

# HELP THE MISSIONS THIS SUNDAY

## POPE PAUL'S MESSAGE FOR MISSION SUNDAY



EXCERPTS FROM THE MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE PAUL VI FOR MISSION SUNDAY

Sons and daughters of God's holy Church:

We consider Ourselves at this moment as spiritual-ly in your midst. Listen to Us, for the love of Our Lord.

St. Paul says, We are under obligation and "woe to me if I preach not the gospel."

"The obligation of spreading the faith," says the Council, "is imposed on every disciple of Christ, according to his ability" (Lumen Gentium, 17). And again: "All sons of the Church should have a lively awareness of their responsibility to the world. They should foster in themselves a truly Catholic spirit. They should spend their energies in the work of evangelization" (Ad Gentes, 36). It is a vocation for all; it is a duty for the whole Church, if it is Catholic, by its very nature it must be missionary.

Every Christian who wishes to live up to his call to faith, and to the profession of his faith, must open his soul to the wind of Pentecost; the prophetic breath of the Holy Spirit should invade every son and daughter of God, born to the life of grace.

We intend to use the word 'mission' here in its specific and technical meaning of activity envisaged and organized for the express purpose of evangelizing peoples who are not yet Christian, by means of persons who have dedicated themselves, and are chosen, prepared and officially sent, who, in the footsteps of the Apostles, preach the word of truth and bring to birth new Churches.

We must mention in a special way the Holy See's 'Pontifical Missionary Works,' the first of which is The Society for the Propagation of the Faith. This is Our primary pastoral responsibility.

These men and women have before them the full panorama of the world to be evangelized; they are the centre of a network spread throughout the Church for the benefit of all Catholic missions; they have an awareness of missionary requirements throughout the world; and these are administered on a collegial basis and with impartial criteria of

distributive justice and a charity that is awake to all needs and opportunities to help.

Thus the concept of missionary endeavour has undergone development. There used to be something exotic and romantic in it, as if it were an evangelizing adventure in far-off and unknown lands. Today this concept is more positive and realistic, for missionary activity can now profit from experience, which saves it from projects that are too naive and experimental, dispenses it from arduous geographical exploration that is now superfluous, simplifies the missionary's practical initiation and makes his training more scientific and specific. All of this opens up new possibilities, but requires a greater supply of vocations and financial support.

Today, as yesterday, the motive and the moral value of missionary activity remain valid. The numerous men and women missionaries in the field, dedicated to the service of spreading the Gospel, can bear witness to this.

And the same qualities of the missionary remain necessary: total donation of self; willingness to face danger; patience; generous, persevering effort, even when it seems fruitless and when progress is slow; a spirit of sacrifice; the preaching of the Cross not only by word but also by example, with a willingness to suffer one's own passion. The missionary is like Simon of Cyrene, lovingly and publicly bearing Christ's cross with Him to the end.

The missionary cause needs your help; it needs your love, your prayers and your offerings. Who would deny this when the missionary cause is that of Christ himself, as He makes his mysterious way to the ends of the earth, plants his footsteps on present and future history, raises the destiny of peoples, identifies himself with each man (who without Him would be abandoned and alone), assembles his Church and leads it, as its Shepherd and Saviour, to the joy of eternal life?

"He that has ears to hear, let him hear." We make these words of Jesus Our own and, filled with gratitude and trust, We impart to you all Our Apostolic Blessing.

Paulus PP. VI



A 6-year-old Bolivian child hugs her lamb in the morning sun. Rochester has diocesan priests in La Paz, Bolivia and Sisters in Brazil and Chile.



Christ is present in the humble service of caring for the human needs of life so often lacking for the poor and orphaned. A missionary Brother finds his joy through service by feeding the hungry. Mission Sunday money buys this food.

### Bishop Sheen on Missions:

## Your Chance to Show Your Love for Others

My Dearly Loved Ones in Christ:

Before the Holy Father assigned me to the Diocese of Rochester, for 16 years I was engaged in aiding missionaries to bring the Gospel to the rest of the world. In a certain sense, I never lost that love of the missions for my heart is still with the 200 million people who know not that Our Lord loved them even unto the death on the Cross.

Today, I ask you to join with me in sharing the Church's love for Africa, Asia, Latin America and the other un-Gospelled people of the world. It is the Christian Western World which is affluent and comfortable; it is largely the un-Christian missionary world which is disadvantaged and poor. Certainly, heaven intended that we should share our blessings and our faith with them. And they deserve it.

For example, before the Soviets came into Czechoslovakia, 274 population centers voted that her priests be returned from exile. They met the

priests at the railroad station and carried them on their shoulders to their parishes.

In Northern Vietnam a priest seized by the Communists asked that he be assigned to the forced labor common in his area, namely that of carrying sacks of coal on his back up a steep hill to a factory. The reason: some of his former parishioners were in that neighborhood and he could secretly minister to them.

Did you know that last year the Diocese of Rochester was the fifth highest in the United States in what they gave to the Holy Father to help our poor missionaries? May we keep it that way!

I beg you most tenderly, make a sacrifice next week that will show your love. The basket will see your gift, but God will see your love. The Missions have no baskets.

Thank you.  
Devotedly yours in Christ,  
Bishop Fulton J. Sheen



Missionaries bring Christ's love to these people through our Christian love. The Society for the Propagation of the Faith supports 300,000 missionaries and maintains 26,000 hospitals and dispensaries, 5,000 orphanages and 500 homes for the aged.

## Word for Sunday Sunday Customs Uplift, Civilize

By Father Albert Shamon

Sunday's Gospel tells man that his relationship to God is that of debtor to creditor. The two sums of money in the parable are deliberate extremes. The servant had loaned his fellow-servant \$20.00 (100 denarii); but the servant himself owed the king \$5,000,000 (10,000 talents) — a debt no man could pay.

We owe God more than we can ever pay. But God does not demand payment. He asks only a remembrance. "Remember to keep holy the Sunday." And He makes this particular request not for His but for our benefit: we need Sunday with its rest and worship. Our bodies need it and so do our souls.

James Fenimore Cooper called the commandment to keep the Lord's Day holy the greatest single piece of protective labor and health legislation in the history of humanity. If all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, it makes his father "a brother to the ox."

Edwin Markham one day saw Jean Francois Millet's painting of a French peasant leaning wearily and hopelessly on a hoe. The painting inspired Markham's monumental poem "The Man with the Hoe." Markham asked—

"Who made him dead to rapture and despair,  
A thing that grieves not and that never hopes,  
Stolid, stunned, a brother to the ox?"

His answer was: unremitting toil, toil that left no time to rest, no time to think, no time to hope.

During my illness this past summer I received a letter from one of my parishioners who lives on a farm. Being a farmer's wife, she ascribed the metaphor of shepherd and sheep and wrote, "Hurry home for the cows need the farmer." Then she went on to say, "But do rest up." To convince me, she continued, "Did you know that in older days a farmer always kept three work horses? After two days' work one horse of the team was rested on the third."

In the French Revolution godless men decreed a 10-day week. Within a year people clamored for their Sunday rest. Modern industry, pressured by World War II, tried a 7-day work week. The result? A new "ism" was born — "abstenteism."

It never pays to break the Sabbath. A good old deacon was returning home on Sunday with a string of fish. He had missed Sunday services to indulge in his sport. As luck would have it, he ran smack into his minister. He could not avoid the encounter, so he just walked up and said, "Parson, jes look at what dese fish got for nibblin' on de Lawd's Day."

To interrupt the rhythm of work, to put on Sunday clothes, to have a Sunday dinner, to have families come together — these are some of the

blessings made possible by the Sunday rest. Addison and Steele in an essay written more than two centuries ago, noted that "if keeping holy the Sabbath were only a human institution, it would be the best method that could have been thought of for the polishing and civilizing of mankind."

In Hello, Dolly! Mrs. Levi taroils the uplifting effect just a change of Sunday clothes can have —

Put on your Sunday clothes when you feel down and out

Strut down the street and have your picture took.  
Dressed like a dream your spirits seem to turn about.  
That Sunday shine  
Is a certain sign  
That you feel as fine as you look!

Like thorns choking the life out of plants, the care of life can choke the life out of the soul. The Sunday rest is meant to prevent this. It invites man to rest awhile and think of the things that make life worth living. It is a "remember, man" that we have not here a lasting city.

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## Priv

It is "unthinkable" the school system will be discontinued, a Wa educator said in "Ro night, but he insists educators need to r ites and re-assess re

Msgr. James C. D of the Division of Secondary Education Bishops' Conference, schools an essential teaching mission of t contended that priva tems are a safeguard clusive "monolithic" system which "scarec

He was principal s ing of the Rochest Catholic Laymen i School Auditorium, nearly 300 persons,



## Fun Msgr. Forme

Rhaca—Mass for of the Rt. Rev. M Cleary, 63, former cl University and at Ai celebrated Tuesday Catherine of Siena ish which he found

Msgr. Cleary, wide flying chaplain"—h War II pilot and fly cial hobby since cerebral hemorrhag 11, 1969) in Tompk pital here.

Principal celebra Mass was Bishop Msgr. Cleary was b

In his homily Bisl Msgr. Cleary as a tual, ecumenist and

"As a chaplain t Msgr. Cleary was reading the first, a y airmen in Northm the troops was brav

"On the campus a was called upon to fending truth and intellectual error"

The Bishop cited being a pioneer in t tolite. Declaring t days of this import. nial chaplain help Newman philospoph across the country.

"He was never sl of Catholics at Co entire campus com

In lauding the d a pastor, Bishop S rowing congregatio be proud of the Msgr. Cleary had m of campus life to relationships requit

Serving with E principal concelebr were Father John S ther Michael Daly Msgr. Joseph L. H John S. Hayes, David W. Connor, Charles Reynolds mey.

Msgr. Cleary's l included 25 years

## Fr. W

Elmira — Mass soul of Father Wi 43, newly-appointe Catherine's Church celebrated Tuesda Patrick's Church he

Father Thomas v the Addison parish Oct. 11, three days summed his first f had a heart condit

Bishop Fulton J cipal celebrant of Father Thomas w Oct. 30, 1925, at Ellen Cronin, Tho Henry D. Thomas, Patrick's School, Elgh School and St. Bernard's Semi

In his homily B a parallel between priesthood and C

"When Christ di he said, "there wa ed about it all: was something un; was still to be don

"So Father Tho: the life of Christ, ished — he was a and something unf

"In the sudden l death of Father Tl the truly great ev perhaps God is spe and other events o is saying: 'Be loya

Concelebrants of Auxiliary Bishops and Dennis W. H Emmett Halloran, C. McNamara, Jol Yeurlock, James Keyrouze, James I Patrick and James Cafferly officiated rites.