



Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters

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The Church is “by her very nature missionary since, according to the plan of the Father, she has her origin in the mission of the Son and the Holy Spirit” (Decree on the Church’s Missionary Activity Ad Gentes, n. 2). This task has lost none of its urgency. Indeed “The mission of Christ the Redeemer, which is entrusted to the Church, is still very far from completion... an overall view of the human race shows that this mission is still only beginning and that we must commit ourselves wholeheartedly to its service” (John Paul II, Encyclical Redemptoris Missio, n. 1). The universal mission involves all, all things and always. The Gospel is not an exclusive possession of whoever has received it but a gift to share, good news to communicate. And this gift-commitment is not only entrusted to a few but on the contrary to all the baptized, who are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people” (1 Pt 2:9), so that they may declare his wonderful deeds. It is important that both individual baptized people and ecclesial communities be involved in the mission, not sporadically or occasionally but in a constant manner, as a form of Christian life. The World Mission Day itself is not an isolated moment in the course of the year but rather a valuable opportunity to pause and reflect on whether and how we respond to our missionary vocation; an essential response for the Church’s life.

Message of Pope Benedict XVI for Mission Sunday 2011

On October 23, 2011, the Church once again will observe World Mission Sunday. The theme for this year’s World Mission Sunday is, “As the Father has sent me, so I send you” (Jn 20:21). The universal celebration of World Mission Sunday serves to reawaken and promote awareness of the Church’s missionary nature. During October please pray that through World Mission Sunday, the Holy Spirit will enkindle in our hearts a true passion for evangelization.

The gospel reading for that Sunday is about the greatest commandments. The Pharisee asks Jesus “...which commandment in the law is the greatest?” – Mt 22: 35. We who were baptized and belong to the one family of God know that LOVE is the essence of our living. Our missionary activities as great as they may seem need to flow from our hearts overflowing with LOVE in order to engage others in faith.

What is your daily activity that emanates with LOVE?

May this approaching Mission Sunday celebration strengthen in us our missionary spirit. May it encourage us to respond with LOVE to our daily activities so that they become the source of conversion for those who experience them.

Blessings, Sr. Elwira Dziuk

Called by the Spirit, Embracing the World.