

# By your Baptism YOU are called to be Missionary



Photo: Nancy Wiehe/CNS

## PRAY † SUPPORT † LEARN MORE TO TELL OTHERS

October 21, World Mission Sunday, 2018, marks the beginning of the **EXTRAORDINARY YEAR OF MISSION** in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This was proclaimed by Archbishop Charles Chaput. The weekend of World Mission Sunday and the year following is dedicated to **RENEW THE FAITHFUL'S BAPTISMAL CALL TO BE MISSIONARY**. For this year, what does this mean? *What is being asked of our faithful in the pew to do?"*

### PRAY • SUPPORT • LEARN MORE TO TELL OTHERS

October 21, World Mission Sunday, 2018, the next-to-the last Sunday EVERY YEAR is special. This year, even more so, as it is the beginning of the **EXTRAORDINARY YEAR OF MISSION**.

This day joins all Catholics of the world into one community of faith. At Mass on this Sunday, we recommit our selves to our common vocation, through Baptism, **to be Missionaries**. As we pray

and respond on **World Mission Sunday**, here in Philadelphia, we share in those celebrations taking place in every parish, seminary, convent, school and PREP all over the world. Together with all the faithful of God in every corner of the globe, we **become voices for the Missions**.

**PRAY** one Hail Mary each day for a Missionary.

**SAVE A \$1 WEEK** to help the needs of a family living in a Mission land. This is important as most families live on \$2 a week.

**LEARN** more about the Missions and the people they serve supported by the **Societies** to tell others.

ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA



OCTOBER 2018 • MONTHLY MISSION RESOURCE

Pages 1-2: Month of Mission-Resource Overview

Pages 3-4: October Mission Calendar

Page 5: Mission Children Around the World Activity

Page 6: Saint Thérèse of Lisieux Mission Saint Spotlight

Page 7: Saint Thérèse's Little Way Worksheet

Pages 8-10: MCA Christmas Artwork Contest

Page 11: Mission Focus: Sri Lanka

Page 12: October/EYOM Photo Page for Prayer Table

## Resources for fostering **EXTRAORDINARY Missionary Disciples** during October

### FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS:

- † October Mission Calendar [Page 3-4]
- † Missionary Children Around the World Activity [Page 5]
- † Introduce students to the **Patroness of Missions**, Saint Thérèse of Lisieux in the September Mission Saint Spotlight [Page 6] and spend time to implement the Little Way Week Activity [Page 7]
- † *Enter your Students in the 2018-2019 MCA National Christmas Artwork Contest!* AND THIS YEAR everyone who enters their artwork in Archbishop Chaput's Christmas Card Contest will be automatically entered in our National Contest. Display the 2017-2018 Archdiocesan Winners Artwork found in this resource [Page 8] to inspire your student's creativity. Entry form and guidelines [Pages 9-10]
- † Distribute the "**Mission Focus: Sri Lanka**". Pray with your students for those living in poverty [Page 11].
- † If you haven't already, create an area for a Mission Prayer Corner with photos and, perhaps, items like crosses, nativity sets, etc. that are from different places in the world. Each month, include our **Mission Photo page**. For October and throughout the EYOM, place these photos from around the world in your corner [Page 12]

### FOR SECONDARY & HIGH SCHOOL AGE STUDENTS:

- † October 1 is the feast Day of the **Patroness of Missions**, Saint Thérèse of Lisieux [Page 6]. Have your students read about her life and contemplate: Saint Thérèse faced many difficulties in her early life. She always turned to God. Discuss the importance of leaning on your faith in times of both happiness and sadness. Why do you think Saint Thérèse wanted to be a Missionary? What do you think calls people to be Missionaries today?
- † Have students write a report about a Missionary of today or a recently canonized Saint who was Missionary.
- † Saint Thérèse was a Carmelite Sister. Invite a professed Religious Sister to speak to your class about her life, plan a visit to the Carmelite Monastery in Philadelphia or encourage your students to visit with their families.
- † Schedule an MCA presentation at a student's club activity.
- † Include the Holy Father's October Prayer Intention for Mission in your daily communal prayer:  
*That consecrated Religious Men and Women may bestir themselves, and be present among the poor, the marginalized, and those who have no voice.*

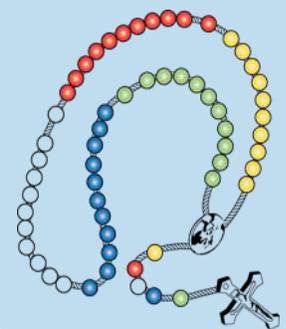


Bishop Antonysamy Peter Abir from the Diocese of Sultanpet in Kerala, India, receiving Rosaries from MCA to take back to India and gifting the office with a beautiful bamboo elephant poster!

## MAKE WORLD MISSION ROSARIES WITH YOUR STUDENTS

During this **Mission Month of October** in the **EXTRAORDINARY YEAR OF MISSION**, contact the MCA office to make Rosaries with your students, or start a Rosary Making Club!

Throughout the year, children of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia make World Mission Rosaries. These rosaries are then given to Missionaries who visit our office in Philadelphia, then take them overseas to the children in their native lands—**all over the world!** These children are so glad to have a Rosary. The children can also make an additional Rosary for themselves & learn how to pray the **World Mission Rosary** for Children in the Missions.



# Mission Month

# Of OCTOBER

ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA



1



Feast of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Patroness of Missions. Guide us throughout this Missionary month.

2

Feast of the Guardian Angels. The angels were Missionaries by announcing the Good News to Mary, to Joseph and to the Shepherds. *What is the Good News that we bring to the world?*

3



Feast of Saint Theodora Guerin, Missionary to the USA. Ask for her help with homework!

4



Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Along with Pope Francis & his patron Saint, let us pray for the world to know the Gospel of love.

5



Feast of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Missionary who worked with our own, St. John Neumann. Pray for the Redemptorists serving today.

6

Let us pray for the Americas— may we become more and more Missionary in word and deed.

**Reflect—1 John 3:18**

7



Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Pray the World Mission Rosary for all Missionaries.

8



Jesus said, "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

9



Let us pray for Oceania so that this myriad of islands recognizes the greatness of the Gospel and Mission.

10

To be Missionaries means to go out to those who are strangers and those who are different from us. Is there anyone in your class or school whom you could "go out" to?

11



Peace is a gift of God. Let us pray for peace in our hearts, in our nation, and in our world!

12



Let us pray for the children in Africa that they will receive the blessings we take for granted: education, clean water, health, and food.

13



Let us pray for the many orphans in the world. May they come to know the love of God as their Father & Mary as their Mother.

14



Pray for the children of the Pacific Islands to be protected from frequent natural disasters that occur.

15



Feast of St. Theresa of Avila. Let us pray for Europe that it does not forget its Christian roots.



16



Let us pray for Asia so that this vast continent may recognize the values of the Gospel and embrace the love of Christ.

17



Feast of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, first to use the word Catholic to describe the universal Church.

18



Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist. He wrote a Gospel & the Acts of the Apostles to share the Good News. *Whom can we write a letter or share the Good News of God with today?*

19



Feast of Sts. John De Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues. Pray for Native Americans. May they allow an encounter between their traditions and the Gospel.

20

Let us pray for Africa so that this continent, with an increasing number of Christians, takes a more active role in the Mission of evangelization.



21

Today is World Mission Sunday!

Pray for the 1,111 Mission Diocese that the *Pontifical Mission Societies* supports.

22



Pray that the Holy Spirit puts a Missionary zeal in all our hearts.

23



Let us pray for the children of China that they can practice their faith in freedom.

24



Be Reminded—that everyone by their baptism is called to be a Missionary. Do a kind act to show this today.

25

Pray that all members of MCA are united.



26

Let us pray for the children in North America that wealth and materialism may not be the focus of their lives, but may they share their blessings with others.

27



The Gospel tells us that Jesus came to serve and not to be served. As Missionaries, we are called to serve everyone.

28



Feast of the Holy Apostles Simon and Jude. Let us pray that new apostles may proclaim the Good News to the world.

29

Mary, the first Missionary of the New Testament, went to share the Good News with her relative Elizabeth. Learn to share Jesus, who is within us, with our family.

30

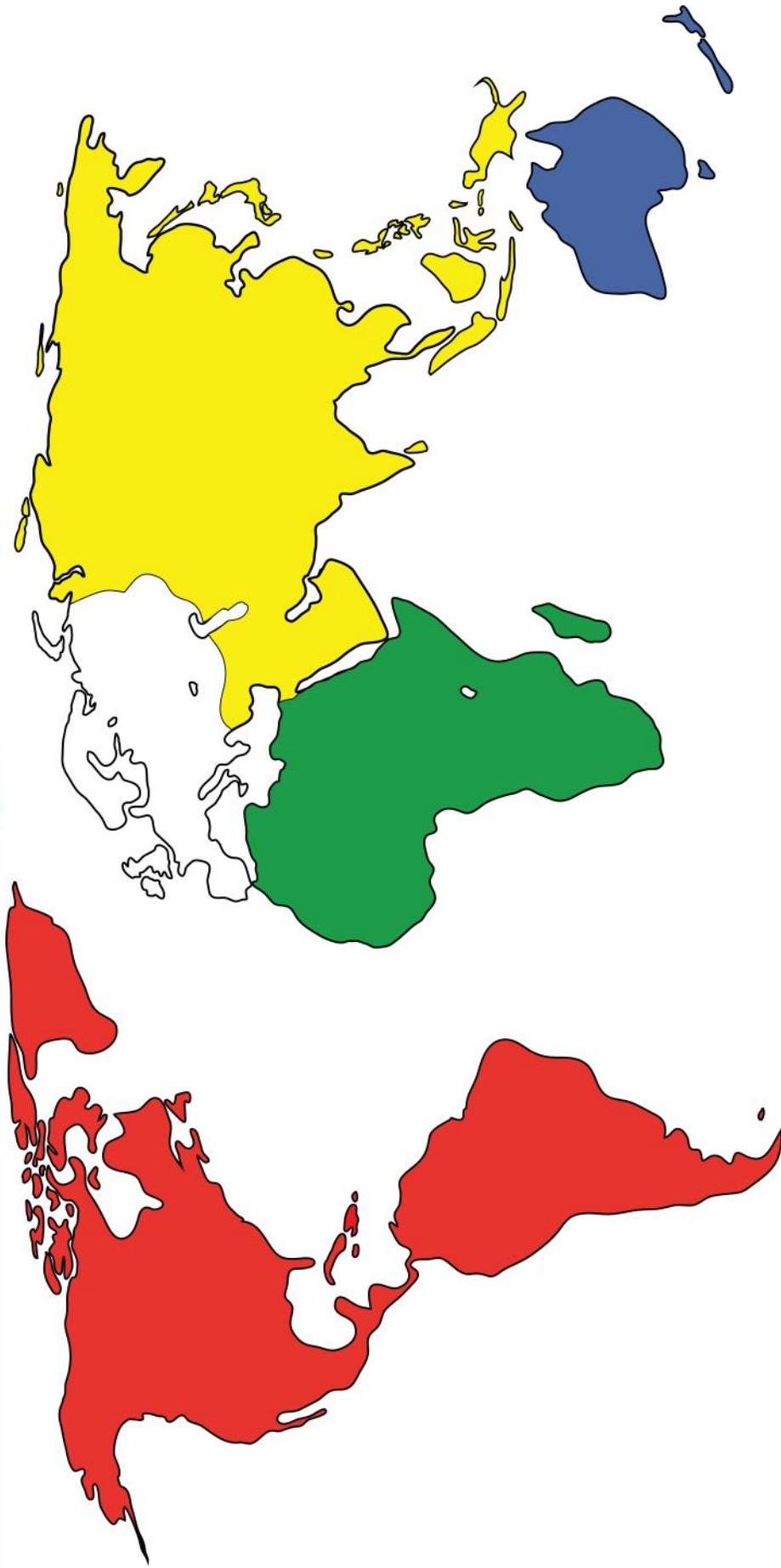
All Hallow's Eve. Who is your favorite Missionary saint?

31

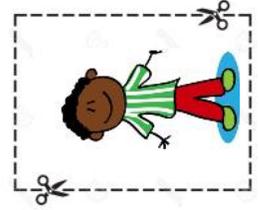
Pray with the communion of Saints that every knee will bend at the name of Jesus. This brings World Mission Month to a close. Remember that Mission is a daily occurrence.

Start off the EXTRAORDINARY YEAR OF MISSION by using this calendar, and begin each day with Mission!





Instructions: Have students cut along the dotted lines and place the children on different parts of the globe. Explain that children all over the world are loved by God and learning about Jesus! Pray a Hail Mary for these children.



## Saint Thérèse of Lisieux : *Patroness of the Missions*

*It is Mission Month in the Extraordinary Year of Mission!* How fitting to begin this important year with the celebration of the Feast Day of the Patroness of the Missions—Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. How did it come about that this young woman, who entered a monastery at age fifteen and spent the last years of her short life there, became the **Patroness of the Missions**?

Saint Thérèse was born at Alençon in France, January 2, 1873. At the early age of 15, she began the life of a cloistered nun by entering the Carmelite Convent in Lisieux. In the convent, she led a life of absolute trust and surrender to God, advancing in saintliness by her simple and childlike attachment to Jesus. **To love the Infant Jesus—to be His friend—to think of Him and do everything in His honor. To love her neighbors doing good to others with a childlike devotion—these were the outstanding characteristics of the Little Flower of Jesus.**

Saint Thérèse prayed, sacrificed and offered her hardships to God for the Missions. She wrote in a poem: ". . . in God's eyes there is no distance. For God the whole universe is one speck. My weak love, my little sufferings, blessed by God make God loved far and wide."

As her death approached, she asked that instead of purchasing flowers after her death, the money should be contributed to

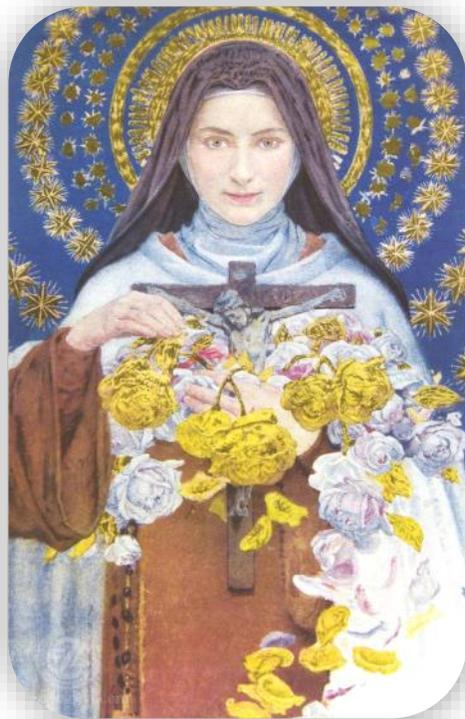


the Missions to baptize and support children who were found abandoned. St. Thérèse, who spent her whole life without leaving her own corner of France, became its **Patroness**.

Although Saint Thérèse could not go to the Missions because of her poor health, she was as authentic a Missionary as Saint Francis Xavier, Patron of Missions, by her prayers and sufferings, & her encouragement through her many letters to Missionary priests serving in Malawi, Africa and China. **"You have united me forever with the works of a Missionary, by the bonds of prayer and suffering and love,"** she wrote as a poem prayer to one of the Missionary priests.

St. Therese, patroness of the Missions, would be quick to tell us this is the work of the Missionary *and* we are all Missionaries because we have been baptized and told to go out to all to bring the light of Christ wherever there is darkness.

**FUN FACT:** St. Thérèse, as a child, prayed and sacrificed for the **Missionary Childhood Association** [then called the *Holy Childhood Association*].



**"Remember that nothing is small in the eyes of God. Do all that you do with love."** -St Therese of Lisieux

**Feast Day:** October 1st

**Patron of:** Missions

**Birth:** January 2, 1873

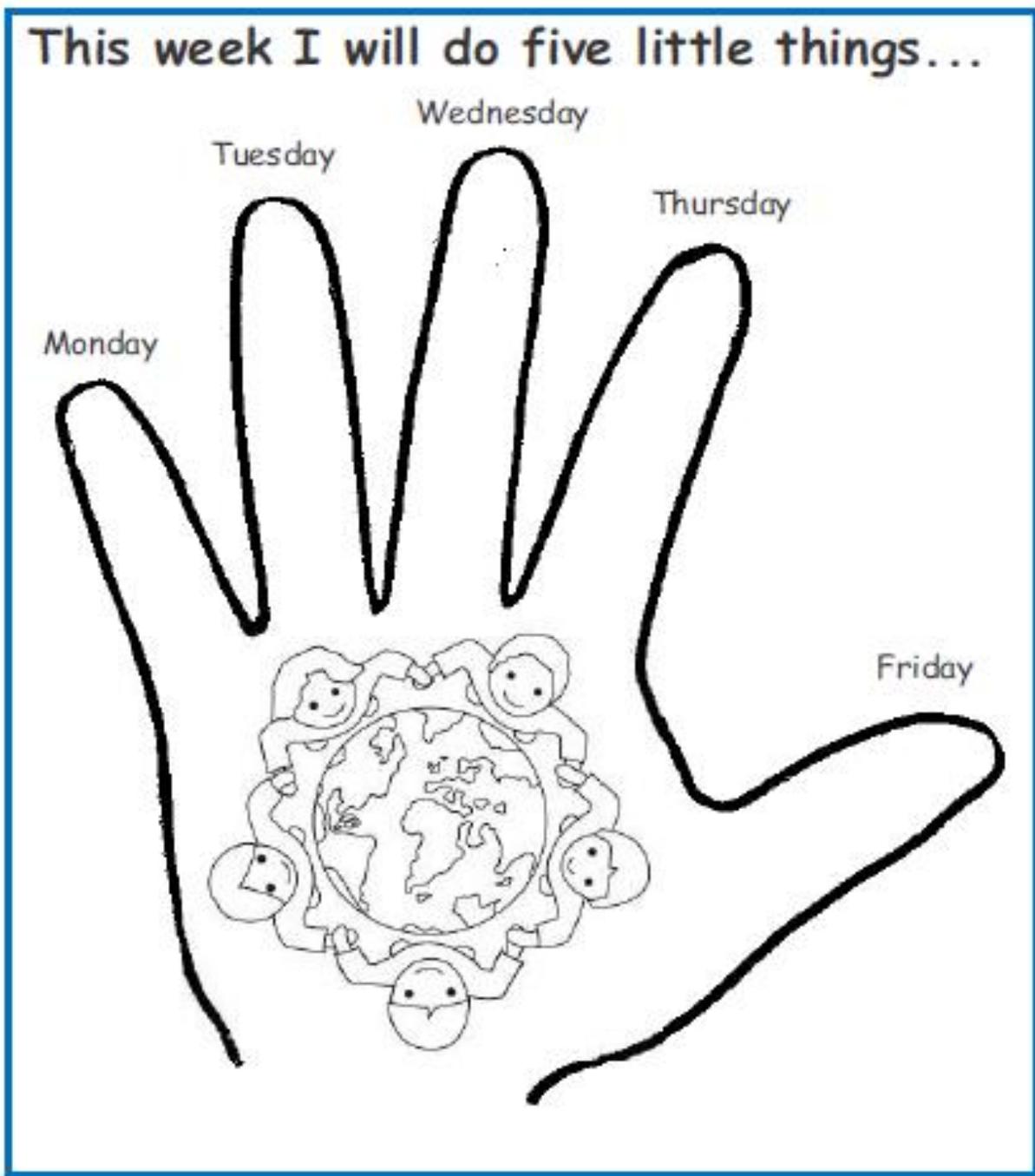
**Death:** September 30, 1897

**Beatified:** April 29, 1923

**Canonized:** May 17, 1925

### Discussion Questions:

- What are some **"Little Ways"** you can show love and be Missionary to your friends/neighbors?
- What could you do in your everyday life to act and live like Saint Thérèse?



### St. Thérèse's Little Way Week

This week invite your children to think about how to do little good deeds each day. Ask your children for examples of kind little things they can do for others. Using this template [here](#) [an 8 1/2x11 version] or make a copy from above invite your children to think of one good thing they can do each day for those near and those far away, to celebrate **Little Way Week**. Ask them to write a kind daily deed on **each of the fingers of the hand**. As they do their five good deeds each day of the week, the children may color the World of Mission Children at the center of the palm. This represents **children helping children** all around the world, through praying and sharing. It is a reminder that children everywhere are our Brothers and Sisters, and God calls us to love them as He does. After the children complete the activity, you may have them cut around the hand template and glue onto a large heart on a wall, representing the **heart of Christ**. Perhaps, add to the heart the words of Saint Thérèse . . . **"Little things done out of love are those that delight the heart of Christ."**

*Adapted from Mission Together UK*

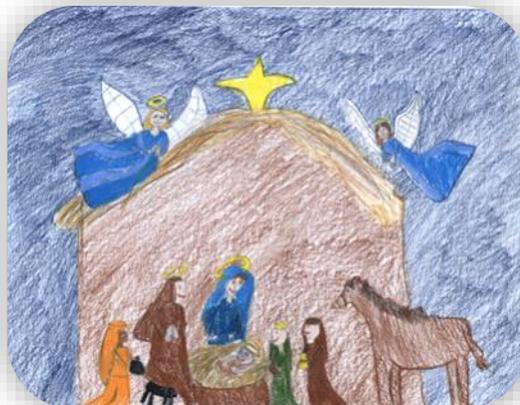
**CONGRATULATIONS to the 2017-2018 National Missionary Childhood Association Christmas Artwork Contest Winners!** The Winners Artwork will be awarded and displayed at the Archdiocesan celebration of **World Mission Sunday** on October 21 and in the lobby of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Center during Advent. They will be featured in the **Pontifical Mission Societies** annual Christmas card, communications, and prominent on our coverage of Mission Sunday on our website at [www.phillymissions.org](http://www.phillymissions.org).



Isaiah Giddens, Regina Coeli Academy-Abington



Grace Stephen, Maternity BVM-Philadelphia



Natalie Cardillo, St. Monica-Philadelphia



JuanPablo Pulido, St. Peter Apostle-Philadelphia



David Rendón, Sacred Heart-Swedesburg



missionary  
childhood  
association

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS  
ARTWORK CONTEST 2018-2019

**Artwork entries received by the Missionary Childhood Association, Archdiocese of Philadelphia, by the January 31, 2019 deadline will automatically be considered for both National and Archdiocesan recognition.**

*Nationally*, twenty-four winners will be selected from entries from dioceses across the United States. Winning artwork will be displayed at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. during Advent and Christmas 2019. Two grand prize winners will be selected and their artwork reproduced as the official Christmas cards of the National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States, Father Andrew Small, OMI. Contest winners will be notified in Spring, 2019. All winners receive a commemorative plaque.

Within the *Archdiocese of Philadelphia*, several entries will be selected for Archdiocesan recognition on World Mission Sunday, October 20, 2019. Winning artwork will appear on the website [www.phillymissions.org](http://www.phillymissions.org), and in publications of the *Pontifical Mission Societies* in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. All winners will receive a certificate of award.

To enter, please complete this entire form and attach it [*with tape*] to the back of each student’s entry. Please type or print. Artwork will not be accepted without this form. Please note, artwork cannot be returned. Artwork that does not conform to the guidelines will be disqualified.

**Deadline for entries is January 31, 2019.**

**Mail entries to: Missionary Childhood Association, Archdiocese of Philadelphia  
222 N. 17th Street, Room #823, Philadelphia, PA 19103**

STUDENT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CIRCLE:      Boy    Girl                      Grade \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CIRCLE:      Catholic School      Parish Religious Ed/CCD      Home School

NAME OF SCHOOL OR RE/CCD \_\_\_\_\_

PRINCIPAL / DRE \_\_\_\_\_

PRINCIPAL / DRE E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL OR PARISH ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL OR PARISH PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT’S HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT / GUARDIAN \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT’S HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

## GUIDELINES

The contest is open to young people in grades K-8 All entries must be postmarked and/or received no later than **JANUARY 31, 2019**. *Past winners may not enter this year's contest.* Each entry [*drawing*] MUST have the following information printed on the back: child's name, grade and school or PREP/CCD name, address and phone number, principal's name and/or DRE's name as well as the name of the diocese or archdiocese. Please copy the entry form and use it for this purpose.

PLEASE USE TAPE TO SECURE THE ENTRY FORM TO THE BACK OF THE DRAWING. DO NOT GLUE OR STAPLE ENTRY FORM TO ARTWORK. DON'T FOLD ARTWORK!

Please be sure to complete this entire information for each entry, so we can identify and notify winning artists—*otherwise, children might miss their chance of winning!*

All entries become the property of the Missionary Childhood Association, which reserves the right to depict all or part of the selected illustrations. It is not possible for the Missionary Childhood Association to offer any compensation for entries or to return them, whether or not they are used.

## ARTWORK SPECIFICATIONS

Artwork must be on an 8.5" x 11" sheet of WHITE paper — no construction or lined paper. White card stock is okay.

The illustration may be depicted HORIZONTALLY or VERTICALLY.

Students must illustrate one of the subjects listed under the heading "Subjects."

Acceptable media includes crayons, pastels, colored pencils, markers, tempera or watercolor paints. PLEASE — NO LEAD PENCILS.

Artwork must be the child's own. Tracings and direct copies of other art cannot be considered. Students selected as finalists will be asked to validate the originality of their artwork.

## SUBJECTS

Only the subjects below are eligible for consideration:

The Nativity (a manger scene, Jesus, Mary, Joseph, animals)

Three Wise Men (presentation of gifts or following the star)

Shepherds (with sheep, in fields, seeing the angel, or visiting the manger)

Mother and Child (Mary with her infant son)

Mary and Joseph traveling to Bethlehem

Newborn Jesus in manger

The Angel Gabriel

## HELPFUL HINTS

Use a lot of eye-catching color. Bolder colors reproduce best. Lightly colored artwork will not show up well if reduced.

Be careful to erase or cover pencil outlines.

Do not include text or lettering on the drawing.

Fill up most of the page, being careful not to let the main parts of the drawing get too close to the edges of the paper.

Make sure facial features on people and animals are bold (e.g. nose, eyes, lips, etc.) so they will reproduce well.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the volume of entries received, we are unable to personally acknowledge entries

## Mission Focus: Sri Lanka

### Can you bring *Hope* for a better future to Mission children around the world?

Sri Lanka, a country located at the tip of India surrounded by the India Ocean, has the perfect climate to produce TEA. It is the fourth largest producer in the world. Unfortunately, many of people who work on the tea estates are living in terrible poverty. Nutritional packs and medical care provided by the **Missionary Childhood Association** to families on tea estates in Sri Lanka are changing lives.

**What a HELP!** As well as giving children a chance to grow up to be strong and healthy, the children have the energy to go to school. The education gives them an opportunity to escape a life of poverty. Through the



Children opening their nutrition packs

lives of sacrifice and service of Missionaries like Sister Ruby [pictured right] children understand that that there are others around the world who care about them and

who pray for them. Children here are reminded that Jesus wants us **all to be Missionaries**. In this unique worldwide exchange of prayer, sharing and friendship, students in Philadelphia become **"Children helping Children."**



People working on the steep hillside of the tea estates



Sister Ruby with students at a school in Sri Lanka

With a sacrifice of **\$2**, MCA children can help provide the items necessary for good health for children in poverty in Sri Lanka and places like it in the world. **What Can YOU do to HELP, especially in this Extraordinary Year of Mission?**

Will **your students** say a Hail Mary for children in Sri Lanka each day this school year in the **EXTRAORDINARY YEAR OF MISSION**? Pope Francis asks all students in **MCA** do so.

During this **EXTRAORDINARY YEAR OF MISSION**, pray one Hail Mary a day for the 1,111 diocese we support all over the world!

