

2. Speaker's Notes: The Voice of an Irish Missionary

During the World Mission Sunday Mass, why not consider inviting a returned missionary to share their story? If this is not possible, we have prepared the piece below. Please ask the Reader of the Word to read this first-hand account, as a complement to the homily. (Irish version on reverse.)

The theme of this year's World Mission Sunday appeal, 'Together We Are Mission', is a message for all of us. It highlights the crucial part every one of us play in mission work. Through our donations and prayers, we are giving missionaries the means and strength to keep going. The following piece is a first-hand experience of a missionary priest working in South Sudan:

It's 2 a.m. in the morning. I can't sleep. I'm shivering and sweating in a mission house in a village in South Sudan. My head is pounding, but I need to concentrate all my energy into not getting sick. The tablets I've taken must stay in my stomach, otherwise they won't keep the symptoms of my malaria at bay.

I stare at the ceiling, my stomach twisting with pain, and I ask myself why I became a missionary priest.

But, thankfully, as the days pass, my energy grows, and I fully recover. I wake early to the sounds of beating drums. Singing breaks the stillness of the morning air. It's Sunday, and the local Sudanese people are gathering to prepare for Mass. Men, women and children have travelled miles on foot to be here.

The singing picks up momentum as Mass begins. It is a celebration of life, and the people are fully in the moment. It is also a social occasion. After Mass, people hug and chat. Stories are shared, fun and laughter permeates the air, children play football, relationships are renewed, and the village is alive with life.

However, in the following weeks, things change drastically. It's Holy Thursday and preparations are being made. Frightened whispers begin to circulate.

I hear that rebel forces are on the outskirts of the village and there is a possibility of an attack. We can't be sure if it's true, but the local people are panicking. They are afraid and running in confusion, the village is an open space. There is nowhere to hide. I feel my own fear, and my stomach knots. I stand still ...

Some men and women come to me for help, and then more join them. I lead the crowd to take refuge in the church and we start to celebrate the Last Supper of Jesus, the beginning of the Easter Triduum. The washing of the feet takes on a new meaning. The church becomes a sanctuary for everyone, and the fear that Jesus must have experienced becomes everyone's fear that evening. After Mass, word reaches us that all is okay for now – the rebels have retreated. People weep with relief and return to their homes.

That evening, I don't doubt my decision in becoming a missionary priest. I think of people back home in Ireland, and I quietly thank them for the strength their prayers and generosity continue to give me.

On behalf of this missionary, and the many others who dedicate their lives to bringing hope and love where there is despair, thank you for your extra generosity towards the World Mission Sunday collection this weekend.

TOGETHER WE ARE MISSION

5. How to Return Collections and Contributions

The safest and most reliable way for you to return collections and contributions is by bank lodgement. You can also send a cheque/postal order, go online or return over the phone. If you don't include the parish/community name and address as a reference, we won't be able to confirm receipt and acknowledge – so don't forget to include this important information!



BANK LODGEMENT

Make a lodgement through your local bank. World Missions Ireland bank details are:

EURO BANK DETAILS

NAME	Society for the Propagation of the Faith
BANK	Bank of Ireland, Rathmines, Dublin
SORT CODE	90-07-54
ACCOUNT NUM	56961636
IBAN	IE12 BOFI 9007 5456 9616 36
BIC	BOFIE2D

STERLING BANK DETAILS

NAME	Pontifical Missions Societies
BANK	AIB, Tara Street, Dublin
SORT CODE	93-00-67
ACCOUNT NUM	63003998
IBAN	IE63 AIBK 9300 6763 0039 98
BIC	AIBKIE2D



SEND CHEQUE / POSTAL ORDER TO

WORLD MISSIONS IRELAND
64 LOWER RATHMINES RD
DUBLIN 6



GO ONLINE

www.wmi.ie/donate



CALL

01 497 2035

Don't forget to include the 'Donation Return Slip' when returning your World Mission Sunday collection!

Why not place the official Extraordinary Month of Mission Prayer in your parish newsletter, website or social media, so that those who are unable to donate can give through prayer!



THE EXTRAORDINARY MONTH OF MISSION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, when your only begotten Son Jesus Christ rose from the dead, he commissioned his followers to 'go and make disciples of all nations' and you remind us that through our Baptism we are made sharers in the mission of the Church.

Empower us by the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be courageous and zealous in bearing witness to the Gospel, so that the mission entrusted to the Church, which is still very far from completion, may find new and efficacious expressions that bring life and light to the world.

Help us make it possible for all peoples to experience the saving love and mercy of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

One God, forever and ever.

Amen

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MISSION MONTH TOOLKIT

A collection of resources and tips to help parishes and communities celebrate the Extraordinary Month of Mission 2019

The Mission Month Toolkit has been created to help your parish or community successfully celebrate Mission Month. Parish and community leaders are encouraged to explore and use these resources.

Included you will find:

1. Theme: Together We Are Mission
2. Speaker's Notes: The Voice of an Irish Missionary (English & Irish)
3. Parish Newsletter Inserts
4. FAQs
5. How to Return Collections and Contributions

1. Theme: Together We Are Mission

The theme of this year's World Mission Sunday appeal, 'Together We Are Mission', is a message for everyone. We sometimes think that only priests and sisters, catechists and lay people that work with those in need, are called to mission – but through Baptism we all are!

In his World Mission Sunday message, Pope Francis writes,

I am a mission, always; you are a mission, always; every baptised man and woman is a mission.

This goes to the heart of our baptismal call to be part of God's mission in the world today. 'Together We Are Mission' is a statement that highlights the part every one of us play in mission work. Through our faith we are called to be missionary, to support and care for those in need, not just those near us, but also our brothers and sisters in our wider Church family. Mission Month and World Mission Sunday is a special time that allows us to act on our baptismal calling through our generous gifts and prayers.

TOGETHER WE ARE MISSION

Download the Mission Month Toolkit at www.wmi.ie/mm2019

3. Parish Newsletter Inserts

Your parish newsletter, website and social media are valuable ways of keeping congregations up to date – especially those who cannot physically attend Mass. They're also a great way to thank people for their generosity and support.

To help World Mission Sunday make an even bigger impact, the following inserts were drafted for inspiration. Please include these before, during and after World Mission Sunday in your parish newsletters, website and social media.

SUNDAY, 6TH OCTOBER

October is Mission Month! This year's theme, 'Together We Are Mission', is asking you to move away from the idea that mission work is solely the work of priests and sisters, catechists and lay missionaries, and to consider the part you play. After all, it is because of the prayers and generosity of people just like you that hope, love and joy can continue to be shared with the suffering and neglected.

Please consider using your generosity right now. Donate €4 to the work of missionaries overseas, many of whom work in impoverished communities, text the word 'Mission' to 50300. (Texts cost €4. World Mission Ireland will receive a minimum of €3.60. Service Provider: LikeCharity. Helpline: 076 680 5278. Republic of Ireland only.) World Missions Ireland, the Church's charity for overseas mission, is responsible for the coordination of Mission Month. Go to www.wmi.ie to learn more about their work.

SUNDAY, 13TH OCTOBER

Next weekend our parish will celebrate World Mission Sunday. It's a way, chosen by Pope Francis, that gives support to those suffering within our Church family. On the 20th, every single parish worldwide will give what they can. It will be used to support overseas missionaries, many of whom work in some of the world's most impoverished communities. Next week, if you can, please be extra generous during Mass.

If you can't give on World Mission Sunday, you can donate €4 right now, by texting the word 'Mission' to 50300. (Texts cost €4. World Mission Ireland will receive a minimum of €3.60. Service Provider: LikeCharity. Helpline: 076 680 5278. Republic of Ireland only.) You can also donate online at www.wmi.ie/donate. World Missions Ireland, the Church's charity for overseas mission, is responsible for the coordination of Mission Month. Go to www.wmi.ie to learn more about their work.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY, 20TH OCTOBER

It is World Mission Sunday, a day when our entire Church family comes together for a truly incredible celebration of solidarity. Today, every single Church around the world shares what they can, so that the vital work of the Church and our missionaries can continue. Through your extra generosity, you are offering much needed financial help to missionaries who dedicate their lives to those who are suffering and neglected. From all the missionaries your kindness supports, thank you for digging deeper today.

If you'd like to further support World Mission Sunday, you can donate €4 right now by texting the word 'Mission' to 50300. (Texts cost €4. World Mission Ireland will receive a minimum of €3.60. Service Provider: LikeCharity. Helpline: 076 680 5278. Republic of Ireland only.) World Missions Ireland, the Church's charity for overseas mission, is responsible for the coordination of Mission Month. Go to www.wmi.ie to learn more about their work.

SUNDAY, 27TH OCTOBER

Thank you for your prayers and generosity towards World Mission Sunday last weekend. Your kindness means so much. It will help missionaries and struggling communities to form and sustain communities of hope and faith. Please know that your continued kindness towards World Mission Sunday makes transformative differences in the lives of people who are suffering. Thank you.

You can still support World Mission Sunday! Text the word 'Mission' to 50300 to donate €4. (Texts cost €4. World Mission Ireland will receive a minimum of €3.60. Service Provider: LikeCharity. Helpline: 076 680 5278. Republic of Ireland only.) You can also donate online at www.wmi.ie/donate. World Missions Ireland, the Church's charity for overseas mission, is responsible for the coordination of Mission Month. Go to www.wmi.ie to learn more about their work.

4. World Mission Sunday FAQs

WHY DO WE SUPPORT THE WORLD MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION?

Since its declaration as a papal collection in 1926, the entire global Church comes together on World Mission Sunday to support mission work. Our Church is a global community. We depend on one another – on our shared prayer and solidarity. In recognition of this, World Mission Sunday calls every parish, throughout the world, to pray together and financially give what they can.

World Mission Sunday is vital for the growth of the Church. Collections from the day allow World Missions Ireland, as the Holy Father's official charity for overseas mission, to fund the continued building of Church infrastructures, and enable the training and work of missionaries. World Missions Ireland ensures that contributions made on behalf of World Mission Sunday are distributed justly, to where the need is greatest. Funding is given directly from the Irish office to local bishops, churches and missionary congregations in the mission territories.

WHO IS WORLD MISSIONS IRELAND?

World Missions Ireland is the Pope's official charity for overseas mission. It is part of a global network of 120 offices (many known as Missio) under the coordination of the Pontifical Mission Societies in Rome. It is the Holy Father's chosen instrument for sharing the Gospel and building the Church throughout the world, and follows Christ's example by helping everyone in need – regardless of their background or belief.

World Missions Ireland is the only Catholic charity which supports the 40% of the Universal Church that is too new, young or poor to support itself. Together with the global offices, it helps support struggling dioceses in 157 countries.

HOW CAN I CONTINUE TO SUPPORT MISSION WORK?

World Missions Ireland works throughout the year to raise funds for mission dioceses who are struggling. Beyond World Mission Sunday, there are many ways for you and your community to support this work. Spiritually, you can offer your prayers and share missionary stories during your sermons. Financially, you can hold fundraisers throughout the year, give a once-off donation, become a regular monthly giver or remember World Missions Ireland in your will.

You can also support mission by sending Mass stipends to priests in the developing world via World Missions Ireland. A priest can celebrate Mass for your intentions, and at the same time receive much-needed financial support. We would be delighted to chat with you further on the above. Call us on 01 497 2035 or email us at info@wmi.ie



2. Nótaí an Chainteora: Guth Misinéir Éireannach

Is é téama achomharc Domhnach Domhanda na Misean i mbliana 'Le Chéile is Misean Muid', teachtaireacht dúinn uile. Leagann sé béim ar an gcuid ríthábhachtach atá ag chuile duine in obair an mhisin. Tríd ár síntiúis agus ár gcuid paidreacha, táimid ag tabhairt na modhanna agus an neart do mhisinéirí leanúint ar aghaidh. Is taithí dhíreach í an píosa seo a leanas ar shagart misinéara atá ag obair sa tSúdáin Theas:

Tá sé 2 a chloig ar maidin. Ní féidir liom codladh. Tá mé ag crith agus ag cur allais i dteach misin i sráidbhaile sa tSúdáin Theas. Tá mo cheann tinn, ach ní mór dom mo chuid fuinnimh go léir a dhíriú gan eirí tinn. Caithfidh na táibléid a ghlac mé fanacht i mo bholg, nó ní choinneoidh siad na comharthaí maláire ar shiúl. Táim ag amharc ar an tsíleáil, mo bholg i bpian, agus iarraim orm féin cén fáth gur sagart misinéara mé.

Ach buíochas le Dia, tar éis cúpla la, méadaíonn mo chuid fuinnimh, agus tagann feabhas orm. Dúisim go luath le fuaimeanna a bhaineann le drumáil ag bualadh. Tá amhránaíocht le cloisteál san aer ar maidin. Is Dé Domhnaigh é, agus tá muintir na Súdáine áitiúil ag teacht le chéile chun ullmhú don Aifreann. Shiúil fir, mná agus leanaí achair fhada le bheith anseo.

Nuair a thosaíonn an tAifreann, tá an t-amhránaíocht níos láidre. Is ceiliúradh saoil é, agus tá na daoine rannpháirteach go hiomlán. Is ócáid shóisialta í freisin. Tar éis an Aifrinn, tá daoine ag bualadh lena chéile agus ag caint. Roinntear scéalta, tá spraoi agus gáire ag teacht tríd an aer, tá páistí ag imirt peile, déantar caidrimh a athnuachan, agus tá an sráidbhaile beo leis an saol.

Mar sin féin, sna seachtainí ina dhiaidh sin, athraíonn rudaí go suntasach. Déardaoin na Comaoineach atá ann agus tá ullmhúcháin á ndéanamh.

Tosaíonn ráflaí scanraithe ag scaipeadh. Tuigim go bhfuil fórsaí reibiliúnacha ar imeall an tsráidbhaile agus go bhféadfadh ionsaí a bheith ann. Ní féidir linn a bheith cinnte má tá sé fíor, ach tá imní ar mhuintir na háite. Tá eagla agus mearbhall orthu, is spás oscailte é an sráidbhaile. Níl aon áit i bhfolach. Tá eagla orm, agus tá pian i mo bholg. Ní bhogaim ...

Tagann cuid de na fir agus na mná chugam chun cabhair a fháil, agus ansin tagann níos mó daoine. Treoraím an slua don seipéal agus tosáimid ag ceiliúradh Suipéar Déanach Íosa, tús Tridium na Cásca. Tá brí nua ag baint le níochán na gcos. Is tearmann an eaglais do chuile duine, agus tá eagla orthu an oíche sin, cosúil leis an eagla a d'fhulaing Íosa. Tar éis an Aifrinn, sroicheadh an focal muid go bhfuil gach rud ceart go leor anois – tá na reibiliúnaithe ag cúlú. Tá daoine ag gol le faoiseamh agus ag filleadh ar a dtithe. An tráthnóna sin, níl amhras ar bith orm faoi mo chinneadh bheith i mo shagart misinéara. Táim ag smaoineamh ar dhaoine in Éirinn, agus gabhaim buíochas leo i mo smaoithe féin as neart a gcuid paidreacha agus a bhflaithiúlacht domsa.

Ar son an mhisinéir seo, agus an iliomad daoine eile a thiomnaíonn a saolta chun dóchas agus grá a thabhairt nuair a bhíonn éadóchas ann, gabhaim buíochas leat as do fhlaithiúlacht bhreise i leith bailiúcháin Domhnach Domhanda na Misean an deireadh seachtaine seo.

LE CHÉILE IS MISEAN MUID