Little Missionaries

A Journey Around the World

Pray, Learn, and Color with the Missions!

World Mission Month
Activity Booklet for Children

Little Missionaries:
A Journey Around the World

This World Mission Month we join in solidarity and prayer with our sisters and brothers from all nations.

This booklet belongs to _____,
a Missionary!

Introduction

Dear Little Missionary,

Welcome to A Journey Around the World! During the month of October, the Church around the world comes together to pray for children and families in places where the Church is still young and growing. These are called mission territories, and they are found in over 1,100 places across Africa, the Americas, Asia, Oceania, and Europe.

At the explicit request of our Pope, Leo XIV, The Pontifical Mission Societies provide material and spiritual support.

You are never too young to be a missionary! Jesus asks all of us to share His love with others. In this booklet, you'll learn about saints who shared the love of Jesus in faraway lands, and you'll pray the **World Mission Rosary**, a special rosary that helps us remember people all over the world.

Each week (or every day if you'd like!), you'll focus on one part of the world. Before each mystery of the Rosary, you'll meet a missionary saint who lived and served there. You'll also find a short prayer and something you can do with your family to grow as a Little Missionary.

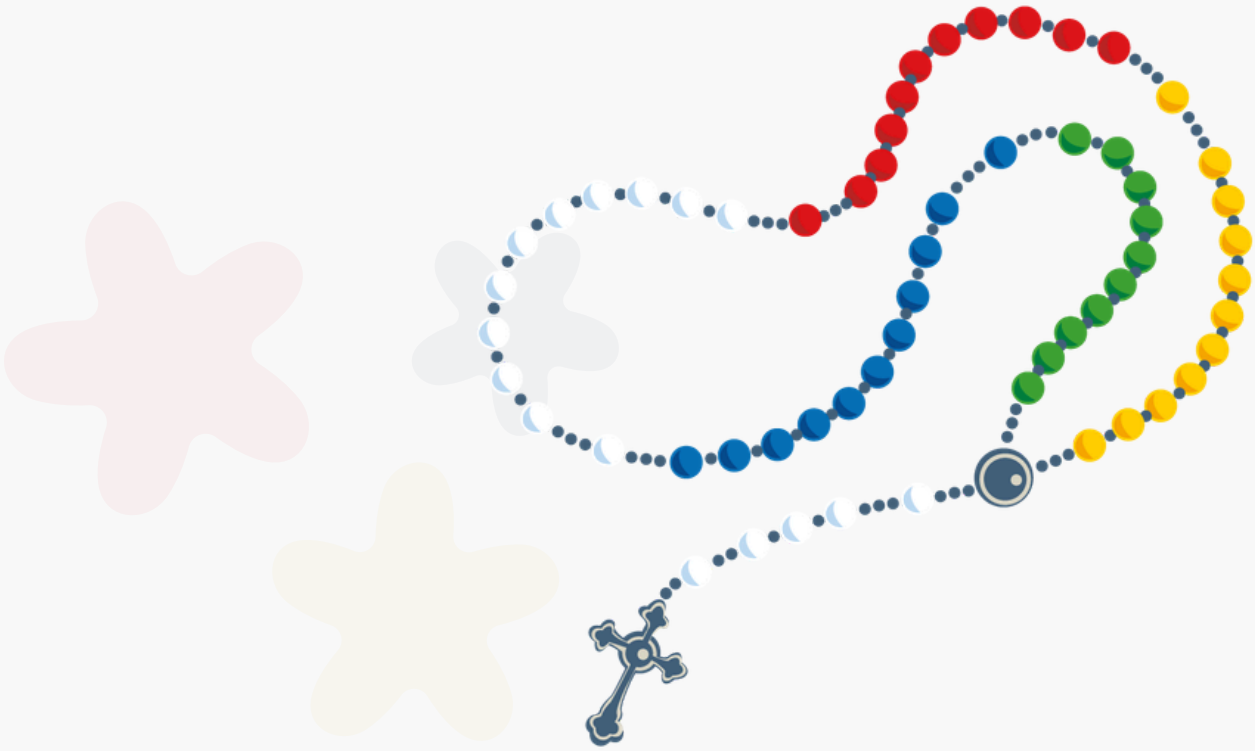
Let's begin this journey of prayer, friendship, and mission!

Setting Up a Mission Corner at Home

Let's make a place in your home where you can go to pray. This can be a little table, a shelf, or a cozy corner. Place your rosary there, along with a statue or image of Jesus, Mary, or a saint you love. You can decorate it with flowers, candles (real or electric), or something you found on a walk.

This "Mission Corner" will be your family's special prayer space for the month of October. Each week, when you do your Family Mission Activity, return to this spot to offer your prayers for Pope Leo XIV, the missions, and all God's children around the world.

If you can, make sure that this "Mission Corner" is located at a place in your home you walk through regularly: There is no limit to how many times we can say "Jesus, I love you," or "Virgin Mary, place me under your care."



Africa

Green Beads

Missionary Saint:

Saint Josephine Bakhita

c. 1869 – 1947

Born in Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery. After gaining her freedom in Italy, she became a Canossian Sister and spent her life teaching children and serving the poor. Despite the pain she endured, she forgave those who harmed her and said:

"If I were to meet those slave traders who kidnapped me, I would kneel and kiss their hands, for if that did not happen, I would not be a Christian and a religious today."

Did you know that in Africa, many children walk long distances just to go to school or Mass? Missionaries help by building schools and teaching about Jesus.

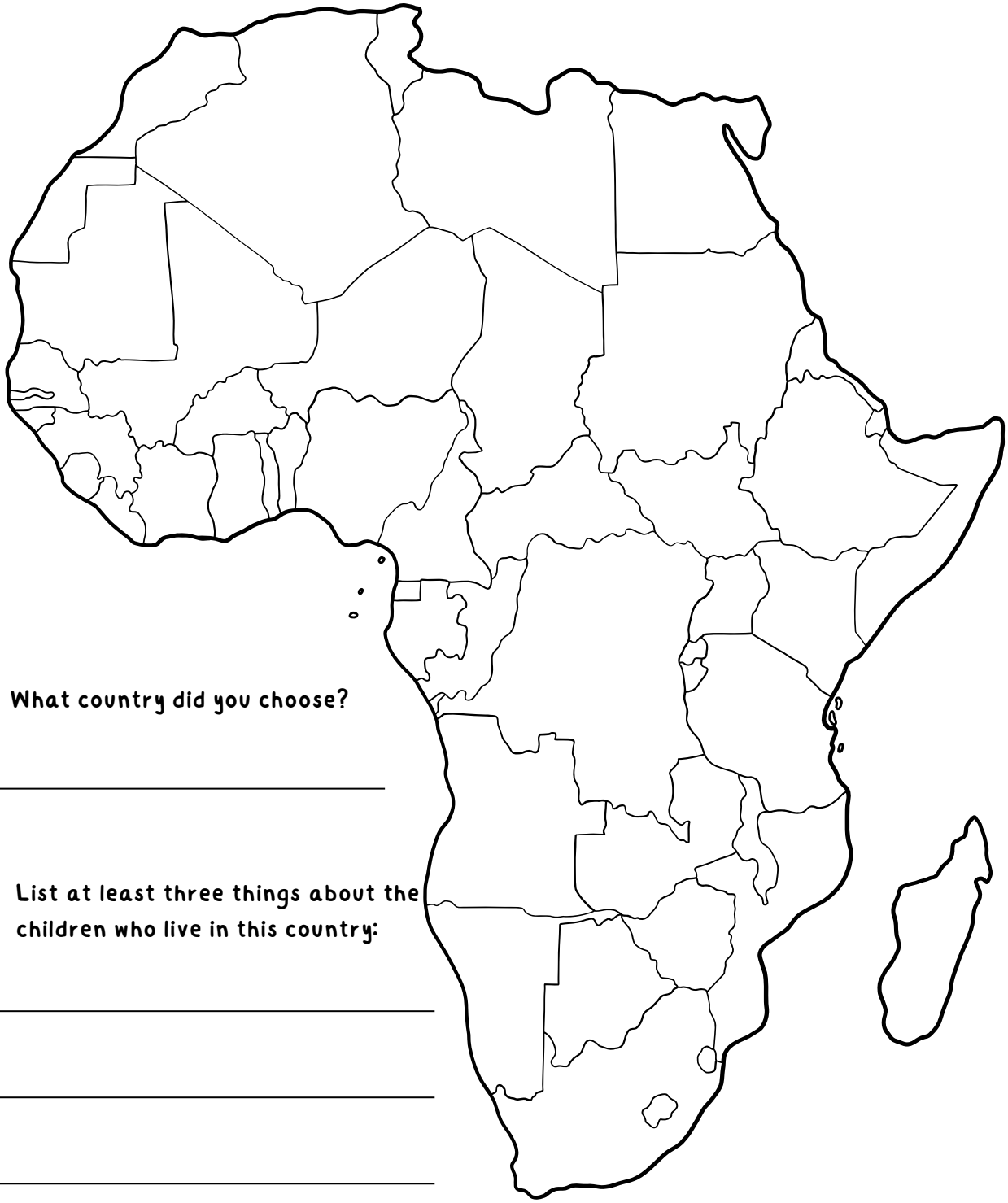
Prayer

"Dear Jesus, bless the children in Africa. Help them know your love through their families, teachers, and missionaries. Help also the millions of children around the world who, even today, are victims of modern slavery, like Saint Josephine Bakhita. Amen."

Family Mission

Find Sudan on a map or globe. Then pick another country in Africa and learn something about the children who live there. Go for a short nature walk and collect something green—like a leaf or a blade of grass—and bring it back home to make sure Africa is represented in your prayer corner. Then pray a decade of the Rosary for children living there.

Family Mission Activity



- What country did you choose?

_____

- List at least three things about the children who live in this country:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Americas

Red Beads

Missionary Saint:

Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini

c. 1850 – 1917

Born in Italy, Frances dreamed of becoming a missionary in China, but Pope Leo XIII sent her to the United States instead. Here, she became the first American citizen to be declared a saint! She traveled all over the Americas—especially in the U.S.—founding schools, hospitals, and orphanages to serve immigrants and the poor.

In 1891, she sailed to Nicaragua to open a religious house. Arriving in Chile, she traveled by mule over the Andes Mountains to found schools in Brazil and Argentina. She also went to the island of Grenada to start a school.

She said once, "We must pray without tiring, for the salvation of mankind does not depend on material success... but on Jesus alone."

Did you know that missionaries bring the Gospel to villages deep in the jungles of South America? They celebrate Mass, baptize babies, and help communities grow in faith.

Prayer

"Dear Jesus, like St. Frances Cabrini, help me share your love with people nearby. Bless all missionaries and families in North, Central, and South America. Amen."

Family Mission

Using a red crayon or colored pencil, trace or outline the countries of the Americas. Pick one country where Mother Cabrini traveled, and prepare a simple snack or craft inspired by it. Then pray a decade of the Rosary for children living there.

Family Mission Activity

- What country did you choose your snack from?

_____

Draw a picture of your snack.

Europe

White Beads

Missionary Saint:

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

c. 1873 – 1897

Though she never left her Carmelite convent in France, Thérèse offered her life, prayers, and small daily sacrifices for missionaries around the world. She called her simple way of loving God the "Little Way" and is now known as the co-patroness of the missions.

"I will spend my heaven doing good on earth," she wrote in Story of a Soul, her autobiography.

Did you know that Europe has many old churches and saints, but not every child hears about Jesus at home? Missionaries bring joy to children through camps, prayer groups, and parish missions.

Prayer

"Jesus, like St. Thérèse, help me love you in the small things I do. Bless the Church in Europe with hearts full of faith. Amen."

Family Mission

Learn how to say "God loves you" in French: **Dieu t'aime.** Write or draw one kind act you can do quietly at school or home. Then take a walk outside and bring back a white stone or flower to place near your Mission Corner. The white stone reminds us of the new name God promises to give to each of us in heaven (Revelation 2:17), and it symbolizes the purity and simplicity of St. Thérèse's "Little Way." Pray a decade of the Rosary for children living in Europe.

Family Mission Activity

Just like St. Thérèse, we too can make a difference for missionaries with our prayers. Your prayers make a difference.

Write or draw acts of kindness you can do at school or home.

Oceania

Blue Beads

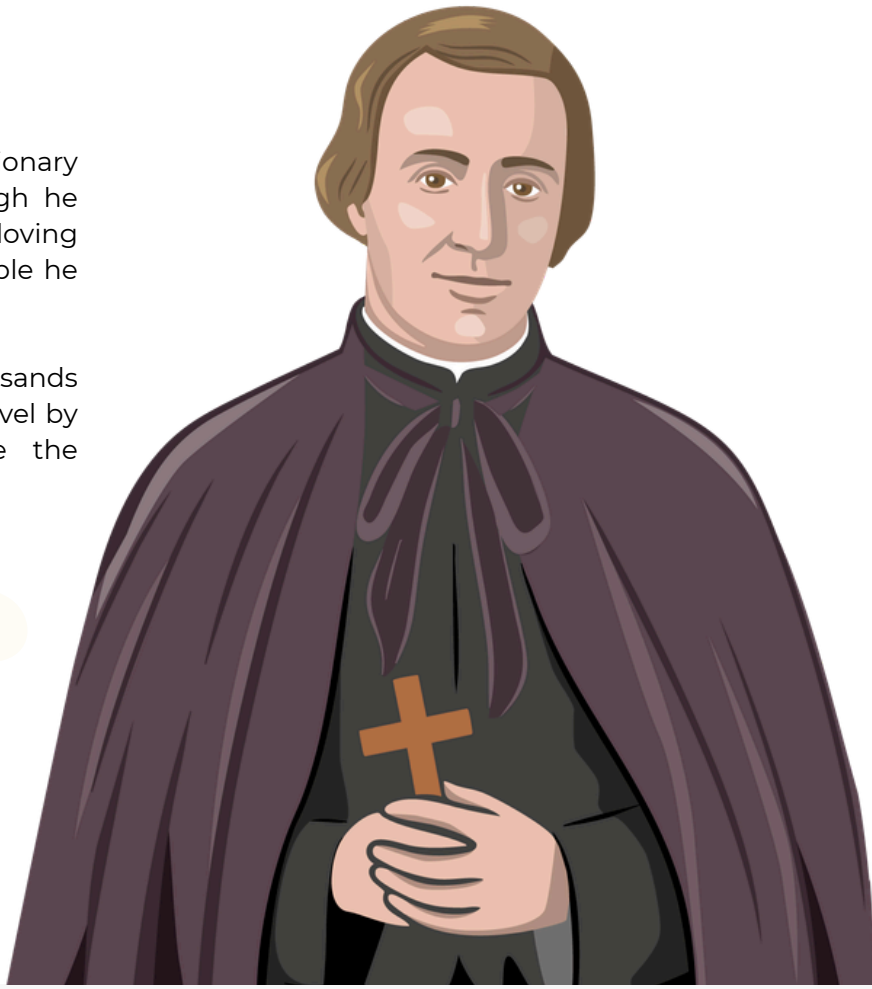
Missionary Saint:

Saint Peter Chanel

c. 1803 – 1841

Born in France, St. Peter became a missionary priest in the Pacific Islands. Even though he faced many hardships, he was kind and loving to everyone. He gave his life for the people he served.

Did you know that Oceania includes thousands of islands? Many missionaries have to travel by boat to reach people and celebrate the sacraments.



Prayer

"Dear Jesus, bless all those who bring the Gospel to island communities. Help me be a peacemaker like St. Peter. Amen."

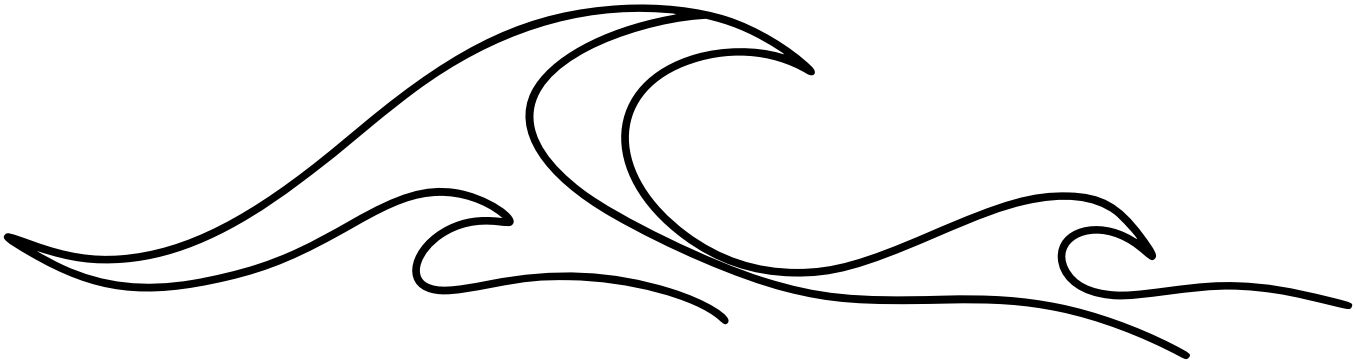
Family Mission

Look up an island country in Oceania—like Fiji, Papua New Guinea, or Samoa—and find it on a map. Use blue paper or fabric to create a "wave of prayer" banner and write prayer intentions on each wave shape. Hang it somewhere visible to remind you to pray all week. Pray a decade of the Rosary for the children living in Oceania.

Family Mission Activity

If you had to travel constantly like a missionary living in Oceania, what five essential things would you take with you?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



Asia

Yellow Beads

Missionary Saint:

Saint Francis Xavier

c. 1506 – 1552

St. Francis was one of the first Jesuit missionaries and brought the Gospel to India, Southeast Asia, and Japan. He baptized thousands and is remembered as one of the greatest missionaries in Church history. He died while trying to reach China.

He once said, "It is not the actual physical exertion that counts towards one's progress, nor the nature of the task, but the spirit of faith with which it is undertaken."

Did you know that Asia is the largest continent in terms of how many people live there, yet many people do not know about Jesus? Missionaries help children learn about God's love for them, and in many cases, they also provide their only opportunity to attend school.

Prayer

"Jesus, help me be brave and full of faith like St. Francis Xavier. Bless children in Asia and the missionaries who serve them. Amen."

Family Mission

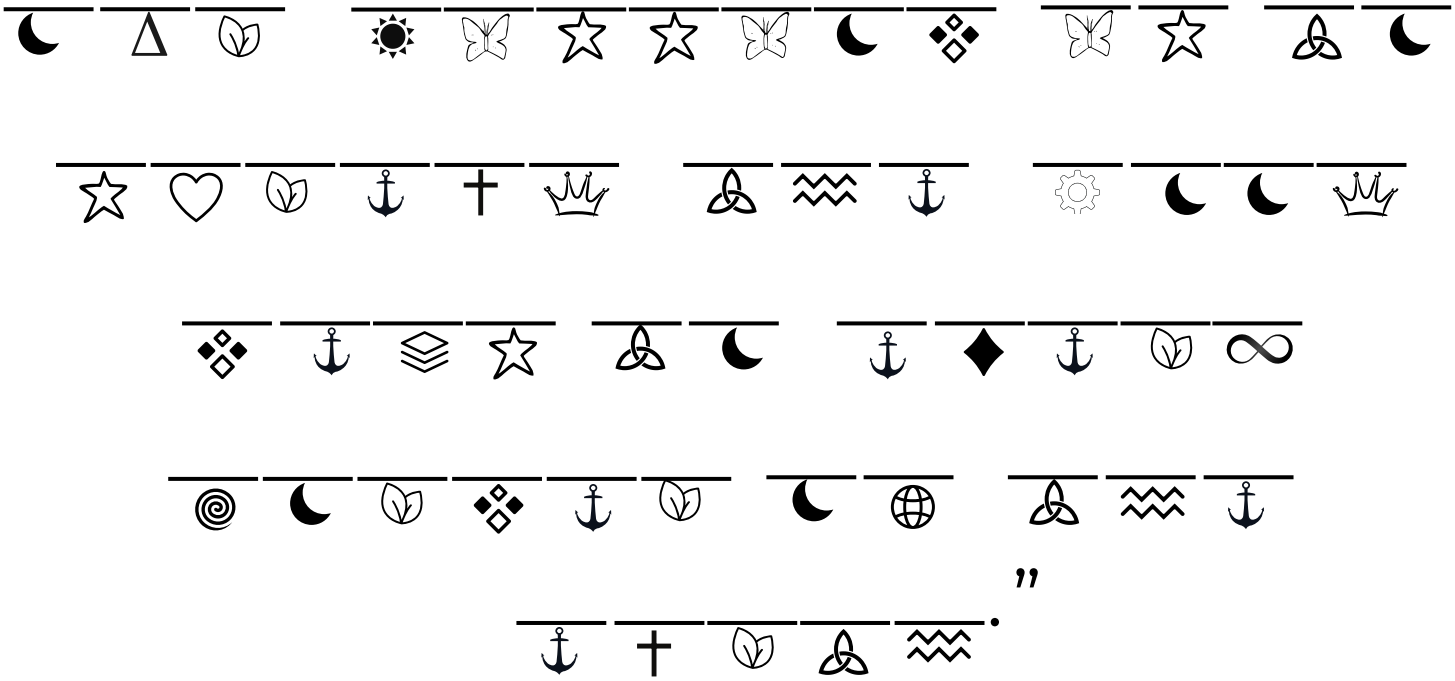
On a map, locate India, Japan, or the Philippines. Choose one and learn how to say "peace" in that language. Then gather yellow leaves or flowers from outside and glue them onto a sheet of paper shaped like a heart as a symbol of peace and hope for Asia. Place the heart in your prayer space. Pray a decade of the Rosary for the children living in Asia.

Family Mission Activity

- India
- Japan
- Philippines

St. Francis Xavier constantly wrote to friends in the missions encouraging them to continue on with the mission of evangelization. Use the key below to find out what St. Francis wrote to others. His message continues to resonate with us even today.

“



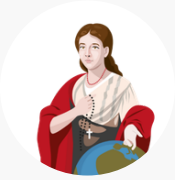
”

Key to solve St. Francis Xavier’s message to us.

Y	O	A	M	U	W	I	R	E	P	D	N	G	S	T	H	V	C	F

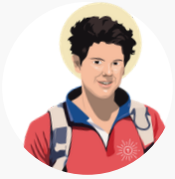
Other Missionaries You Should Know

Get to know those who, through the last 2,000 years, have helped the Pope, the chief missionary, answer Christ's call for each one of us — every baptized person is a missionary — to go and bring the Joy of the Gospel to the nations of the world!



Blessed Pauline Jaricot *(1799 – 1862)*
Founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, she encouraged people to pray and give a penny a week for the missions. She helped create what we now know as World Mission Sunday.

Bishop Charles de Forbin-Janson *(1785 – 1844)*
A French bishop who founded the Missionary Childhood Association, helping children support other children through prayer and sacrifice.



Saint Carlo Acutis *(1991 – 2006)*
A teenager from Italy who used the internet to spread the Gospel. He reminds us that we can all be missionaries with modern tools! As you continue to grow as a young missionary, we invite you to be inspired by Saint Carlo Acutis' favorite saying: "The Eucharist is the highway to heaven."

Blessed Fulton J. Sheen *(1895 – 1979)*
An American bishop who served as National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, using his vibrant voice and deep love for the Gospel to inspire support for missionaries worldwide. He created the World Mission Rosary with five distinct colors to help us pray for people in every corner of the globe!

My Missionary Prayer

Draw yourself as a Missionary! Write a prayer for children in the missions:

"Dear God, I pray for..."

If you want, you can ask a grown up in your family who has access to social media, to take a picture of your drawing and prayer and tag us at @tpms_usa, and we will share it with thousands!

Thank you for being a Little Missionary!
You can continue to pray the World Mission Rosary with your family, your friends, and in your parish.

Remember: Your prayers help people all around the world!

To learn more about missionaries and mission territories, visit:
www.pontificalmissions.org