

Suggestions for the liturgy

October is the Universal Mission month. It serves as a reminder that the Church is, in essence, missionary. This World Mission Sunday, all the baptized take conscience that, in the name of Jesus they are being sent off on an Evangelisation Mission . . . to the ends of the Earth. May this Eucharistic celebration confirm this call, and be a SENDING OFF into MISSION!

Song: From the beginning of October, we can all sing: **Here I Am, Lord** (Words and Music by Daniel L. Schutte - CBC # 520).

Visual : Keep the World Mission Sunday Poster at view. It portrays Jesus preparing himself to cross over other shores. We, as Christians, are called to follow him in order to open new Gospel pathways.

Prayer: Before the beginning of the celebration, hand out The Prayer to the Holy Spirit offered by The Society for the Propagation of the Faith. After communion, invite everyone to pray this Missionary Prayer.

Children: Go to Animation Leaflet no.4

Proposed action: Take a piece of paper and cut out different size footsteps (for both adults and children) and place them in the central isle, leading towards the church exit as a sign that we are to GO OUT and PROCLAIM the Gospel to the world.

Collection: Please pay special attention to the leaflet dedicated to the Collection for World Mission Sunday. The world's 1 200 poorest dioceses depend on this Universal Collection for their pastoral projects.

Word of God Prayer Cards: At the end of the celebration, all children having made their Confirmation throughout the year will be sent off to distribute the Word of God Prayer Cards to the faithful.

In the name of the Missionary Church, THANK YOU !

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National Director PMS

Homily Hints



World
Mission
Sunday
October 24, 2010

In the name of **Christ**,
open pathways
to the **Gospel**



Œuvre pontificale de la propagation de la foi

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The Church, at the heart and in the centre of the world, is a lively community, which engenders faith and opens new pathways for the Gospel.

◆ **To open new pathways and to love the world**

“Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled but he who humbles himself will be exalted”.
(Luke 18,14)

Sitting at the back of the Church, the publican reviews his life. He detects a sinful being who has not the strength to move forward. “God be merciful to me a sinner”. (Luke 18,13) The first Christian position is just that. Faith is not a refuge, but a part of history in which we belong. Our mission is to be part of human history by living with the love received from Christ. The word of God enlightens our life. It helps us recognize our sinfulness and at the same time gives us the strength to be strong witnesses leading to new Gospel pathways. This is where Christ waits for us, to work effectively in creating, inventing, initiating encounters and dialogues with the world and to open new horizons and new pathways of love. Love humbly descends to raise up another being.

◆ **Christ sends us to love the world**

- “Just as I have loved you, you also must love one another”. (John 13,34)
- “Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him”. (Mark 10,21)
- “Take notice of what you are hearing”. (Mark 4,24)

Our mission is to love the world, to live the present moment of God without regrets for the past. Our mission is also to teach our brothers and sisters to read the signs of our times and the new challenges through Jesus' eyes, to engage in dialogue and dare to ask those who seek, “Give me a drink”. (John 4:1)

- “Yahweh is creating something new on earth.” (Jeremiah 31:22)

The echo of Jeremiah's cry reaches us today and forces us to have a positive, clear and faith-filled vision of the world. We see what is dying around us, but do we see what is growing near us? Let us learn to listen to today's new needs. Let us hear all the people manifesting their needs without words, listening without hearing, searching without knowing what they are looking for. Let us change our old ways of being and welcome new challenges to answer today's needs for an authentic Christian living. Let us be communities alive and may our faith lead us to receive and drink the living waters. To announce the Good News is first of all to share, to dialogue and to hope. A community that shares its faith will necessarily experience dialogue and hope with others.

◆ **New pathways for the service of charity**

- “The prayer of the poor goes beyond the clouds”. (Ben Sirac 35,17)

To speak and announce one's faith in Jesus Christ, is to believe in the human being, care for him, especially the poor, image and resemblance of God. The Church first sends us on mission to the fragile, the marginalized, the sick, the prisoners, the handicapped. In each of these persons Christ reveals himself among us. In each of these persons, Christ reveals himself as he wanted to be among us. This sacrament of our fragile brothers and sisters calls us to live witnessing fraternity and charity through a loving and active presence with the poor among us.

◆ **A continued announcing**

- “By the love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples”. (John 13,35)

God always takes the initiative: the Father sent the Son for us to hear his voice, for us to walk in his ways and open new pathways of tenderness and love to realize His living word. Our world is the subject of announcing and proclaiming: by the Holy Spirit, let us open new pathways that will lead to Christ. It is in Him that our faith is rooted: let us live, announce and proclaim that faith.

- “Whom shall I send?” (Is. 6:8)

- “But the Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear”. (1 Timothy 4:17)

All Christians are called to this common mission to open new pathways of evangelization to announce Christ.

The proclamation of faith is not reserved to specialists or to a few knowledgeable persons. It is our commitment as baptized Christians. To announce our faith, expose it and propose it, evangelizes us as well. There is no announcing without communication, commitment or the gift of ourselves to God and others. A faith that is announced and proclaimed makes us stand tall and gives life. It leads a wounded person to his complete resemblance to God. God call us to take part in His work. Let us open our hearts! Let us be part of His work. Let us live this great project of love and hope. It is Jesus' project for the future of humanity.

Fr. André Gagnon, s.j.