

# Religion Bulletin Boards

2018- 2019

## Celebrating Missionary Discipleship in the Church



*Pope Francis has dedicated October, 2019 as a special month of prayer and reflection for the missionary work of the Church.*

*Like an extraordinary jubilee year, an extraordinary month is where a dedicated focus is placed on an intention outside the normal activity of the church in that time.*

*October 2019 was chosen because of its proximity to the centenary anniversary of Pope Benedict XV's November 1919 apostolic letter, **Maximum Illud**, calling for renewed missionary zeal following World War I. World Mission Sunday falls on the penultimate Sunday of October each year.*

*Pope Francis said that he hopes the month will be a promising time of prayer and reflection on the testimony of missionary saints and martyrs, the Bible and theology, as well as catechesis and charitable missionary work towards the evangelization of the Church.*

*In preparation for the extraordinary Month of Mission, this year's bulletin boards will focus on the Church's call for all to participate in the Evangelization of Mission. They will also focus on those who gave witness to missionary discipleship. To begin the school year, use the following to help the students understand the concept of mission.*

*The word mission means "to be sent out." A missionary is someone who is sent out to bring the Good News of Jesus to others. Missionaries often go to far-off places, especially places where people struggle every day to survive. They help run hospitals, schools, orphanages, clinics. They provide food programs, and they help people learn how to care for and build better lives for themselves, their families, and their community. And, most importantly, they share their Catholic faith— all of their actions for others motivated by God's great love for each one of us!*

*By our Baptism, we become members of a family—the family of the Church. Family members have responsibilities, and our responsibility is to share our faith. Some people fulfill this responsibility by actually going to mission countries to bring the Good News of Jesus to our brothers and sisters who are most in need. Most of us are missionaries by prayer and sacrifice. Missionary spirit begins with prayer. Every person is able to offer prayers. Prayers lead to sacrifices. Every person can offer up suffering, temporary or chronic, for those who suffer daily in mission lands. Every person can give up something with the intention of sacrificing*

*Additional resources can be found at the Missionary Childhood Association web site:  
<http://phillymissions.org/our-work/youth-in-mission/>*

# SEPTEMBER

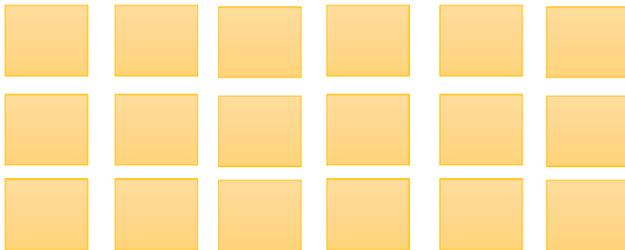
## Call to Mission

### Welcome



#### To the Challenges:

- Of a new school year
- Of Missionary discipleship



A “Welcome” bulletin board is a familiar greeting to students as they begin the new school year. Put a picture of a welcoming Jesus in the center of it. Discuss how Jesus reached out to everyone—rich, poor, young, old, etc.

During the first week of school have the student complete goal sheets. See sample on following pages,

Before the students begin to complete their goals, introduce them to the concept of missionary discipleship. Share with them the descriptions of the work of a missionary such as those described in the “Letters from Africa” found on the following web site:

<https://religion.sadlierconnect.com/wlofcid>

Ask the students to reflect on what they could do to be missionary disciples this year and write a goal for this.

Place the students’ goal sheets on the bulletin board as a reminder.



Jesus asks us to be his disciples.

How would you answer?

Place a picture of Jesus talking with children on the bulletin board. Ask the children what they might be talking about. Suggest the idea that Jesus might be asking them to be His disciples. Tell them that even at their young age, there are ways they can be disciples. Using chart paper, list their responses to the question on the bulletin board.

I can be a disciple of Jesus by

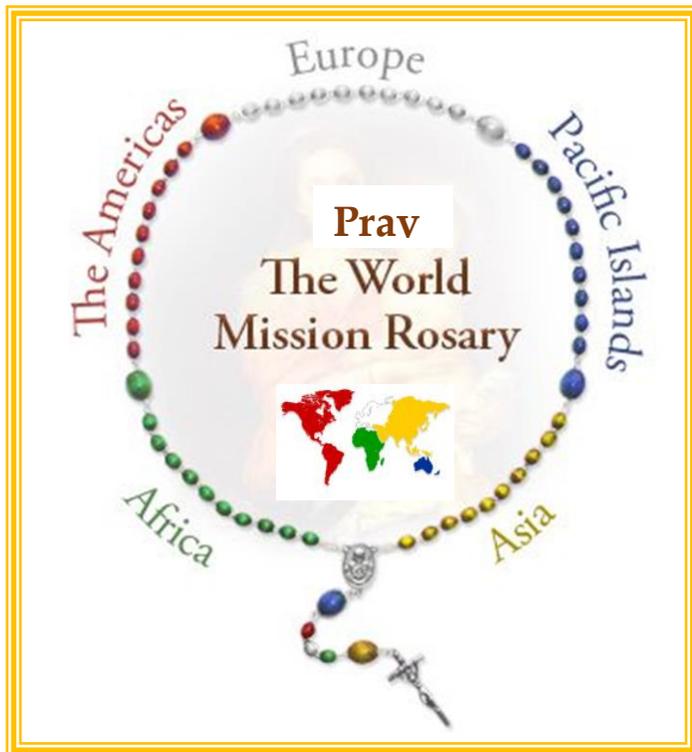
..praying for others

..sharing what I have with the poor

..helping others

# OCTOBER

## World Mission Rosary



Using yarn and the templates on one of the following pages, build a **World Mission Rosary**. Explain the colors

- White** – Symbolizing EUROPE, the seat of the Holy Father, shepherd of the world
- Yellow** – The morning light of the east, for ASIA
- Blue** – For the ocean surrounding the ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC
- Green** – For the forests and grasslands of AFRICA
- Red** – Calling to mind the fire of faith that brought missionaries to the AMERICAS

Every year the **first Friday in October** is “Missionary Childhood Day” – a day when children are asked to recognize their young peers in other parts of the world. A living World Mission Rosary at some point on or near that date is a wonderful way to join other students around the world in praying for our world – just think of the great power of prayer and the difference we can make!

## MISSIONARY “HEROES”



**St. Therese of  
Lisieux  
The Little Flower  
October 1**

**St Francis Xavier  
Apostle to the  
Indies  
December 3**



Who are YOUR heroes?

Students today look in a variety of places for people to be their heroes. Unfortunately, not all they look to are good role models. Show students the following video clip in which a prominent sports shares the impact of faith in his life.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h-14cxbavc>

Brainstorm with them to develop a list of the qualities of a “hero”/role model. Ask Francis Xavier, patrons of the Missions. Ask how these saints could be considered “heroes.” Ask the students to identify things these saints did that they could do in their own lives to serve as role models for others. (e.g. prayer, sacrifice, doing without)

Have the students research more about the saints including special prayers to them to identify people—living or deceased—who exemplify these qualities. Read brief summaries of the lives of St. Therese and St. Francis Xavier such as the Novena of Grace.

# NOVEMBER

*Honoring the Missionary Activity of some American "Heroes"*

## North American Martyrs



## Missionaries to North America

November is a time of year when we express gratitude for our American heritage and the many gifts God has given us. It is a time to recall the events in our history which provided for us not only a foundation of freedom and democracy, but also of faith. Dedicate a bulletin board to the early missionaries who gave their lives so that so many would come to know and love God. Using the resources available from the Missionary Childhood Association, show how the missionary spirit and work of the Church is still alive and active throughout the world today.

For another bulletin board, do an internet search for pictures of American saints. Place about ten of these on the bulletin board with a number under each picture. Using the worksheet provided, have the students try to identify each saint and something about the saint.

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/saints/american-saints-and-blesseds.cfm>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_American\\_saints\\_and\\_beatified\\_people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_American_saints_and_beatified_people)

When the students have completed their research, have them share what they have learned with the class. Then, replace the numbers with the names.

As the holiday season approaches, it would be an opportune time to encourage the students to make plans to make sacrifices for those who are less fortunate than they are.



## Saints To Be Thankful For



## Can you identify these

My goals for this year are:

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As a missionary disciple I will

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My goals for this year are:

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As a missionary disciple I will

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## Intentions for the Mission Rosary

### **JOYFUL MYSTERIES** (*Monday & Saturday*)

#### **The Annunciation**

That the Good News of a Savior, first announced to Mary, may be proclaimed to all the world.

#### **The Visitation**

That missionaries who travel long roads bearing Christ to those in need may be strengthened in faith and holiness.

#### **The Birth of Jesus**

For the children of the Missions, especially those who are poor and homeless, that they may know the love of Jesus.

#### **The Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple**

That Catholic families of the Missions, by the example of their lives, may show the love of Christ to their neighbors.

#### **The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple**

That all people in the Missions who live in sorrow may find peace and hope in the Gospel message.

### **SORROWFUL MYSTERIES** (*Tuesday and Friday*)

#### **The Agony in the Garden**

That all those filled with faith living in the Missions may feel the presence of the Lord in their lives.

#### **The Scourging at the Pillar**

That children in the Missions who hunger and thirst may be fed and comforted through our sharing.

#### **The Crowning with Thorns**

For refugees and homeless children in the Missions, may they find hope in Christ's promise of eternal happiness.

#### **The Carrying of the Cross**

For the Church in the United States, that by our prayers and sacrifices for the Missions, we may help bear the burdens of our brothers and sisters worldwide.

#### **The Crucifixion**

That those who hunger and thirst for justice in the Missions may work peacefully and successfully toward their goal.

### **GLORIOUS MYSTERIES** (*Sunday and Wednesday*)

#### **The Resurrection**

For the Church worldwide, that our faith in the Risen Christ may draw others to Him.

#### **The Ascension**

That Christ, who lived as a man and returned to the Father, will grant to all people knowledge of the Way to eternal life.

#### **The Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles**

For our Holy Father, that the Holy Spirit will grant him wisdom, fortitude and holiness as he guides the Church in the path of Christ.

#### **The Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven**

That Mary, who gave the human body of Christ to the world, may inspire us who form the Body of Christ on earth to proclaim His message to all peoples.

#### **The Crowning of Our Lady Queen of Heaven**

That through the intercession of Mary, Queen of the Missions, young men and women will offer their lives to God as priests and religious in service of their neighbors.

### **LUMINOUS MYSTERIES** (*Thursday*)

*Moments from Jesus' public ministry – with stories from the missions*

#### **The Baptism in the Jordan**

In a hospital in Hong Kong, a Sister spoke to a young cancer patient about God, our loving Father, and about heaven, our eternal home. Baptized, the child made the journey to God clothed in Christ because a Sister had shared with him the fruits of her own baptism.

#### **The Wedding at Cana**

Blessed Mother Teresa once brought rice to a hungry family, only to find the next day the food was gone. A neighboring family also had no food, receiving from the first family not only the sustenance but also the Christian love.

#### **The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God and Call to Conversion**

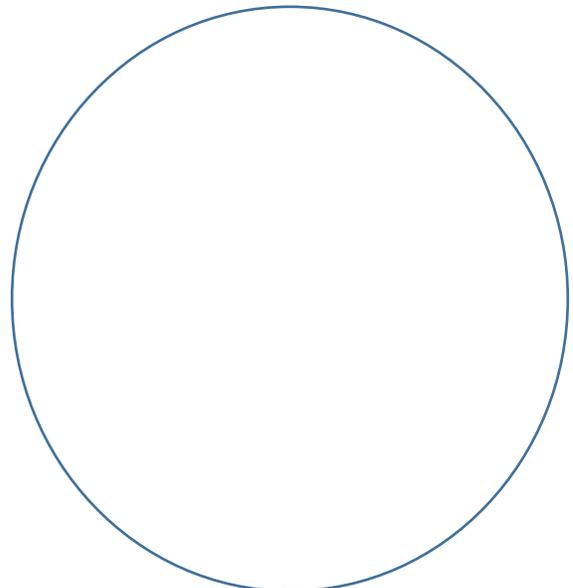
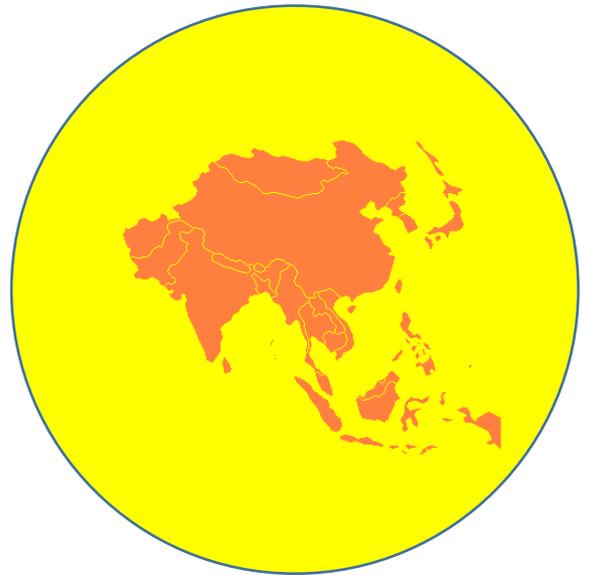
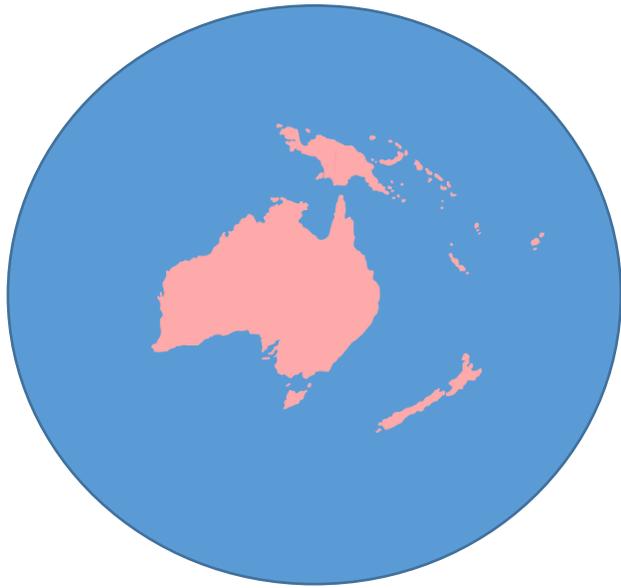
In East Africa, a Catholic family, hearing of a village far from their own where the people had never heard of Christ, moved there. Day by day, they would tell – and show – the people what it means to be a follower of Christ.

#### **The Transfiguration**

To catch even a glimpse of the glory that awaits us in Christ is a gift beyond compare for millions of people whose lives are a daily struggle. Such a glimpse was caught in Liberia, West Africa. When people by the hundreds fled from their homes in the midst of civil war, their pastor said, "They left all of their belongings behind, but they brought with them one valuable possession – their faith."

#### **The Institution of the Eucharist**

World Mission Sunday, celebrated each year on the next-to-last Sunday in October, in the context of the Mass, reminds us that we who eat Christ's Body and drink His Blood are sent to continue His mission to the world.



## Missionary Saints – Our “Heroes”

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Saint I Chose \_\_\_\_\_

St. \_\_\_\_\_ came from \_\_\_\_\_.

St. \_\_\_\_\_ worked as a missionary  
in \_\_\_\_\_ . As a missionary, St. \_\_\_\_\_

did the following: \_\_\_\_\_

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Some interesting facts about St. \_\_\_\_\_

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I can be like St. \_\_\_\_\_ when I \_\_\_\_\_

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The saints I found:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_