



The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
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13 October 2025

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

This Sunday, October 19 we celebrate World Mission Sunday, a powerful reminder of our shared responsibility to proclaim the Gospel to all nations. It is a day when Catholics around the world unite in prayer and solidarity to support the missionary work of the Church. This year's theme, "Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples," is particularly moving because, even though it was chosen by Pope Francis, it reflects both the heart of our faith and the vision of our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV.

Pope Leo XIV, who spent most of his priestly ministry as a missionary in the remote regions of Peru, reminds us that The Pontifical Mission Societies are "the primary means for awakening missionary responsibility among all the baptized, supporting ecclesial communities in areas where the Church is young." His personal witness deepens the meaning of this year's celebration, inviting us all to renew our commitment to the Church's mission in the world.

The second collection for World Mission Sunday supports the work of The Pontifical Mission Societies, the Pope's official means of assisting Catholic communities in the world's poorest and most remote regions. Our contributions provide essential resources for the Church's mission: the formation of seminarians and religious sisters and brothers, the training of lay catechists, the education of children in Catholic schools, medical care in Church-run hospitals and clinics, and construction of churches and parish centers where the faithful can gather for worship and grow in their relationship with the Lord Jesus.

Let us go forth as Missionaries of Hope bringing God's love and mercy to all people. Thank you for your prayers and generosity to the collection for World Mission Sunday.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Charles C. Thompson*

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