

## **HOLY HALF HOUR FOR OCTOBER, 2017**

### **MISSION SUNDAY**

**OPENING HYMN:** All The Ends of The Earth – Joyful Celebration No. 29

#### **OPENING PRAYER**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING (2 Tim 4:16-18) – To be proclaimed from the Bible**

#### **REFLECTION**

On World Mission Sunday, we renew our call to continue the mission of Jesus who made the mercy of God present among us. The missionary call of Jesus to “go and make disciples” has not ceased; rather this command commits all of us, in our own place and circumstances to hear the call of what Pope Francis terms, “a renewed missionary impulse.” He says, “Each Christian and every community must discern the path that the Lord points out, but all of us are asked to obey his call to go forth from our comfort zone in order to reach all the ‘peripheries’ in need of the light of the Gospel” (EvangeliiGaudium, 20).

The mission of mercy means responding to the needs of the poor, the sick, those who grieve or feel hopeless, the foreigner and the stranger. How might we participate in Christ’s mission of mercy in our time and place? God is still calling and sending missionaries to respond to the cry of the poor. How is he calling me to be his vehicle of mercy?

#### **PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

On World Mission Sunday, let us unite with the Universal Church and let us pray God the Father:

**Our Response: Lord make us rediscover your Mission!**

Your Son, the bearer of your great Mission, established your kingdom of love, sharing, and fraternity on earth. He invites us to build it all together. May we rediscover the importance of his invitation and may we answer it in a thousand ways!

R. – Lord make us rediscover your Mission!

Your Church received your great Mission from your Son. May we rediscover this Mission like never before, may we believe in it and may we become beacons of love and solidarity all over the world.

R. – Lord make us rediscover your Mission!

The baptized people who belong to different Christian confessions are called to become missionary disciples, keen to collaborate in your Mission everywhere on earth. Help them so that they may rediscover this call in a wounded world, who awaits the builders of the kingdom of justice and peace.

R. – Lord make us rediscover your Mission!

Missionary disciples even give their lives so that they completely become involved in the service of your Mission. We entrust to you these brothers and sisters from all the continents and who are serving different churches and cultures. May they allow your kingdom to grow through the gift of their lives.

R. – Lord make us rediscover your Mission!

Pope Francis, along with all the bishops and all the shepherds of the people of God, have their hearts set on your Mission. May your Spirit be the inspiration that guides all their words and actions.

R. – Lord make us rediscover your Mission!

In this world of religious pluralism, ethnic and cultural fundamentalism, you call us to participate more than ever, to your Mission of Evangelization. May we become peacemakers in missionary outgoing, fraternal dialogue and at the service of all Mankind.

R. – Lord make us rediscover your Mission!

Lord, may your Mission become the central concern for our Church community throughout the world. Bring us closer to our brothers and sisters, so that we bear witness of our faith in Christ and announce his Gospel. Embolden us to go out and meet the many people who ignore the Good News that you love us and you want our happiness through the construction of a better world, your kingdom! We ask you this through Jesus, your greatest missionary with us, forever and ever.

## **SILENCE**

## **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

Wonderful God, so indiscriminate is your love, so heedless of colour and nationality and class, falling like sun and rain on all your children, the righteous and the unrighteous, the just and the unjust. For your lavish, gracious care we give you thanks and praise. Come now and sow in our hearts the seed of your word. Come and knead into our spirit the leaven of your Spirit. And may your seed and leaven transform our words and deeds, so that others might come to know your love, and give you praise. Through Jesus Christ our Lord and friend. Amen.

## **BENEDICTION**

**CONCLUDING HYMN:** Great Things Happen – Joyful Celebration No. 152

*Archdiocesan Liturgy Committee*