

29th Sunday in ordinary time : Mission Sunday October 22nd 2017

Introduction

The introduction of Facebook to share , and other internet resources into our human lives has enabled us to share our news instantly; from a photo of the meal in front of us ,or the holiday resort we are enjoying.

Ninety-one years ago, Pope Pius1x the set aside this day Mission Sunday so that every diocese ,Parish, religious community association throughout the world would pray for and make a collection for the Christian communities in need and also support missionaries in proclaiming the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Missionaries have brought education , health care and the fight for social justice to almost every country, we can think of. Some have been killed , others have lost their health and all of them have left the known and the familiar to bring the story of God's mercy to some of the poorest people on earth.

The Gospel tells us “give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God “. So while we shouldn’t be surprised that some would prefer us to keep quiet about our faith in a God of love, justice and truth who has told us to love and forgive one another; about the reality of sin and evil, and of the eternal life won for us by Christ’s death on the cross we should still give to God what belongs to God.

The Gospel message challenges our human want to hear about our human pride and selfishness, and as the world grows more and more proud and selfish is less inclined to want to hear about these things .We should not be afraid to give to God what belongs to God. Each of us can do it in our own way for the most part probably quietly living out our faith, but also being ready openly to declare our faith and hope in God’s Son. While we pray for and support those who have left families and countries to bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth the mission also belongs to each one of us who have been baptized. On this Mission Sunday may we

**renew our commitment to that mission in our
everyday lives that in the words of the Lord
"seeing your light the world will give praise
your heavenly Father in heave.Amen**