

For immediate release

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Pause, Pray, and Connect: The World Mission Rosary Returns this May

Catholic Mission is inviting everyone to join daily online Rosary prayer sessions during the month of May.

Created in 1951 in the United States by the Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen, the World Mission Rosary is a unique tradition that serves as a powerful reminder that we all belong to a global Church, forming the foundations of community and hope through global mission.

This year, as we move towards the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday on 18 October, each of us is reminded of our unity in faith, compassion and missionary action. To honour this, starting on 1 May, Catholic Mission will be hosting a series of daily online Rosary prayers, asking for the Blessed Virgin Mary's intercession so that people around the world may experience the love of God and have life.

"As we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday, the May Rosary prayer program is even more meaningful, as this is how the Society of the Propagation of the Faith, one of the four Pontifical Mission Societies, began through its foundress, Blessed Pauline Jaricot. She started the Prayer Circle to pray and donate a penny for missionary priests," shared Fiona Ng, the initiative lead.

Representing each continent with its five colour-coded decades, the World Mission Rosary is a wonderful reminder of the work we all do in our day-to-day lives in our own mission journeys. As we pray together, we hope this initiative will encourage us all to pause and reflect on the mission efforts the Church and each one of us have made to uplift and better our own communities and people most in need around the world.

"My hope is that participants will feel a sense of support in praying the Rosary. We pray the World Mission Rosary, which aims to 'embrace the world in prayer', especially for those living in poverty," shared Fiona.

We encourage anyone with time to join in one of the many collective prayer sessions. These daily sessions will invite prayer leaders to guide the Rosary for a single day or for an entire week throughout May. The Mission Rosary is a meaningful way for us to come together in prayer and support the Church's mission around the world. The sessions will be available to parishes, schools, supporters and donor networks, with the hope of building deeper connections as we reflect on what mission means to us.

"It is heartwarming to know that we have participants who return year after year to pray together with us, which is truly a beautiful thing," highlighted Fiona.

Sessions will run Monday to Friday, 1–31 May, from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM. If you wish to join us in prayer, you can connect directly on Teams via this link: <https://tinyurl.com/RosaryPrayer26>

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About Catholic Mission

Catholic Mission is the Australian agency of the Pontifical Mission Societies – the Catholic Church’s global organisation dedicated to continuing Jesus Christ’s mission in the world: that all may have life to the full. Catholic Mission contributes funding and project support to critical church-run initiatives in Africa, Asia, Oceania, and South America. These include spiritual formation, pastoral care, education, health, sanitation, and agricultural programs. Here in Australia, we form people to go out and be missionary in their professional and personal lives; to pray, advocate and act for those on the margins. Catholic Mission has offices in 27 Australian dioceses.