



A PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETY \* DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH MISSION OFFICE  
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October, 2019

October is **Extraordinary Mission Month** as proclaimed by Pope Francis and the celebration of World Mission Sunday will take place in all parishes around the world on the weekend of October 19/20. Please encourage your students to learn about the Extraordinary World Mission Month in the classroom and to participate with their families at Mass on this important weekend. The theme is **Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World**. Pope Francis has set October 2019 as an Extraordinary Missionary Month (EMM) to foster greater awareness of "missio ad gentes" (mission to all peoples).



With a fresh start on a new school year, we encourage religious educators to bring the spirit of mission alive in the classrooms of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Missionary Childhood Association (MCA), one of the Pontifical Mission Societies, has a motto of *Children Helping Children*, all over the world! The prayers and sacrifices of the students in Pittsburgh support children in the 1,111 mission dioceses across the globe. These are children who may not have food to eat, water to drink or a bed to lay their head on at night. Through MCA, we must continue the Mission of the Church, and "go out and make disciples of all nations."

This Extraordinary Mission Month (EMM) is also a good time to introduce the World Mission Rosary. We must pray for these children and offer up our sacrifices to help them. I encourage you to use this resource to continue inspiring *Missionary Discipleship* among your students during this school year and especially during the EMM.



Please find the MCA resources at both [www.MISSIO.org](http://www.MISSIO.org) and the Mission Office MCA pages on the diocesan website, [www.diopitt.org](http://www.diopitt.org), for educational resource materials to help your students embrace their Catholic identity *and be Missionary!* As always, we ask that even though there are many worthy charities in need of our support, you include MCA in your curriculum and education programs to support the efforts of the universal church. Thank you for your participation and we look forward to another wonderful school year fostering missionary disciples in Pittsburgh.

Thank you for your wonderful effort in sharing the Gospel and the mission of Jesus with our young students.

In Christ's love,

  
Rev. Deacon Richard M. Tucek  
Mission Office Director