

Pope Francis' Evangelization Intention: **October 2016**

World Mission Day

BY GRACE MAZZA URBANSKI

Pray that World Mission Day (October 23) may renew within all Christian communities the joy of the Gospel and the responsibility to announce it.

Jesus was a missionary! He traveled all around Galilee, feeding people, healing people, and spreading the Good News of the Kingdom of God. God the Father sent Jesus on this mission so that more and more people would feel his love. Today, many men and women (and even children!) work as missionaries all around the world. The photograph here shows missionaries working and singing with children in Tanzania, Africa. Missions like this one in Tanzania share medicine, education, shelter, food, and water with people who suffer.

Missionaries do important work. Their most important work is bringing the words and love of Jesus to all of God's children. While missionaries help people live healthy lives on earth, they remind us all to pray and work so we can one day live forever in heaven. How beautiful!

Missions are special places where people can feel loved, protected, and healthy. But missionaries need our help. They need equipment, money, and prayers. YOUR prayers help because God always, always listens to you and sends his help to those you mention in prayer.

Let's pray together: Jesus, thank you for your missionaries. Bless them and the people they serve in your name.

Think About it!

- * Why are missions important?
- * How do your prayers help missionaries in faraway countries?
- * What do you imagine when you think of "heaven"?

Missionaries do lots of good work for others. What work can you do, right in your very own home?

- * On the next page are some examples of work missionaries can do.
- * Every time you help out in one of these ways, write it down or draw a picture of the work you have done.



PHOTO: MELODY HANSEN CC



PRAYING: This is how I prayed for someone.

Empty dotted-line box for writing about praying for someone.

HEALING: This is how I helped someone feel better.

Empty dotted-line box for writing about helping someone feel better.

TEACHING: This is how I helped someone learn about Jesus or other things.

Empty dotted-line box for writing about helping someone learn about Jesus or other things.

HELPING: This is how I fixed something or did a nice deed for someone.

Empty dotted-line box for writing about fixing something or doing a nice deed for someone.

Remember that God is the one who helps us do good work for others. Thank you, God!



Grace Mazza Urbanski is the author of *Pray with Me: Seven Simple Ways to Pray with Your Children*. These reflections on the Pope's monthly intentions are

courtesy of The Apostleship of Prayer. Go to ApostleshipOfPrayer.org.