



Diocese of Palm Beach

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Office of
THE BISHOP

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October 14, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The annual collection in support of Propagation of Faith/World Mission Sunday is scheduled for the weekend of October 22-23. Participation in this collection gives us a chance to fulfill our baptismal call to be a missionary for the Church in a special way and to support missionaries who bring the “Good News” of Jesus to faraway places.

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.

There are many organizations – some Catholic – that extend the treasure and talent of Americans to those parts of the world where people are struggling to get enough to eat or send their children to school. However, the Church's missionary activity begins in the proclamation of faith: “Jesus is Lord!” He is our common hope – a hope that not only clothes and educates, but also saves.

On World Mission Sunday, I invite you to “celebrate the hope that saves” through prayer and participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the World Mission Sunday collection. Your vital contribution to the Pontifical Mission Societies will support those 1,150 young mission dioceses and communities who await the “Good News” of Jesus as their saving hope.

With gratitude for your generosity, and with every prayerful wish, 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 October 15 & 16.