church's faith,
so that your Word may
spread throughout
the whole world.

Amen.



Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. - Psalm 96

NEWS & NOTICES

Madonna Group Events: Join us for an informative session with Certified Exercise Physiologist Christina Sequeira, Active Living Coordinator of Vancouver Coastal Health Authority. Discover easy ways to be physically active throughout your day while staying safe. The session will include a 10-minute, low intensity chair exercise session suitable for all abilities. All seniors welcome. **Save the Date:** On Wednesday Dec 6, the Madonna Group will hold their annual Christmas luncheon at noon at the Vancouver Lawn Tennis and Badminton Club. Please contact Gloria Pugh 604-224-6180 for more info.

Food Bank Appeal: Our Food Bank Appeal is this weekend. Proceeds will go to the pantry of Sancta Maria House which is a supportive recovery home for women aged 19 and up who are recovering from substance abuse. The house uses a faith-based, 12-step approach that encourages residents to thrive spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Thank you for your generous support.

Sunday Coffee Helpers: Hospitality is a very important aspect of our parish community. For years we have served coffee after the 9am Mass and it has always been a great gathering spot for newcomers to our parish. We need more helpers to keep this tradition going. Please look for the sign-up sheets in the church foyer if you can help. It would be very much appreciated!

2017 National Liturgy Conference: This year's National Liturgy Conference, hosted by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, will take place in Richmond, starting Monday, Nov. 6, from 7-9 p.m., through Tuesday, Nov. 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Register at rcav.org/event/national-liturgical-conference.

Paid Volunteers for Extreme Weather Response: The Men's Hostel is looking for paid assistants for our Extreme Weather Response program. This upcoming winter, we will need people to come in and help the staff supervise the shelter from 7:30 pm to 11:30 pm. Overnight shifts are also available. All shifts are paid. If interested, please call Frances Cabahug at 604-443-3292 or email fcabahug@rcav.org for more information.

Vocation Live-In: The Seminary of Christ the King, Mission, BC, is planning a weekend LIVE-IN for young men who are interested in the priesthood or the life of a religious brother, and want to see for themselves what seminary life is like. The Seminary of Christ the King has students in high school (Grades 9 - 12), in college (Arts I-IV), and in theology. The LIVE-IN is open to anyone who is thinking of entering the seminary in the next few years. The LIVE-IN provides an opportunity to spend two days at the Seminary and to become acquainted with other young men who have the priestly or religious vocation in mind. The College LIVE-IN is for those in Grade 12 and for high school graduates. Those planning to attend should contact the Father Mark Dumont, OSB at 604-826-8975 or email rector.majors@yahoo.ca.

White Mass: The Annual White Mass with Archbishop Miller for all Healthcare Workers and their families, 7pm Friday October 27 St. Augustine's Church, 2028 West 7th Ave Vancouver. Join us to pray for protection of conscience.

ICON OF LOVE SCHOLARSHIP

If you are a person aged 12-17 and would like to share your talents with the OLPH Music Ministry, you are eligible to apply for the Icon of Love Scholarship. You must have been involved with the Music Ministry for at least a year either as a singer or instrumentalist. The Scholarship will entitle you to \$1,200 to be used for music instruction for a year. Two or three scholarships are awarded each year. If you receive this scholarship you will be expected to continue your commitment to the Music Ministry for at least two years from the month you receive the scholarship. To apply for this scholarship, you must attach the following:

- A letter from your School Music Director about the length of time you have been involved in Music and your level of commitment.
- A letter of Recommendation from your Music school or instructor indicating your commitment to music.
- Attach Certificates of Music Exams, courses and workshops that you have attended.
- Write a 500-word essay on: How I intend to share my love for Jesus through music.

Application forms are available at the church entrance and the Parish office. The deadline for this application is Nov 3, 2017.

Stewardship Reflection

“Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.”

- **MATTHEW 22:21**

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second.

Stewardship Office, Archdiocese of St. Louis

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Becoming Catholic

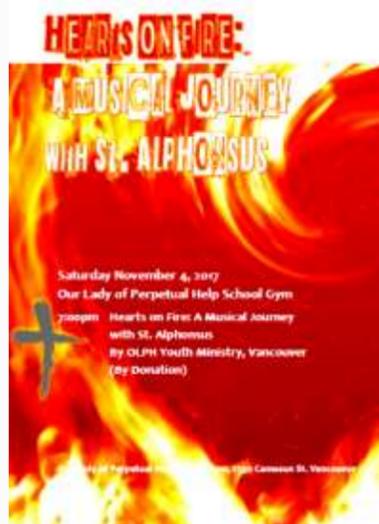
If you are interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith or if you have not been fully initiated into the Church with the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation, please join us in RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults). We meet on Sunday mornings at 9am in the Madonna Room. Pick up an application form in the church or at the parish office. The commitment to RCIA is from September 2017 to June 2018.

NOVEMBER

Memorial Mass

A Memorial Mass is being held for all those in our parish who lost a loved one in the past year on Saturday Nov 4 at 9am. A reception will be held in the hall immediately after the Mass.

Hearts on Fire Concert



OLPH Youth Ministry will present Hearts on Fire: A Musical Journey with St. Alphonsus on Saturday Nov 4 at 7pm at OLPH School Gym. The group presented this concert at two Redemptorist parishes over the summer – one in Grande Prairie and the other in Saskatoon. We hope you will enjoy it too. Admission is by donation.

Christmas Tea & Craft Fair

Save the date for the annual Christmas Tea & Craft Fair at OLPH Parish Hall on Saturday Nov 25.

Pope Francis' Message for World Mission Sunday

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Once again this year, World Mission Day gathers us around the person of Jesus, ‘the very first and greatest evangelizer’ (Paul VI, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 7), who continually sends us forth to proclaim the Gospel of the love of God the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit. This Day invites us to reflect anew on the mission at the heart of the Christian faith. The Church is missionary by nature; otherwise, she would no longer be the Church of Christ but one group among many others that soon end up serving their purpose and passing away. So it is important to ask ourselves certain questions about our Christian identity and our responsibility as believers in a world marked by confusion, disappointment and frustration, and torn by numerous fratricidal wars that unjustly target the innocent. What is the basis of our mission? What is the heart of our mission? What are the essential approaches we need to take in carrying out our mission?

Mission and the transformative power of the Gospel of Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life

1. The Church's mission directed to all men and women of good will, is based on the transformative power of the Gospel. The Gospel is Good News filled with contagious joy, for it contains and offers new life: the life of the Risen Christ who by bestowing His life-giving Spirit becomes for us the Way, the Truth and the Life (cf. Jn 14:6). He is the Way who invites us to follow Him with confidence and courage. In following Jesus as our Way, we experience Truth and receive His Life which is fullness of communion with God the Father in the power of the Holy Spirit. That life sets us free from every kind of selfishness, and is a source of creativity in love.

2. God the Father desires this existential transformation of His sons and daughters, a transformation that finds expression in worship in spirit and truth (cf. Jn 4:23-24), through a life guided by the Holy Spirit in imitation of Jesus the Son to the glory of God the Father. ‘The glory of God is the living man’ (Irenaeus, *Adversus Haereses* IV, 20, 7). The preaching of the Gospel thus becomes a vital and effective word that accomplishes what it proclaims (cf. Is 55:10-11): Jesus Christ, who constantly takes flesh in every human situation (cf. Jn 1:14).

3. The Church's mission, then, is not to spread a religious ideology, much less to propose a lofty ethical teaching. Many movements throughout the world inspire high ideals or ways to live a meaningful life. Through the mission of the Church, Jesus Christ Himself continues to evangelise and act; Her mission

thus makes present in history the *kairos*, the favourable time of salvation. Through the proclamation of the Gospel the risen Jesus becomes our contemporary, so that those who welcome Him with faith and love can experience the transforming power of His Spirit, who makes humanity and creation fruitful, even as the rain does with the earth. “His resurrection is not an event of the past; it contains a vital power which has permeated this world. Where all seems to be dead, signs of the resurrection suddenly spring up. It is an irresistible force.” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 276)

4. Let us never forget that ‘being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a Person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction’ (Pope Benedict XVI, *Deus Caritas Est*, 1). The Gospel is a Person who continually offers himself, and constantly invites those who receive Him with humble and religious faith, to share His life by an effective participation in the paschal mystery of His death and resurrection. Through Baptism the Gospel becomes a source of new life, freed of the dominion of sin, enlightened and transformed by the Holy Spirit. Through Confirmation it becomes a fortifying anointing that, through the same Spirit, points out new ways and strategies for witness and accompaniment. Through the Eucharist it becomes food for new life, a ‘medicine of immortality.’ (Ignatius of Antioch, *Ad Ephesios*, 20, 2)

5. The world vitally needs the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the Church Christ continues His mission as the Good Samaritan caring for the bleeding wounds of humanity and as Good Shepherd constantly seeking out those who wander along winding paths that lead nowhere. Thank God, many significant experiences continue to testify to the transformative power of the Gospel.

6. The Church's mission is enlivened by a spirituality of *constant exodus*. We are challenged “to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the peripheries in need of the light of the Gospel” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 20). The Church's mission impels us to undertake a *constant pilgrimage* across the various deserts of life, through the different experiences of hunger and thirst for truth and justice. The Church's mission inspires a sense of *constant exile*, to make us aware, in our thirst for the infinite, that we are exiles journeying towards our final home, poised between the “already” and “not yet” of the Kingdom of Heaven.

7. Mission reminds the Church that she is not an end unto herself, but a humble instrument and mediation of the Kingdom. A self-referential Church, one which is

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content with earthly success, is not the Church of Christ, his crucified and glorious Body. That is why we should prefer “a Church which is bruised and hurting because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security.”

8. Young people are the hope of mission. The person of Jesus Christ and the Good News he proclaimed continue to attract many young people. They seek ways to put themselves with courage and enthusiasm at the service of humanity. “There are many young people who offer their solidarity in the face of the evils of the world and engage in various forms of militancy and volunteering... How beautiful it is to see that young people are ‘street preachers’, joyfully bringing Jesus to every street, every town square and every corner of the earth!” (ibid., 106). The next Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, to be held in 2018 on the theme Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment, represents a providential opportunity to involve young people in the shared missionary responsibility that needs their rich imagination and creativity.

9. The Pontifical Mission Societies are a precious means of awakening in every Christian community a desire to reach beyond its own confines and security in order to proclaim the Gospel to all. In them, thanks to a profound missionary spirituality, nurtured daily, and a constant commitment to raising missionary awareness and enthusiasm, young people, adults, families, priests, bishops, and men and women religious work to develop a missionary heart in everyone. World Mission Day, promoted by the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, is a good opportunity for enabling the missionary heart of Christian communities to join in prayer, testimony of life and communion of goods, in responding to the vast and pressing needs of evangelization.

www.w2.vatican.va

If you forgot your Evangelization of Nations or World Mission Sunday envelope this week, it is not too late to hand it in next Sunday.