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OCEANIA

Mary is our Mother
(John 19:26-27)

'When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.'

We pray for the people of Oceania: that they find comfort in knowing that they are remembered and loved. May the Church demonstrate the loving compassion of Mary, our Mother, and bring consolation to all those who live in remote areas, who feel isolated or lonely.

ASIA

Jesus appears to the Eleven Disciples
(Mark 16:15)

'Jesus appeared to the eleven. He said to them, "Go throughout the whole world and preach the Gospel to all people."'

We pray for the people of Asia: that they may respect one another's beliefs, find God in every person and live together in peace. May the Church act so that all people are treated fairly and the poor and marginalised feel cherished and valued.

Hail Holy Queen…
St Joseph, Patron and protector of the Universal Church
St Thérèse, Patroness of worldwide mission
St Francis Xavier, Patron of missionaries
Pray for us

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Today. Tomorrow. Together.

The Mission Rosary

The Mission Rosary was created in 1951 by the Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen who was the National Director of Missio (Pontifical Mission Societies) in the United States. He saw the need to pray for the whole world, especially for those living in poverty. Each colour-coded decade of the Rosary represents a continent where the Church continues her mission.

Africa is represented by the green decade for its forests and grasslands.

The Americas are red to show the fire of faith.

Europe is white because it is the home of the Holy Father who dresses in white and lives in Rome.

Oceania is shown in blue for the oceans surrounding the islands there.

Asia is portrayed in yellow as a symbol of the sun rising in the East.

Archbishop Sheen said, 'When the Rosary is completed, one has embraced all continents, all people in prayer.' The Prayer unites us with our brothers and sisters whom we have never met, and who are praying for us too, in an exchange of love and friendship.

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The Mission Rosary is prayed like the usual Rosary, with the same opening and final prayers. Introduce each mystery with these reflections:

AFRICA

The flight into Egypt
(Matthew 2:13-15)

'An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt…" They went to Egypt by night and remained there until the death of Herod.'

We pray for the people of Africa: that those who are oppressed, persecuted and live in fear may be safe and feel the comfort of God's presence. May the Church heal wounds, build bridges and bring the hope, love and peace of Christ to all those who suffer.

THE AMERICAS

Jesus in the Synagogue at Nazareth
(Luke 4:16-20)

'Jesus read from the book of Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me. He has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor, to set prisoners free, give sight to the blind, release the oppressed and proclaim the year of God's mercy."'

We pray for the people of the Americas: that God's reign of justice, love and peace overcomes oppression, hatred and violence. May the Church, driven by the zeal of the Holy Spirit, be a steadfast and fearless advocate for the dignity of all God's children.

EUROPE

Peter declares Jesus as the Christ
(Matthew 16:16-18)

'Simon Peter said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona! Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church."'

We pray for the people of Europe: that all those who are discouraged, anxious, sick or grieving, find acceptance and comfort in the warm embrace of the Church. May the Pope, our bishops, priests and religious, be joyful witnesses to the hope and peace they find in a life lived in Christ.