



missionary
childhood
association

“Children evangelizing children. Children praying for children. Children helping children.”

2022 - 2023

SCHOOL YEAR

Missionary Discipleship

Through our Baptism, each of us shares in the missionary nature of the Church. We are all called to use the gifts we have received through the Holy Spirit for the building of the Kingdom of God on earth.

As our children pray and give for those in other parts of the world, those children do the same for them; in this, a relationship of giving and receiving is created.

Prayer

The children of the Missionary Childhood Association pray every day for other children, especially for those in mission dioceses, and for the spread of the Gospel around the world. Through prayer, children develop a missionary spirit that will accompany them throughout their lives.

Sacrifice

The children of the Missionary Childhood Association sacrifice and make offerings for the spiritual and material needs of their brothers and sisters in Christ around the world, in order that they too can live in the fullness of their dignity as children of God.

Where & How

Financial offerings are collected by the Mission Office in the Archdiocese of St. Louis and forwarded to the National Office of the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States to be redistributed to millions of children in over 1,100 mission dioceses! Offerings support catechesis and formation programs, schooling, health care, advocacy, and outreach for children.



Dear Religious Educator,

In preparing for this next school year, I invite your school and parish school of religion to participate in the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA).

As one of the four Pontifical Mission Societies, the MCA's main goal is to imbue a missionary spirit within children, guiding them in prayer and sacrifice for other children around the world. Since the MCA's founding in 1843, the fruit of the children's prayers and sacrifices, financial offerings, have been gathered and redistributed to children in mission dioceses around the world. Not only do the children's prayers, sacrifices, and financial offerings help make a faith-filled difference for their mission family, they make them missionaries today.

During this calendar year 2022, the MCA celebrates a special anniversary: 100 years as "pontifical." By the MCA receiving this designation, the Church recognized the vital role of the MCA for the universal Church, placing this mission society at the direct service of the Pope. In this anniversary year, I especially encourage you to bring your students into this communion with their brothers and sisters in Christ around the world through MCA, which brings "to the Catholic world that spirit of universality and of service to the Church's mission, without which authentic cooperation does not exist" (Pope St. John Paul II, *Redemptoris Missio*, 84).

Finally, know that the Mission Office is present to assist you in carrying out the work of the MCA. Free classroom supplies and presentations are available, as well as supplementary materials made available each month to help foster this missionary mindset with your students. Please see the information in the remainder of this newsletter to access these materials. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to the Mission Office at missions@archstl.org or 314-792-7655.

Thank you for your prayers and support of the Church's missionary activity through the MCA.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Mitchell T. Rozanski

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of St. Louis

"We give thanks for the collaboration of many Christians, especially the contribution of so many children and young people who in every part of the world continue to be attracted by the example of Jesus and his making everyone his brother and sister."

Sr. Roberta Tremarelli, Secretary General Missionary Childhood

MCA ORDER FORM

Order online at www.archstl.org/mca
or mail completed form to:
Mission Office
20 Archbishop May Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63119
or email to missions@archstl.org

MISSION MODERATOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Select a contact person, or mission moderator, to serve as the liaison between your school/parish and the Mission Office. Each month, the mission moderator will receive supplementary materials directly by email. If multiple people from your location would like to receive these resources, please feel free to add additional names. Resources are sent electronically August – May and include a missionary saint, monthly calendar with prayer/sacrifice suggestions, a MCA country of the month, and more!

All materials (including previous months) are also available at www.archstl.org/mca.

Name: _____ Title/Position: _____

Email: _____ I am interested in a presentation for my students or staff: Yes No

Resources

Shipping Address:

(school/parish) (street address) (city) (state) (zip)

Prayer Cards

Quantity: _____ (1 per student)



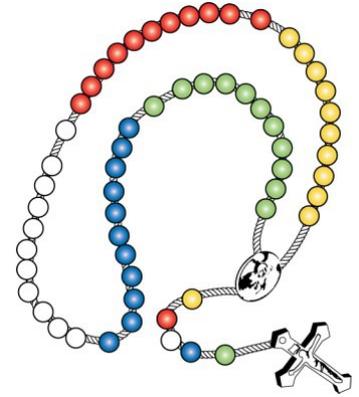
Mite (Coin) Boxes

Quantity: _____ (1 per student or class)



World Mission Rosaries

Quantity: _____ (1 per student)



A resource developed by Venerable Fulton Sheen for teaching the need to pray for the spread of the Gospel to the whole world. World mission rosaries are made by volunteers. They are available on a first come, first serve basis.

Posters

Quantity: _____ (1 per class)



World Mission Sunday Envelopes

Quantity: _____ (1 per student)

In 1926, Pope Pius XI established an annual collection for the missionary work of the Church worldwide called "World Mission Sunday." It is always the second to last Sunday of October. These envelopes are available if you would like your students to participate.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

October is World Mission Month!



Your gift on World Mission Sunday makes sure that the poor in the missions receive help, and that they come to know the hope and love of Jesus! The building of churches and chapels, education, and transportation are just a few ways that your World Mission Sunday gift can help people around the world!





Mission Office
Archdiocese of St. Louis
20 Archbishop May Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63119

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“It’s beautiful if children are shown from an early age that the proclamation of the Gospel, the proclamation of the story of Jesus, is dynamic and they too can tell the story of Jesus to their friends. And it is also beautiful that they can learn from an early age to think about distant people, nations, and worlds, for whom they too can recite some prayers or learn to make some small offerings.”

- Pope Francis, speaking about the Missionary Childhood Association
