

## Please read and/or publish in conjunction with the World Mission Sunday Second Collection on October 18 & 19, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On October 18 & 19, we will join the universal Church in celebrating World Mission Sunday, a time to renew our solidarity with mission Churches around the world. The second collection that weekend, taken for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, is a tangible sign of our Catholic unity and our shared responsibility for proclaiming the Gospel to all peoples. Your generosity helps sustain priests, sisters, brothers, catechists, and lay missionaries who carry Christ's message of healing, peace, and love to those most in need.

Earlier this year, before his passing, Pope Francis invited us to reflect on the theme: "Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples." In his very first words as our new Holy Father from the Loggia, Pope Leo XIV echoed this call, urging us: "Together, we must look for ways to be a missionary Church—a Church that builds bridges and fosters dialogue, a Church always ready to welcome, like this Square [St. Peter's Square] with its open arms, all who are in need of our charity, our presence, our willingness to listen, and our love." These words challenge us to see World Mission Sunday not only as a collection, but as a living invitation to embrace our own vocation as missionary disciples, bearing Christ's hope into the world.

I thank you for your prayers, your sacrifices, and your generosity on this World Mission Sunday. May the Lord bless you and your families, and strengthen you in your vocation as missionary disciples, living and sharing the hope of the Gospel. Sincerely yours in the Risen Lord,

Archbishop George Leo Thomas, Ph.D.

Archbishop of Las Vegas