

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY October 15, 1989



DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

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Bishop's Office

October, 1989

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

When Pope Paul II journeyed last year to Southern Africa, he spoke in Zimbabwe of the nature of our faith. "Faith can never remain a purely private matter," he said, continuing, "...our faith in Christ opens our eyes to see beyond our own parish community, to the life of the universal Church and the needs of the world around us."

On World Mission Sunday, October 15th, I ask your help by calling you to prayer and sacrifice for the missionary work of the Church. We must open our eyes and look beyond our parish communities.

In a message he delivered for last year's celebration of World Mission Sunday, Pope John Paul pointed to the Propagation of the Faith as "entrusted with the vast area of charity and material assistance" for the Missions. He invited Catholics throughout the world to give generously to the Propagation of the Faith for the support of the local churches of the Missions.

Two-thirds of the world's people are non-Christians, eight hundred and twenty million people follow no religion at all. Our mandate...indeed the mandate from Christ Himself - is then clear and filled with an even greater sense of urgency.

We must "share Christ with the world", supporting those who "carry the Good News around the world".

I invite you...no I urge you...this year to give the same generous support that you have given in the past. See with the eyes of faith! Give generously this World Mission Sunday, October 15th to help speed the day when the whole world will share faith in the one Lord, Jesus Christ!

With my gratitude and every good wish, I remain

Your brother in Christ,

Hatthew H. Clark Bishop of Rochester

God's Love-Endures Forever



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