

# World Mission Sunday 2022

## Message of Pope Francis For World Mission Sunday

Quotes from the message of Pope Francis for the celebration of  
World Mission Sunday 2022.

### **“You shall be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8): The call of every Christian to bear witness to Christ**

These words were spoken by the Risen Jesus to his disciples just before his Ascension into heaven, as we learn from the Acts of the Apostles: ‘You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth’ (1:8). They are also the theme of World Mission Sunday, which, as always, reminds us that the Church is missionary by nature. This year World Mission Sunday offers us the opportunity to commemorate several important events in the Church’s life and mission: the fourth centenary of the founding of the Congregation de Propaganda Fide, now the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, and the second centenary of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith. A hundred years ago, the latter, together with the Society for the Holy Childhood and the Society of St. Peter the Apostle, was granted the title ‘Pontifical.’”

### **“To the ends of the earth”: The perennial relevance of a mission of universal evangelization**

“More and more, we are seeing how the presence of faithful of various nationalities enriches the face of parishes and makes them more universal, more Catholic. Consequently, the pastoral care of migrants should be valued as an important missionary activity that can also help the local faithful to rediscover the joy of the Christian faith they have received...Christ’s Church will continue to ‘go forth’ towards new geographical, social, and existential horizons, towards ‘borderline’ places and human situations, in order to bear witness to Christ and his love to men and women of every people, culture, and social status. In this sense, the mission will always be a *missio ad gentes*.”

### **“You will receive power” from the Holy Spirit: Let us always be strengthened and guided by the Spirit**

“When the Risen Christ commissioned the disciples to be his witnesses, he also promised them the grace needed for this great responsibility: ‘You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses’ (Acts 1:8)...‘Receiving the joy of the Spirit is a grace. Moreover, it is the only force that enables us to preach the Gospel and to confess our faith in the Lord’ (Message to the Pontifical Mission Societies, 21, May 2020). The Spirit, then, is the true protagonist of mission...The same Spirit who guides the Universal Church also inspires ordinary men and women for extraordinary missions.”

### **Pauline Jaricot and the Pope’s Missions**

“...a young French woman, Pauline Jaricot, founded the Society for the Propagation of the Faith exactly two hundred years ago. Her beatification...celebrated in this jubilee year. Albeit in poor health, she accepted God’s inspiration to establish a network of prayer and collection for missionaries, so that the faithful could actively participate in the mission ‘to the ends of the earth.’ This brilliant idea gave rise to the annual celebration of World Mission Sunday, in which the funds collected in local communities are applied to the universal fund with which the Pope supports missionary activity among Christian communities...Indeed, would that all of us in the Church were what we already are by virtue of baptism: prophets, witnesses, missionaries of the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to the ends of the earth! Mary Queen of Missions, pray for us!”

Read the Holy Father’s complete message at this  
[Vatican website.](#)



The Society for the  
Propagation of the Faith  
a Pontifical Mission Society in the  
Archdiocese of San Francisco



**Blessed Pauline Jaricot  
Who 200 years ago  
Founded the first of the  
Four Pontifical Mission  
Societies, the Society  
for the Propagation of  
the Faith.**