



## Mission Month Prayer Service

Set an altar with a Bible, crucifix, candles (unlit), a globe to represent the missions and a World Mission Rosary. Get yours from the Missionary Childhood office. Ask the children to wear the colors of the World Mission Rosary—a ribbon, a scarf, or a dress down day will work!

**Leader:** October is a month set aside by our Church to honor Mary and also to celebrate the missions. Today we will do both by praying for Mary's intercession for children in the missions as we pray a *chaplet* of the World Mission Rosary. A *chaplet* is a string of beads that is one third the length of a rosary, said with the same prayers. (*Optional directions: As the color you are wearing is called, please stand representing your continent.*)

**Reader 1:** *The World Mission Rosary was started in 1951 by the Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen as a way to pray for the people of the missions and the missionaries who serve and accompany them.*

**Reader 2:** *The different colors of the decades stand for a part of the world for which we will pray today. As we think of the colors, let us pray that one day, all children in that part of the world will be blessed to know how much God loves them*

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

**Leader:** Together, let's recite the Apostles Creed.

**Reader 3:** Green stands for the forest and the grasslands of Africa. Let us pray for the children of Africa and the missionaries serving there. We pray for an end to all fighting, famine, and disease. We also pray for the growth of the Church in Africa.

**Leader:** Together, let's say 1 Our Father and 2 Hail Marys, keeping the intention of Africa in our hearts and minds.

**Reader 4:** Red stands for the fire of the faith brought to North and South America by missionaries. Let us pray for the children of the Americas—including ourselves—and the missionaries serving there. We pray that all children will know God's love, be able to attend school regularly, and have enough to eat. We pray for the return of people who have left the Church.

**Leader:** Together, let's say 1 Our Father and 2 Hail Marys, keeping the intention of the Americas in our

hearts and minds.

**Reader 5:** White stands for Europe because it is home to the Holy Father, Pope Francis. Let us pray for the children of Europe and the missionaries serving there. May the Church continue to serve the needs of all there, especially the sick and the homeless.

**Leader:** Together, let's say 1 Our Father and 2 Hail Marys, keeping the intention of Europe in our hearts and minds.

**Reader 6:** Blue stands for Oceania—the island countries in the Pacific Ocean. Let us pray for the children of Oceania and the missionaries serving there. May all who suffer because of natural disasters there be shown God's love through our sacrifices for their daily relief.

**Leader:** Together, let's say 1 Our Father and 2 Hail Marys, keeping the intention of Oceania in our hearts and minds.

**Reader 7:** Yellow stands for where the sun rises first in the east, over Asia. Let us pray for the children of Asia and the missionaries serving there. May all who are not free to worship God openly one day be allowed to attend the church of their choice in freedom.

**Leader:** Together, let's say 1 Our Father and 2 Hail Marys, keeping the intention of Asia in our hearts and minds.

**Leader:** We open our hearts and minds to all children with the Missionary Childhood prayer:

May all children

In the world

Share love and

Share friendship and live

In the peace

Of God's love

Now and Forever

**All: Amen**