



# MISSIONS TODAY

VOL 84, NO. 1

Winter 2026



**TEACH THE NATIONS:  
EDUCATION IN THE MISSIONS 2026 CALENDAR**

*The Society for the Propagation of the Faith*



# Teach the nations: Education in the missions

*"In each child's smile, we find the strength to continue. Here, we fight not just for education, but for transformation."*

-Sister Prisca, Sister of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Chisombezi Center for the Deafblind

Sister Prisca's words paint a picture of what an education in the missions really means. This issue is dedicated to the priests, religious and catechists whose work in education transcend classroom instruction to bring souls to God. The mandate to teach is present in the Great Commission. "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age," (Matthew 28:19-20). When you support educational missions through the Pontifical Mission Societies, you build schools, provide schoolchildren with nourishing food and clean water, and you train teachers. But you also do much more. Through the Pontifical Mission Societies, missionaries like Sister Prisca share the love of God with vulnerable children and give them hope and a sense of belonging in the Kingdom of God.

Cover and above image : Courtesy of TPMS USA

## Our work

### Pontifical Mission Societies English Canada - 2025 Project Countries

#### The Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Ghana  
Bangladesh

#### Holy Childhood Association

Egypt  
Eswatini  
Ghana  
India  
Sri Lanka

#### The Society of Saint Peter the Apostle

DR Congo  
Liberia  
Nigeria  
Tanzania  
Zambia



Courtesy of TPMS USA

**"The Pontifical Mission Societies are effectively the primary means of awakening missionary responsibility among all the baptized and supporting ecclesial communities in areas where the Church is young."**

— Pope Leo XIV

Support the **Society of the Propagation of the Faith** with your prayer and donation.

SCAN AND CLICK TO DONATE



# National Director's message

Missions Today Winter Issue 2026



COURTESY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

This year, our calendar celebrates the work of education in mission. It is always a special joy to receive a photo of a smiling child from the missions. But behind each of those smiles is an educator who is leading pupils to something far more meaningful than academic success. These caring educators are leading them to Christ.

This is the heart of a Christian education. Knowledge itself does not satisfy. A Christian education draws us in to know and love God and His creation. And a Christian education compels us to share that love with one another.

Through the Society of St. Peter the Apostle, the Pontifical Mission Societies support the education of the next generation of priests and religious, and the ongoing formation of catechists who in turn become teachers themselves. In countless communities, parishes, and seminaries around the world, men and women are being prepared to serve, teach, and share the Gospel.

Perhaps the most beloved example of this missionary education is found in the Holy Childhood Association. Through this society, children learn about the missions and pray for their brothers and sisters around the world. They are empowered to become missionaries themselves by giving what they can to help other children like them. They learn to see Christ in one another.

A Catholic education, whether in a mission school, a seminary, a parish catechism class, or an adult bible study, always leads us to one another. To learn the faith is to learn love and connection. Knowledge alone is not the goal. "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you" (Ezekiel 36:26). When we learn the faith, we are transformed.

We are compelled to relationship. Christian education does not just reveal God's truth but sends us forth to share it with joy.

As this new year unfolds, may the faces and stories featured in this calendar remind you of the transformative work of the Catholic educators around the globe whose mission is sustained by your generous support.

Blessings to you and your families for a happy and holy 2026 from the entire Pontifical Mission Societies team in Toronto!

Yours in Christ,

Bishop John Boissonneau



TPMS staff with Fr. Tadeus Novak, Secretary General of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, during his visit to the national office in Toronto

## Thank You!

The photographs and stories featured in this calendar were provided by missions all over the world. The Pontifical Mission Societies of Canada would like to thank the Pontifical Mission Societies of the United States for contributing to this collection.



*Train the young in the way they should go; even when old, they will not swerve from it.*

Proverbs 22:6

# JANUARY 2026

**For prayer with the Word of God.** Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1 MARY, MOTHER OF GOD World Day of Peace	2 St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory Nazianzen	3 The Most Holy Name of Jesus
4 Epiphany of the Lord	5 St. John Newman, Bishop	6	7 St. André Bessette	8	9	10
11 Baptism of the Lord	12 St. Marguerite Bourgeoys	13 St. Hilary	14	15	16	17 St. Anthony, Abbot
18 2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins</i>	19	20 St. Fabian St. Sebastian	21 St. Agnes	22 St. Vincent	23	24 St. Frances De Sales
25 3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Sunday of the Word of God Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends</i>	26 St. Timothy & St. Titus	27 St. Angela Merici	28 St. Thomas Aquinas	29	30	31 St. John Bosco

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FEBRUARY 2026						
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*Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path.*

Psalm 119:105



# FEBRUARY 2026

**For children with incurable diseases.** Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	2 THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD World Day for Consecrated Life	3 St. Blaise	4	5 St. Paul Miki and Companions	6	7
8 5 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9	10 St. Scholastica	11 Our Lady of Lourdes	12	13	14 St. Cyril and St. Methodius
15 6 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	16	17	18 ASHWEDNESDAY	19	20	21
22 1 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT	23 St. Polycarp	24	25	26	27	28
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*Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge  
rather than choice gold.*

*Proverbs 8:10*

# MARCH 2026

**For disarmament and peace.** Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1  2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT	2	3	4  St. Casimir	5	6	7  St. Perpetua and St. Felicity
8  3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT	9  St. Francis of Rome	10	11	12	13	14
15  4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT	16	17  St. Patrick	18  St. Cyril of Jerusalem	19  St. Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary	20	21
22  5 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT	23	24	25  The Annunciation of the Lord	26	27	28
29  PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD	30	31	1	2	3	4

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*Your light must shine before others, that they may see  
your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.*

*Matthew 5:16*



# APRIL 2026

**For priests in crisis.** Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
				HOLY THURSDAY	THE PASSION OF THE LORD	HOLY SATURDAY
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
EASTER SUNDAY						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER					St. Kateri Tekakwitha	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER		St. Anselm		St. George St. Albert	St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen	St. Mark
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER			St. Catherine of Siena	St. Marie de L'Incarnation		

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*“Lord, teach us to pray just as John  
taught his disciples.”*

*Luke 11:1*



# MAY 2026

***That everyone might have food.*** Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1 St. Joseph the Worker	2 St. Athanasius
3 5 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER	4 Blessed Marie-Léonie Paradis	5	6 St. Francois De Laval	7	8 St. Catherine de Saint-Augustin	9
10 6 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER	11	12	13 Our Lady of Fatima	14 St. Mathias	15	16
17 THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	18	19	20 St. Bernardine of Siena	21 St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions	22 St. Rita of Cascia	23
24 PENTECOST SUNDAY 31 THE MOST HOLY TRINITY	25 BVM, Mother of the Church	26 St. Philip Neri	27 St. Augustine of Canterbury	28	29 St. Paul VI	30

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*Let the children come to me; do not prevent them,  
for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.*

Mark 10:14



# JUNE 2026

**For the values of sports.** Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1 St. Justin	2 St. Marcellinus and St. Peter	3 St. Charles Lwanga and Companions	4	5 St. Boniface	6 St. Norbert
7 THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST	8	9 St. Ephrem	10	11 St. Barnabas	12 THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS	13 THE IMMACULATE HEART OF THE BL. VIRGIN MARY
14 11 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	15	16	17	18	19 St. Romuald	20
21 12 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	22 St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More	23	24 The Birth of St. John the Baptist	25	26	27 St. Cyril of Alexandria
28 13 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	29 Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles	30	1	2	3	4

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*All your children shall be taught by the LORD; great  
shall be the peace of your children.*

Isaiah 54:13



# JULY 2026

**For respect for human life.** Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1 Canada Day	2	3 St. Thomas the Apostle	4 St. Elizabeth of Portugal
5 14 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	6 St. Maria Goretti	7	8	9 St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions	10	11 St. Benedict
12 15 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	13 St. Henry	14	15 St. Bonaventure	16 Our Lady of Mount Carmel	17	18
19 16 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	20 St. Apollinaris	21 St. Lawrence of Brindisi	22 St. Mary Magdalene	23 St. Bridget	24	25 St. James the Apostle
26 17 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly	27	28	29 Sts. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus	30 St. Peter Chrysologus	31 St. Ignatius of Loyola	1

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*Nothing gives me greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.*

3 John 1:4

# AUGUST 2026

**For evangelization in the city.** Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 St. Alphonsus Liguori
2 18 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	3	4 St. Jean-Marie Vianney	5 Dedication of St. Mary Major	6 The Transfiguration of the Lord	7 St. Sixtus II and Companions	8 St. Dominic
9 19 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10 St. Lawrence	11 St. Clare of Assisi	12 St. Jane Frances de Chantal	13 St. Pontian and St. Hippolytus	14 St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe	15 The Assumption of the Bl. Virgin Mary
16 20 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	17	18	19 St. John Eudes	20 St. Bernard	21 St. Pius X	22 Queenship of the Bl. Virgin Mary
23 21 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	24 St. Bartholomew	25	26	27 St. Monica	28 St. Augustine	29 The Passion of St. John the Baptist
30 22 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME						

JULY 2026						
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*Instruct the wise, and they become still wiser;  
teach the just, and they advance in learning.*

Proverbs 9:9



# SEPTEMBER 2026

**For the care of water.** Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation	2	3 St. Gregory the Great	4	5 St. Teresa of Calcutta
6 23 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	7 Labour Day	8 NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	9 St. Peter Claver	10	11	12 Most Holy Name of Mary
13 24 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	14 THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	15 Our Lady of Sorrows	16 St. Cornelius and St. Cyprian	17	18	19
20 25 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	21 St. Mathew	22	23 St. Pio of Pietrelcina	24	25 St. Cosmas and St. Damian	26 St. John de Brebeuf and St. Isaac Jogues and Companions
27 26 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME World Day for Migrants and Refugees	28 St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions	29 St. Michael, St. Gabriel, St. Raphael (The Archangels)	30 St. Jerome	1	2	3

AUGUST 2026						
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*Happy the one who finds wisdom, the  
one who gains understanding!*

Proverbs 3:13



# OCTOBER 2026

**For mental health ministry.** Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1 St. Therese of the Child Jesus	2 THE HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS	3
4 27 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	5 St. Faustina Kowalska	6 St. Bruno	7 OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY	8	9 St. Denis and Companions St. John Leonardi	10
11 28 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	12 Thanksgiving Day	13	14 St. Callistus I	15 St. Teresa of Jesus	16 St. Marie-Marguerite D'Youville	17 St. Ignatius of Antioch
18 29 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <b>World Mission Sunday</b>	19 St. Paul of the Cross	20 St. Margaret Mary Alacoque	21	22 St. John Paul II Dedication of Consecrated Churches	23 St. John of Capistrano	24 St. Anthony Mary Claret
25 30 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	26	27	28 St. Simon and St. Jude	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER 2026						
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*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.*

*Colossians 3:16*

# NOVEMBER 2026

**For the proper use of wealth.** Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1  ALL SAINTS' DAY	2  ALL SOULS' DAY	3	4  St. Charles Borromeo	5	6	7
8  32 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9  Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	10  St. Leo the Great	11  St. Martin of Tours	12  St. Josaphat	13	14
15  33 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	16  St. Margaret of Scotland St. Gertrude	17  St. Elizabeth of Hungary	18  Dedication of Basilicas of St. Peter and St. Paul	19	20	21  THE PRESENTATION OF THE BL. VIRGIN MARY
22  CHRIST THE KING 34 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Poor	23  St. Clement I St. Columban	24  St. Andrew DuNG-Lac and Companions	25  St. Catherine of Alexandria	26	27  Presentation of the Bl. Virgin Mary	28
29  1 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	30  St. Andrew	1	2	3	4	5

OCTOBER 2026						
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*All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work.*

*2 Timothy 3:16-17*

# DECEMBER 2026

**For single-parent families.** Let us pray for families experiencing the absence of a mother or father, that they may find support and accompaniment in the Church, and help and strength in the Faith during difficult times.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3 St. Francis Xavier	4 St. John Damascene	5
6 2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	7 St. Ambrose	8 THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BV MARY	9	10 Our Lady of Loreto	11 St. Damasus	12 Our Lady of Guadalupe
13 3 <sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	14 St. John of the Cross	15	16	17	18	19
20 4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	21	22	23	24 VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY	25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD	26 St. Stephen
27 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	28 Holy Innocents	29 St. Thomas Becket	30	31 St. Sylvester I	1	2

NOVEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



## PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES

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[missionsocieties.ca](http://missionsocieties.ca) • [missions@missionsocieties.ca](mailto:missions@missionsocieties.ca)

JANUARY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

# Giving from the heart today builds hope for tomorrow

## **Pre-authorized donations**

Support the missions through a pre-authorized monthly donation plan.

## **Legacy gifting**

Legacy gifts (through a will, for example) can be made to any or all registered charities:

**The Society for the Propagation of the Faith** – Provide funding for the needs of the missionary Church

**The Society of St. Peter the Apostle** – Educate priests, sisters, and brothers in mission countries

**Holy Childhood Association** – Help children in mission countries and raise the missionary awareness of Canadian children

## **Gift annuity**

Make a gift to The Society for the Propagation of the Faith and receive a guaranteed payment for life in return.

## **Other ways of giving**

You can also help in other ways: **Donate securities or mutual funds, offer Mass stipends, make a pledge to support seminarians and religious through our Burse Program, or participate in our Chalice Program.**

## **Take a moment to explore these ways of giving on our website:**

[missionsocieties.ca/ways-to-give](https://missionsocieties.ca/ways-to-give)



## **Or call us to help you make the best choice:**

416 699 7077, 1 800 897 8865