

WHAT IS World Mission Sunday?

Celebrated worldwide on the penultimate Sunday in October, World Mission Sunday encourages prayer and financial support for the worldwide mission of the Catholic Church.

Where do donations go?

The World Mission Sunday collection is given in its entirety to support the mission of the Church where it is too young or too poor to fend for itself. Monies from England and Wales go directly to the bishops in the mission territories - local Church directly helping local Church.

The prayers and contributions of our parishioners provide:

- places of prayer and worship
- support for 'front-line' missionaries
- training and support for the thousands of catechists who teach the faith and provide spiritual support in their own communities
- health and education

Missio relies entirely on donations from Catholic individuals and parishes; we receive no grants or subsidies from any other source.

Why does Missio coordinate World Mission Sunday?

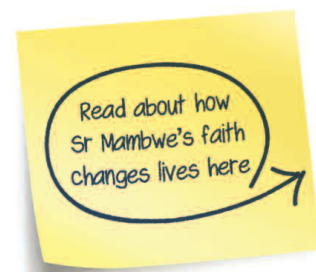
Missio:

- Is the official instrument for the mission of the Catholic Church
- Supports EVERY mission diocese in the world until they are able to be self-sufficient
- Enables every Catholic to actively participate in the mission of the Church

Why should my parish support World Mission Sunday?

World Mission Sunday is one of three universal collections. The other two are for Peter's Pence and the Holy Places.

WMS ensures that the financial support received by local bishops and missionary congregations is distributed fairly – on the basis of need rather than particular links. 'Twinning', although well intentioned, can sometimes cause unfair disproportion in the distribution of resources.



Sr Mambwe's Faith Changes Lives

Sr Mambwe Mupeta is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood (FMDM). She is also a trained physiotherapist and works in St Anthony's orphanage in Ndola in her home country of Zambia.

She looks after children like Blessing and her brother and sister who have been orphaned.

Sr Mambwe also works with orphaned children who have severe disabilities or learning difficulties. Afraid of facing the social stigma which can accompany less than full health, many families do not know how to care for a child with special needs. Few such children are empowered to maximise their potential and become independent adults.

Sister Mambwe explains: 'My religious life is a commitment to Christ and his love for all his children. From Him, I learn how to be compassionate, understanding and patient so that I, like Christ, can also love everyone. This is what faith is. My faith enhances my gift of physiotherapy and helps me to live it to the full, bringing faith and Christ to my work. God asks me to be a body – arms and hands for him to reach out to his own people. Often, the scripture from Luke where Jesus says to the paralytic, "Get up; pick up your mat and walk" applies to my work. When God gives me the



privilege of working with a patient with paralysis, and over a period of months, I see them first taking baby steps, and eventually walking normally, I see God at work in this. I am not working alone: I am working with God.'

World Mission Sunday helps missionaries such as Sister Mambwe to care for those who would otherwise be forgotten. World Mission Sunday supports those who are missionaries to their own people, supporting and training them towards self-sufficiency. On World Mission Sunday the Church across the world reaches out in solidarity to its youngest and most needy members in 1,069 dioceses across Africa, Asia and South America. World Mission Sunday proclaims that everybody is important; everybody has a right to life and love.

Faith changes everything!

Dear Mission supporters

World Mission Sunday is celebrated worldwide on the same day by all Catholic parishes. All countries, including the poorest, have a collection and the whole Church is truly united in this act of universal solidarity. The World Mission Sunday collection is one of three universal collections that take place in the Church's calendar, the other two are for the Holy Places and for Peter's Pence.

This Year of Faith encourages us to reflect on the importance of our own faith and how we can share it. The theme for this year's World Mission Sunday is 'Faith changes everything.' We can see the change that faith makes in the lives of the many thousands of missionaries who have been inspired by their faith in Christ to change the lives of some of the poorest and most neglected people through good works, charity and prayer. World Mission Sunday offers a chance to celebrate their good work, their faithful proclamation of the Gospel and to become involved ourselves. As the Holy Father reminds us, 'There is nothing more beautiful than to be surprised by the Gospel, by the encounter with Christ. There is nothing more beautiful than to know Him and to speak to others of our friendship with Him.'

Bishop Declan Lang

Chair of the Department of International Affairs



For more information please see the fact sheets on our website:

www.missio.org.uk/missionsunday.php

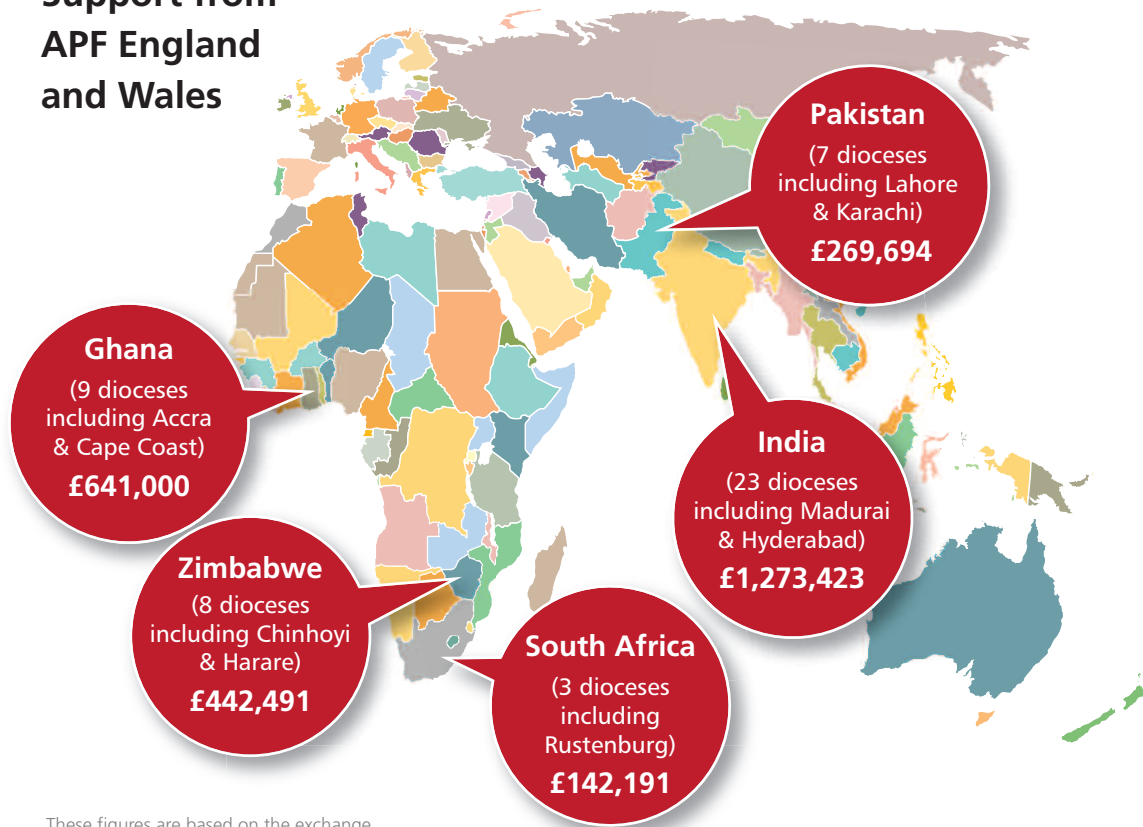
1. What is a Mission Diocese?
2. The origins of World Mission Sunday
3. Why does Missio coordinate World Mission Sunday?
4. Zambia fact sheet and stories in full



World Mission Sunday

established in 1926 and celebrated in 159 countries around the world

Support from
APF England
and Wales



These figures are based on the exchange rate available at the time of print

Missio carries out missionary work through its four branches: The Association for the Propagation of the Faith, The Society of St Peter the Apostle, Mission Together and the Pontifical Missionary Union. Funds from World Mission Sunday are distributed by the APF to bring the love and compassion of Jesus to the whole world.

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faith
changes everything

World Mission Sunday 2012

- National Director's Letter
- Liturgy Preparation Notes
- Notes for Children's Liturgy
- Holy Father's Message & Mission Intentions
- Practical information & Newsletter Inserts
- Counting the Collection
- Poster



www.missio.org.uk

Faith has changed the life of this little girl. Blessing is 8 years old and her home is the St Anthony's orphanage in Ndola, Zambia. She and her elder brother Mumpa and young sister Mwansa were left orphans when Mwansa was still a small baby.

St Anthony's orphanage is in the care of Religious Sisters and caters for 107 children. The majority are orphans, often as a result of HIV/AIDS, and many have the added complication of physical disability or profound learning difficulties.

Blessing is looked after by Sisters like Sister Mambwe Mupeta. Sr Mambwe explains: 'My religious life is a commitment to Christ and his love for all his children. From Him, I learn how to be compassionate, understanding and patient so that I, like Christ, can also love everyone. This is what faith is. I am privileged to be working with these children. I get a lot of inspiration from the strength and determination that they have.'

World Mission Sunday provides an opportunity for all Catholics to share their faith and to support the work of missionaries like Sr Mambwe who look after those who would otherwise be forgotten.

Read message from
Bishop Declan Lang overleaf



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