



(To be read to the faithful in parishes on World Mission Sunday October 19, 2025)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today we celebrate World Mission Sunday, a moment when Catholics worldwide unite in prayer and generosity to support the Church's mission.

This year's theme, "*Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples*," was chosen by Pope Francis and now carries new meaning under Pope Leo XIV, who spent most of his priestly ministry as a missionary in Peru. His witness reminds us that the Pontifical Mission Societies are the Church's primary way of awakening missionary responsibility among all the baptized.

Just as American Catholics once relied on missionary aid to grow the Church here, today it is our turn to extend that same generosity. The second collection supports the Pope's missions in over 1,100 mission territories across Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania, and the Middle East.

Through our prayers and offerings, we provide for seminarian and religious formation, catechist training, Catholic education for children, medical care, and the building of churches and parish centers.

Your prayers and sacrifices make Christ's love present in places of poverty and persecution, ensuring that the Gospel reaches the ends of the earth.

Let us respond with open hearts, united as one Church and one family, and go forth as Missionaries of Hope to a world longing for God's mercy and peace.

May Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, grant you peace and joy,

+ José H. Gomez

Most Reverend José H. Gomez
Archbishop of Los Angeles