



Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Office of the Cardinal
222 North 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299

October, 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

At Baptism, we are called to be Christ's witnesses. As such, we are called to share our faith with those around us and to support, in prayer and sacrifice, the work of the missionaries who bring the "Good News" of Jesus to faraway places.

On October 24th, *World Mission Sunday* will unite us as Catholics in our own baptismal vocation to be missionaries. This year, our focus turns to prayer and the *World Mission Rosary*. This Rosary, inaugurated by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen in 1951, then National Director of the *Pontifical Mission Society for the Propagation of the Faith*, reminds us that we must pray for the whole world.

The *World Mission Rosary* was designed with this intention in mind. Each of the five decades is of a different color to represent each of the five continents of the world. Please pray daily for our missionaries and for the people they serve. And, please consider praying a Rosary for the Missions. Archbishop Sheen stated that, "when the *World Mission Rosary* is completed, one has embraced all continents, all people in the world in prayer."

More than 1,150 missionary dioceses throughout the world count on your prayers and generous response this *World Mission Sunday*. May all of us here in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia be faithful to our call to be eager and effective witnesses to Jesus Christ.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ *Justin Card. Rigali*

Cardinal Justin Rigali
Archbishop of Philadelphia

(Please communicate the contents of this letter to your parishioners in the most appropriate manner on the weekend of **October 16 and 17**; the collection is to be taken the following weekend of **October 23 and 24**. Collection remittal should be made payable to: ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA and sent to: *Pontifical Mission Society for the Propagation of the Faith*, 222 North 17 Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. For more about this important celebration of the universal Church, please visit the special *World Mission Sunday* website: www.iamamissionary.org.)