



During my recent visit to Ethiopia I saw for myself how the Church is helping to build a future of hope. There are ethnic groups in Ethiopia which are despised, feared and rejected by the majority. One such group of people is called the Menja. The Church's outreach to them, especially through education, is just one amazing example of the power of God's love to give dignity back to downtrodden people.

World Mission Sunday is an opportunity for every Catholic community in the world to support the missionary work of the Church through prayer and offerings. The collection taken up in your parish will go directly towards helping those in areas of poverty across the world. Please encourage the people of your parish to be generous.

Yours in the service of God's mission,

Fr Anthony Chantry
Fr Anthony Chantry
National Director

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

21 OCTOBER 2018

Celebrated in every country where the Catholic Church is present, World Mission Sunday is the one day in the year when we join together to pray and give for the good of mission dioceses around the world

What do you need to know?

- Missio is the Pope's chosen instrument for sharing the Gospel and building the Church overseas
- World Mission Sunday is one of only three Papal collections that are mandatory and universal
- Donations given on World Mission Sunday support over 1,069 mission dioceses overseas that cannot support themselves
- Money donated on World Mission Sunday is sent to Missio to distribute directly where the need is greatest

What can you do to help?

- Promote World Mission Sunday in your parish by:
- Displaying the World Mission Sunday poster
 - Explaining the significance of World Mission Sunday to your parishioners (refer to the inserts and Missio's website for more information – missio.org.uk)
 - Encouraging prayer and financial assistance for the good of those in need
 - Highlighting the Gift Aid envelopes (enclosed) which enable taxpayers to make a donation on which Missio can claim an extra 25%

Missio is the Pope's official charity for overseas mission and is part of the worldwide network of Pontifical Mission Societies. Missio comprises four branches which work together to build the Catholic faith throughout the world. The four branches are:

- APF** Builds churches and supports faith communities
- SPA** Trains future priests and sisters overseas
- MT** Supports children's health, education and faith programmes
- PMU** Educates the faithful about mission

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WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 2018



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Ethiopia
Together we can build a future of hope

MISSIO missio.org.uk

What you'll find inside:

- Suggested Homily Notes & Intercessions
- Notes for Children's Liturgy
- Holy Father's Message & Prayer Intentions
- Newsletter Inserts & Your Questions Answered
- Your Donation Form
- Poster

The Little Sisters of Jesus share the lives of the Menja people in one of the poorest regions of Ethiopia

The Menja are socially excluded and discriminated against due to their traditions. This makes it very difficult for Menja children to go to school and improve their livelihoods. The Sisters have made it their mission to overcome this exclusion. They help Menja families grow and sell coffee for food, they help pregnant women deliver their children safely, and they educate the youth. **Their faith and their presence give hope for the future.**

Sister Karlo remembers her first days in the community very well: *'Our Menja neighbours were all very shy. Once in a while, I would speak to a lady who sold us firewood. One day, I invited her to come into the house, but she was embarrassed to do so. I told her, "Please come in, Alemeto, you are our friend." Finally, she came in. We sat together, ate bread from the same plate and drank coffee together. When Alemeto left, there were tears in her eyes, and she said, "Today, your God and my God met." I had to cry as well – with joy.'*

missio.org.uk



Sr Karlo caring for Menja families in Ethiopia

Our Church is a global community. We depend on one another; on our shared prayer and solidarity. **The Sisters know that they are not alone.** With your support they will be able to help current and future generations build a future filled with hope.

This World Mission Sunday your prayers and donations will help build a future of hope, together with those who suffer in Ethiopia and around the world

missio



'Never lose hope; continue to believe, always, in spite of everything. Hope opens new horizons, making us capable of dreaming what is not even imaginable.'

Pope Francis

missio.org.uk

Why does the Pope want all parishes to support World Mission Sunday?

All parishes throughout the world celebrate **World Mission Sunday** because it is vital to the growth of the Church and the spread of the Gospel in predominantly impoverished and remote areas overseas.

The funds raised build much-needed infrastructure, from chapels and schools, to orphanages, clinics and dispensaries.

Requested by the local community, the support from Missio transforms lives and creates a hub from which the young Church can flourish and grow: spreading the Good News of the Gospel, ministering to the faithful, and delivering essential services in health and education.

World Mission Sunday is one of only three Papal collections and has been especially chosen by the Holy Father as the means by which we share what we have with our brothers and sisters in need.

Watch Missio's six minute film about World Mission Sunday to find out more: missio.org.uk/what-is-world-mission-sunday