



For immediate release
Friday, 19 October 2023

World Mission Sunday Celebration: #Wearestillhere Amplifies the Voices of Missionaries from Across the Globe.

This Sunday, October 22, His Holiness Pope Francis invites people around the world to come together in celebration of World Mission Sunday. This annual event serves as a poignant reminder of the life-giving work carried out by missionaries in Australia and across the globe.

His World Mission Sunday message draws inspiration from the Gospel of Luke (cf. 24:13-35), recounting the story of the disciples on their journey to Emmaus. With the theme "Hearts on Fire, Feet on the Move," Pope Francis reminds us that the missionary spirit resides within the hearts of all individuals.

Inspired by Pope Francis's message Catholic Mission is inviting everyone this World Mission Month to celebrate together the work of Mission, as we partner with communities, helping them to flourish by supporting grassroots projects, including healthcare, education, and spiritual care.

Integral to the 2023 World Mission Month celebration is the impactful #Wearestillhere campaign, a unique global initiative that unites lay and religious missionaries from all corners of the world. The campaign, launched globally by Catholic Mission in Australia and the Pontifical Mission Societies, is an invitation to answer the burning passion of our hearts and set ourselves in motion. By listening to our missionary hearts, we are able to share our love of God, and open our hearts to welcome one another, as a global family.

"We are ordinary people, yet our hearts are ablaze with an extraordinary passion, a flame for God, for humanity, for our collective future." Can be heard in the background of the video in many languages, which reminds us of our global unity.

With this Sunday marking the pinnacle of a year-long campaign that has spanned 2023, Catholic Mission extends an open invitation to all to embark on both a physical and spiritual journey—a journey of love, hope, and action through words, prayers, and deeds.

Listen to the voices of missionaries at catholicmission.org.au/worldmissionmonth

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For further information:

Astrid Delayre
Communications Officer

Tel: 0458 489 877

Email:
media@catholicmission.org.au

Website:
catholicmission.org.au

About Catholic Mission

Catholic Mission is the Australian agency of the Pontifical Mission Societies – the Catholic Church’s global organisation dedicated to continuing Jesus Christ’s mission in the world: that all may have life to the full. Catholic Mission contributes funding and project support to critical church-run initiatives in Africa, Asia, Oceania, and South America. These include spiritual formation, pastoral care, education, health, sanitation, and agricultural programs. Here in Australia, we form people to go out and be missionary in their professional and personal lives; to pray, advocate and act for those on the margins. Catholic Mission has offices in 27 Australian dioceses.