

# October Mission Intention

We pray that the celebration of World Mission Sunday may increase a passion for Evangelization and support for missionary activity in the people of God .



As the Father has sent me, so I send YOU

## Country Focus: Kenya—An African country that is rising and falling

Kenya is an East African country centered on the Equator whose southeastern border is on the Indian Ocean.



Kenya has a diverse landscape with many contrasts. It has lush valleys and large lakes to the West good for growing and many animals, while the East is dry and desert-like. Kenya is a popular tourist destination known for its world renowned game parks and proximity to Mount Kilimanjaro. It also maintains an important tourist and trade seaport in Mombasa on the Indian Ocean that serves much of the African interior.

Kenya has a long rich cultural history with many tribal groups and tribal languages. This former British colony tries to find unity through speaking common languages of Swahili and English.

The Church in Kenya is young and growing. First evangelized by European missionaries, Catholicism in Kenya is maturing as it takes responsibility for the health of its own Church. There is a great need to train and support up-and-coming leaders to sustain and foster the joyful and hope-filled faith that pervades Kenya.

Kenya faces many additional challenges. There are health concerns like Malaria and HIV/AIDS. Currently, there is a devastating drought in Eastern Kenya and Somalia that is ravaging many communities, forcing the migration of hundred of thousands of people desperate for help that includes water and food.

## God's Word for Mission

Promoting Knowledge of Faith

*"The disciples said, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?'...They recounted what had happened to them on the way and how Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of the bread." (Luke 24:32-35)*

*"Mission is the most precious service that the Church can render to humanity. This task has not lost any of its urgency. The universal mission involves everyone, everything and always." from Pope Benedict's World Mission Sunday Message*

## Saints for Mission - St. Monica

Education for Community Life

St. Monica lived in North Africa in the 4th Century. She was married to a pagan husband who was an alcoholic with a harsh temper. Because of this, Monica struggled with her marriage yet she sought healing and prayer for her husband. Her prayers and example eventually inspired her husband to change his ways. He embraced the Christian faith and was baptized one year before he died.

Monica also interceded for her three children especially her son, Augustine, who left home and was living an immoral life.



Patron Saint of alcoholics and troubled wives and mothers

Monica never gave up praying for her son and encouraging him to live up to his call. Eventually, her son was led into the Christian faith by St. Ambrose and was baptized in 387. He became a priest, bishop and major teacher of faith in Africa. He influenced the entire Christian world as St. Augustine through his many books.

Monica devoted her life to women in need and inspired women's movements of prayer and support to mothers in Africa and around the world.

### Option for the Poor

There is a Christian imperative to care for the most vulnerable people among us. Jesus commanded us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, visit the prisoners and pray for those who are persecuted. Christian charity means protecting and nurturing life from the womb to the tomb—to give priority to the “least of these.”



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## My Mission Gift - Offering Prayer, Service and Treasure *Moral Formation*

### Give an hour of Prayer

- Pray daily for Kenya
- Pray mission rosary
- Pray for global mission , especially Kenya
- Pray about living your vocation in God’s Mission



### Give an hour of Service

- Give up something to eat to end famine ([www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org))
- Join the H2O project and take the water challenge ([www.theH2Oproject.org](http://www.theH2Oproject.org))
- Learn about drought in Africa and water issues around the world



### Give a Buck for Mission

- Give \$1 to Holy Childhood Society for mission that provides the following for children around the world, including Kenya:
  - 1) Provides needed assistance for children seeking education
  - 2) Provides relief for those suffering in drought areas
  - 3) Provides opportunities for children to grow in faith in mission lands

Place gift commitments and offerings in your Holy Bucket. If you do not have one and would like one, contact Eric Simon at [simone@archspm.org](mailto:simone@archspm.org).

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## Petitions for Mission

*Liturgical Education*

- ✚ Let us pray for an increase of love and passion for sharing the gospel of Jesus.
- ✚ Let us pray for the young and developing churches around the world. May our sharing in God’s mission transform the world.
- ✚ Let us pray for those who are vulnerable and suffering around us, especially in East Africa. May we offer our gifts of prayer and sacrifice to relieve their pain.
- ✚ Let us pray for missionaries who have left everything to follow Christ. May their efforts of bringing good news to the poor bear fruit and make the name of Jesus known and loved in our time.

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## Prayer for Mission

*Missionary Initiative*

Dear Jesus, you call each of us to follow your mission which reaches to the ends of the earth. Help us to give witness to your love and show our support for your missionary activity to all nations. Amen.