



# focus on sunday

MISSION SUNDAY TWENTY - NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18th October 2020

Theme: Reach Out and Spread the Joy

On this World Mission Sunday, we reach out and offer our love, our support, prayers and joy to all the Christian communities throughout the world.



...that they may be

One as  
We Are One



A common question to a member of a religious order is often 'did you spend any time out foreign?' The 'foreign missions' were something we were brought up on, and continue today in the wider world of short-term volunteering and NGOs working in areas of health, education and development. Our Sunday today remembers especially those whose mission has brought them away from home in the spread of the gospel.

The missionary in the church has been cleric and lay – religious and lay. We think of the clerics like bishop Galvin, founder of the Columbans, Franciscan Missionary Foundress Mother Kevin and the Legion of Mary envoy, Edel Quinn. These represent so many thousands of men and women who left the homeland of their baptism in the footsteps of Jesus. Many of them were the first to bring health care and education to the developing world, as well as baptism and Christian faith.

The motivation of the missionary comes from their relationship with Jesus. Without that they are NGOs, who also play their role in development. The missionary is answering the call to be a 'missionary disciple', as Mary and the apostles.

Pope Francis writes in *The Joy of the Gospel*: Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus: we no longer say that we are "disciples" and "missionaries", but rather that we are always "missionary disciples".

For today – a prayer for our missionaries, and for those you know, a phone call, text or email.

*Lord may your kingdom come on earth as in heaven.*

Donal Neary SJ, Editor Sacred Heart Messenger

that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**  
**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 95:1, 3-5, 7-10**

**R. Give the Lord glory and power.**

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
Tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. (R)
2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise,  
to be feared above all gods;  
the gods of the heathens are naught.  
It was the Lord who made the heavens. (R)
3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
give the Lord glory and power,  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Bring an offering and enter his courts. (R)
4. Worship the Lord in his temple.  
O earth, tremble before him.  
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'  
He will judge the peoples in fairness. (R)

**SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5**

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians**  
From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia! You will shine in the world like bright stars because you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL John 17:11, 17-23**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world, and for their sake I consecrate myself so that they too may be consecrated in truth. I pray not only for these, but for those also who through their words will come to believe in me. May they all be one. Father, may they be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you, so that the world may believe it was you who sent me. I have given them the glory you gave to me, that they may be one as we are one. With me in them and you in me, may they be so completely one that the world will realise that it was you who sent me and that I have loved them as you loved me.

**The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ,  
his only Son, our Lord,**

**All bow for following two lines:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from  
the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God,  
the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting. Amen.**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Look, O Lord, upon the face of your Christ, who handed himself over as a ransom for all, so that through him, from the rising of the sun to its setting, your name may be exalted among the nations and in every place a single offering may be presented to your majesty. Through Christ our Lord.

**AFTER THE CONSECRATION**

**The mystery of faith.  
We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection until  
you come again.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

**O praise the Lord, all you nations;  
acclaim him, all you peoples!  
For his merciful love has prevailed  
over us,  
and the faithfulness of the Lord  
endures for ever.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Nourished by these redeeming gifts, we pray, O Lord, that through this help to eternal salvation true faith may ever increase. Through Christ our Lord.

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**Tell among the nations his glory,  
and all his wonders among the peoples, for the Lord  
is great and highly to be praised.**

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom:

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

You will come in glory with salvation for your people,  
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy

May almighty God have mercy on us....

**THE GLORIA**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father  
you take away the sins of the world:**

have mercy on us;

**you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer; you are seated  
at the right hand of the Father**

have mercy on us;

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

O God, you have willed that your Church be the sacrament of salvation for all nations, so that Christ's saving work may continue to the ends of the ages; stir up, we pray, the hearts of your faithful and grant that they may feel a more urgent call to work for the salvation of every creature, so that from all the peoples on earth one family and one people of your own may arise and increase. Through our Lord .....

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING Isaiah 45:1.4-6**

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

Thus says Yahweh to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you