



World



MISSION SUNDAY

19 October 2025

LITURGICAL-PASTORAL RESOURCES

"HERALDS OF HOPE
AMONG THE PEOPLE"



I. Holy Mass

a. Mass Introduction

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today, the Universal Church celebrates World Mission Sunday, a sacred invitation to rekindle the missionary call at the heart of our baptism.

In communion with the Holy Father, and in line with the Jubilee 2025 celebrations, we are invited to be 'Heralds of Hope among the People' — announcing the Gospel not merely in words but through lives rooted in faith, perseverance, and love.

The readings today offer a rich spiritual background. From the steadfast intercession of Moses in Exodus, to Paul's exhortation to Timothy to remain faithful in proclaiming the Word, to Jesus' parable of the persistent widow in Luke — we are reminded that mission is born from prayer, nurtured by Scripture, and sustained through patient endurance.

In the context of our Church in India, where diversity meets deep spiritual thirst, our mission is to bring the light of hope to the margins — among the poor, the youth, and the broken-hearted.

Let us unite in this Eucharist, offering ourselves anew to God's mission, ready to be faithful heralds of hope in our communities, our nation, and our world.

Come, let us celebrate!

b. Introduction to Mass Readings

First Reading (Exodus 17:8-13)

In today's first reading from Exodus, we witness Israel under attack by Amalek. As Joshua leads the battle, Moses stands on the hilltop with hands raised in prayer. His intercession, supported by Aaron and Hur, brings victory through steadfast faith. This scene reminds us that prayer sustains mission, and God fights for His people.



Second Reading (2 Timothy 3:14-4:2)

In the second reading, Paul exhorts Timothy to remain faithful to the Scriptures he has learned. The Word of God, inspired and life-giving, equips believers for every good work. Paul charges Timothy to preach the Word with urgency, whether welcome or not. This call echoes our missionary mandate: to proclaim hope in season and out of season.

c. Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: Dear brothers and sisters, gathered in the spirit of World Mission Sunday, let us offer our prayers to the Lord, who calls us to be heralds of hope in a wounded world.

1. For the Holy Father, our bishops, and all church leaders: That Pope Leo XIV, our bishop, and all shepherds of the Church may lead God's people with wisdom, courage, and missionary zeal. Let us pray to the Lord.

2. For missionaries in places of danger and persecution: That those who witness to Christ amid trials may be strengthened in faith and protected by the grace of God. Let us pray to the Lord.

3. For our parish community: That we may grow as a missionary people, sowing seeds of hope through prayer, service, and joyful witness. Let us pray to the Lord.

4. For those who suffer: That the poor, the lonely, the sick, and the displaced may experience God's comfort through our compassion and care. Let us pray to the Lord.

5. For the Pontifical Mission Organizations in India and the world: That their works may flourish and bear fruit, bringing the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: God of all nations, You sent Your Son as the light of the world. Hear the prayers of Your people and strengthen us to be heralds of hope, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



II. Homily Notes

(on Day's Readings and Mission Sunday Theme)



1. Introduction: World Mission Sunday and Jubilee 2025

- Today we celebrate World Mission Sunday with the theme: “Heralds of Hope among the People.”
- As we journey towards Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope, we are reminded that mission is not optional — it is the very identity of the Church.
- Each baptized person is called to be a bearer of hope, especially in a world marked by violence, injustice, and despair.

2. First Reading: Exodus 17:8–13 – Hope Through Intercessory Perseverance

- The battle with Amalek is won not just by Joshua’s sword but by Moses’ uplifted hands — a symbol of faithful intercession.
- Aaron and Hur hold up Moses’ hands — collaborative mission sustains hope.
- Application:
 - We are called to stand in prayer for the world — mission begins on our knees.
 - Missionaries, catechists, and evangelists draw strength from the hidden prayers of many.
 - In India, this means upholding the poor, the marginalized, the persecuted with persevering intercession.

3. Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14–4:2 – Hope Proclaimed in the Word

- Paul exhorts Timothy: “Preach the Word, in season and out of season.”
- The Scriptures inspire, form, and send us for the mission of hope.
- Application:
 - The Bible is the missionary’s guide — forming hearts to announce Good News.
 - As heralds of hope, we must learn, live, and proclaim the Word of God.
 - In the Indian Church, the growing hunger for the Word among the laity is a hopeful sign of renewal.

4. Gospel: Luke 18:1–8 – Hope in Persistent Prayer and Justice

- The widow’s relentless plea reveals the power of perseverance in seeking justice.
- Jesus assures us: “Will not God see justice done?” — hope is grounded in God’s faithfulness.
- Application:
 - In a society filled with delay, discouragement, and disillusionment, hope looks like persistence.
 - Mission today means standing with the poor and advocating for justice without growing weary.
 - The Church must become a voice for the voiceless — heralds of a better future.

5. Pastoral Application: Becoming Heralds of Hope

- Prayer – Like Moses and the widow, lift the world to God in trust.
- Proclamation – Like Timothy, hold firm to the Word and make it known boldly.
- Perseverance – Like the widow, never give up in the face of resistance and delay.
- Our missionary task is not to impose but to propose hope — with humility, courage, and love.
- In India today, being a herald of hope may mean standing with Dalits, tribals, youth, migrants, and the broken-hearted.

6. Conclusion: Eucharist as the Source of Mission

- The Eucharist we celebrate strengthens us to be witnesses of hope.
- Let us go forth as Heralds of Hope among the People, bearing the light of Christ in every corner of society.
- “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Romans 10:15)

III. Post-Communion Events

a. Mission Prayer: Heralds of Hope among the People

Lord Jesus, You are the Light that shines in our darkness,
Send us as heralds of hope to the ends of the earth.
May our words speak peace, and our lives reflect Your love.
Strengthen us in faith, bold in witness, and constant in prayer.

Like Moses, may we lift hands in intercession for the world.
Like Timothy, may we proclaim Your Word with courage.
Like the widow in the parable, may we persevere in justice and mercy.

Bless missionaries who serve in distant and difficult places.
Let our hearts burn with zeal, our hands extend with compassion,
That all may encounter You, the Living Hope of the world.



b. Post-Communion-Announcement

Dear brothers and sisters,

As we come to the close of this World Mission Sunday celebration, let us remember what mission truly means: it is a call to encounter God's unconditional, compassionate, and life-giving love—and to share that love with all, near and far.

Our Holy Father Pope Leo XIV reminds us that mission is a tireless going out to all, and that the mission for all requires the commitment of all. We must seek together how to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges (and) dialogue, always open to receive people.

Today, we are invited to support this mission through our prayers, our presence, and especially through our contribution to the Pontifical Mission Societies, the Holy Father's charity for world mission.

The special collection taken today will support the Church's missionary works around the world—and much of it will return to support mission in India, especially in our own dioceses, parishes, and institutions.

Let us give generously and joyfully, as Heralds of Hope among the People, united with Catholics across the globe in proclaiming the Gospel that transforms lives and renews the world.

Thank you for your solidarity, your prayers, and your missionary spirit.

c. Creative Pastoral Ideas to Celebrate the World Mission Day

1. Missionary Testimony Hour: Invite a missionary priest, religious, or layperson to share their story of serving in a mission land, either live or via video, especially at Sunday Mass or a parish gathering.
2. Mission Tree of Hope: Set up a "tree of hope" in the church or parish hall where parishioners can hang prayers, pledges, or missionary intentions written on paper leaves or doves.



3. Children's Mission Rosary: Organize a children-led rosary, using the Mission Rosary colours to pray for the five continents, teaching them about global mission and solidarity.
4. Parish Mission Fair: Create mission booths representing different parts of India. Include cultural displays, food, missionary stories, and interactive games. Integrate the migrants from other States in India.
5. Mission Outreach Project Launch a local outreach mission: visiting the sick, feeding the hungry, or supporting a marginalized group — showing that mission begins at home.
6. Mission-themed Youth Drama or Mime: Have parish youth prepare a short skit or mime on being heralds of hope, drawing from the Sunday readings or real missionary stories.
7. Missionary Candle Procession: At the beginning of Mass, invite representatives from different parish groups to bring candles to the altar symbolizing their commitment to mission.
8. Mission Sunday Art and Essay Contest: Encourage children and young people to express the theme through artwork, poems, or short essays, with a display and prizes after Mass.
9. Solidarity Lunch or Mission Breakfast: Organize a simple shared meal after Mass, raising funds and awareness for missionary efforts supported by the Pontifical Mission Societies.
10. Mission Prayer Chain or 24-hour Adoration: Initiate a parish-wide prayer chain or time of adoration, offering continuous prayer for missionaries and the spread of the Gospel across the world.

Prepared by

Pontifical Mission Organizations - India
Bangalore

**“Heralds of hope
among the people”**

