



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF GREEN BAY

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September 8, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Every year something special happens on the next to last Sunday in October. World Mission Sunday, October 24, joins all Catholics of the world into one community of faith. At Mass, we recommit ourselves to be missionaries, through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the World Missions.

Pope Francis' theme is *"We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard"* (Acts 4:20). He reminds us that, *"as Christians, we cannot keep the Lord to ourselves. Recall with gratitude all those men and women who by their testimony of life help us to renew our baptismal commitment to be generous and joyful apostles of the Gospel"*.

On World Mission Sunday, we join Pope Francis in supporting his missions. As we pray and respond here at home, we share in those celebrations taking place in every parish and school throughout the world. Together, through our prayers and financial support, we bring the Lord's mercy to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions.

In a world where so much divides us, World Mission Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries by our Baptism, offering each one of us an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the poor and marginalized in more than 1,111 mission dioceses.

My brothers and sisters, may your heart be generous on World Mission Sunday, and may the Holy Spirit bless and guide you with peace, strength and goodness.

With gratitude and hope-filled blessings, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David L. Ricken, DD, JCL
Bishop of Green Bay