

APPEAL TEXT FOR PARISH AMBASSADORS

(Please feel free to adapt.)

INTRODUCTION

Good Morning / Evening,
My name is *(say your name)* and thank you very much to Father *(say his name)* for giving me a brief moment to talk to you about today's celebration of Home Mission Sunday.

AN INVITATION

Today the bishops invite every parish in England and Wales to celebrate Home Mission Sunday. In choosing this year's theme two priorities are particularly proposed for prayer and reflection:

PROCLAIM: That as a fruit of prayer every Catholic, parish and religious house will take a new step to share their faith more joyfully and confidently, and so build missionary parishes and communities.

God's Mercy: That Catholic individuals, parishes and religious houses will consider afresh how they will present the 'balm of God's mercy' to others, in response to Pope Francis' announcement that there be a Jubilee Year of Mercy, starting in December.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Research suggests that the majority of baptised Catholics rarely have contact with their local parish. Further, that the number of people who identify themselves as having 'no religion' is on the rise. Please help the bishops, through your prayers and support of the second collection that will be taken today, to develop new resources and strategies to reach out to people with the message of God's unconditional love and mercy. The funds raised support the work of the Bishops' Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis. There is so much more it could do if it had the financial backing.

Insert a personal story of evangelisation / conversion here, as you are comfortable.

THANK YOU

Thank you in advance for your support of this urgent and vital work. Free promotional cards about Home Mission Sunday will be distributed at the end of Mass today and feature a prayer and a website link to additional information about today's celebration.

OUR PARISH

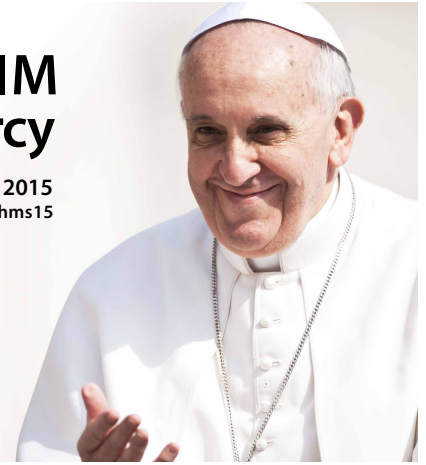
If you're interested in possibly **starting a parish evangelisation team or group**, please do come and see me after Mass, and / or see Father. *(Or if you already have an evangelisation group in the parish, or are involved in an existing diocesan evangelisation project, please use this moment to promote that.)*

THANK YOU

Thank you in advance for your support of this vital ministry and work. Please do say the prayer provided on the postcards that will be given out. Thank you and God bless you.

PROCLAIM God's Mercy

Home Mission Sunday 2015
www.catholicnews.org.uk/hms15



Approximate Length: 3 – 4 mins



Supplied by the Home Mission Desk, CBCEW

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