



Diocese of Palm Beach

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Office of
THE BISHOP

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October 9, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The annual collection in support of the Propagation of the Faith (World Mission Sunday) will take place October 16 and 17.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith was founded in Lyons, France, in 1822 by a young French laywoman, Pauline Jaricot. Inspired by stories she heard about missionary work in China, she felt called by the Lord to help the Catholic Church's worldwide missionary work. Pauline gathered friends and workers in a family silk mill into "circles of ten," asking each person to pray daily for the Missions and sacrifice a penny-a-week. From this idea emerged the Propagation of the Faith.

Today the General Fund of the Propagation of the Faith, which relies on the generosity from Catholics worldwide, a concept that originated with Pauline Jaricot and her desire to help the world's missions, is the basic means of support for the Catholic Church's worldwide Missions. Last year our Diocese raised \$103,000.00 to support the Propagation of the Faith and World Mission Sunday.

In his 2010 address for World Mission Sunday, our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI said, *"I therefore renew to everyone the invitation to pray and, despite financial difficulties, to offer fraternal and concrete help to support the young Churches. This act of love and sharing, which the precious service of the Pontifical Missionary Societies to which I express my gratitude will see to allocating, will support the formation of priests, seminarians and catechists in the most distant mission lands and will encourage the young ecclesial communities."*

Your gift to this annual appeal truly extends "to the nations!" Together let us bear witness to our baptismal call to be missionaries of the Gospel!

With gratitude for your generosity, and the assurance of my prayers for you, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito
Bishop of Palm Beach

NOTE TO PASTORS: PLEASE PUBLISH THIS LETTER IN THE PARISH BULLETIN OR HAVE IT READ AT ALL MASSES ON THE WEEKEND OF OCT 9 & 10