



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Let us be merciful!

World Mission Sunday, whose theme is: "Church, Family, let us be merciful", will take place on October 23. It is an important event for the pastoral life of the poorest Churches. This day of sharing and solidarity invites every baptized person to experience the Jubilee of Mercy by opening their heart to the world's spiritual dimension; one that goes beyond the boundaries of their parishes and dioceses to support the Universal Mission of the Church.

For this mission of ecclesial solidarity, the Pontifical Mission Societies need your help in order to encourage the baptized in your parish to fully experience *World Mission Sunday*. This celebration of faith offers a special opportunity to create new paths of mercy, solidarity and service between our churches and the poorest dioceses of the world. During this special mass for the Universal Church's mission, a unique collection (such as the one on Good Friday) is taken; it must be sent in its entirety to the National Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, in Toronto or Montreal, according to your diocese.

The Superior Council of the Pontifical Mission Societies that takes place in Rome each year gathers National Directors from all countries. The council evaluates the needs of the poorest dioceses of the world that are under the authority of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples. It grants subsidies according to the needs of each one so that they may carry out pastoral projects. Each diocese may submit five requests to the Church's *Universal Solidarity Fund*. This solidarity fund represents an important charity movement that helps the poorest local Churches. In 2015, thanks to your donations, the French Canada sector distributed a total amount of \$1,100,000.00 and the English Canada sector distributed a total amount of \$2,442,254.77 to these Churches.

In order to prepare yourselves for this pastoral responsibility, we are sending you this Animation Kit. It will guide you in educating your Christian community so that they may experience *World Mission Sunday* with love, joy, prayer and ecclesial solidarity. May this celebration be a festive day and may it help the baptized to discover their missionary natures. May *World Mission Sunday* help them to open "doors and go beyond the outskirts" of their world.

Through the joy of the Living Christ, the Father's first missionary, please accept our fraternal regards and be assured of our missionary prayer.

Church, Family, let us be merciful. Have a good *World Mission Sunday* 2016!

Fr. Alex Osei, C.S.Sp.
National Director
PMS English Canada

Fr. Yoland Ouellet, O.M.I.
National Director
PMS French Canada

N.B. The collections must be submitted as in previous years.
The administration of both National Directions does not change.