



Diocese of Palm Beach

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Office of
THE BISHOP

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October 7, 2023

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Next weekend, October 14/15, the parishes in our diocese will participate in a second collection for World Mission Sunday, observed October 22, which honors those who follow the Gospel mandate to go out and preach to all nations. The 2023 World Mission Sunday theme, chosen by Pope Francis, is *Hearts on fire, feet on the move*, referring to Saint Luke's Gospel about the disciples on the road to Emmaus (cf. Lk 24:13-35). The Holy Father's message urges the faithful to "renew our zeal for evangelization in today's world."

This annual collection supports more than 1,000 Catholic communities in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe. By supporting this collection, we join with many others to assist these missions and ministries and provide help for some of the most vulnerable regions around the world.

As Pope Francis said in his address regarding World Mission Sunday: "Let us set out to make other hearts burn with the word of God, to open the eyes of others to Jesus in the Eucharist, and to invite everyone to walk together on the path of peace and salvation that God, in Christ, has bestowed upon all humanity."

With gratitude for your continued generosity and every prayerful wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito
Bishop of Palm Beach