



PONTIFICIA OPERA MISSIONALIA

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We are now quickly approaching the celebration of the Extraordinary Missionary Month October 2019 (EMM OCT2019) "Baptized and Sent: the Church of Christ on Mission in the World." While sincerely thanking you for the great preparatory work that has been carried out together, I would like to inform you of some of the events that will be held here in Rome that concern us as Universal Church. I kindly ask you to engage your PMS Diocesan Directors and their local Churches to disseminate this information, encouraging them to pray and to invite others to pray during these moments of missionary prayer.

On Tuesday, October 1, 2019, the liturgical memorial of Saint Therese of Lisieux, Patroness of the Missions, Holy Father Pope Francis will preside over the celebration of Vespers to inaugurate the EMM OCT2019 in the Patriarchal Basilica of Saint Peter. Vespers will be preceded by a moment of prayer and testimonies of missionary life.

On October 20, 2019, World Mission Sunday, Pope Francis, together with the bishops participating in the Special Synod on the evangelization of the Amazon Region, will preside over the Eucharistic Celebration in the Patriarchal Basilica of St. Peter.

Both of these celebrations will be broadcast by the Vatican media in live streaming (www.youtube.com/user/vatican and www.vaticannews.va), as well as through the Televisions that receive the signal from the Vatican Television Center. We will inform you of the precise scheduled times for these celebrations as soon as they are communicated to us.

Additionally, on Monday, October 7, 2019, the liturgical memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Holy Rosary, Cardinal Fernando Filoni, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, will preside over the World Mission Rosary in the Patriarchal Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore at 15:00 (3:00 pm) Italian time. Radio Maria will broadcast live and worldwide this moment of prayer so dear to us, in memory of the Missionary Rosary of the Venerable Pauline Jaricot, foundress of the Pontifical Mission Society for the Propagation of the Faith. In the many countries where Radio Maria broadcasts, I therefore ask you to promote this initiative and to participate directly in it, raising awareness also among the diocesan Directions.

I thank each and every one of you for your missionary commitment and service. I wish you all a fruitful celebration of the Extraordinary Missionary Month this October, which is now upon us.

+ **Giampietro Dal Toso**
President