



Let's Pray Together

The Society of Missionary Children

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CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN

MASS

to celebrate

MISSIONARY CHILDREN'S

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER





Do you know...
our motto is:
**Children Helping
Children**

...and there is a
**Society of Missionary
Children** in over 100
countries around
the world.

Wow! That means
that thousands of
children around the
world are **Praying
and Sharing**
together...just like
YOU!

Missionary Children is the official
charity of the Catholic Church for
children's missions overseas. It
encourages children to pray
together and to share together.
The children who participate help
more than four million children
world-wide each year. The
Society supports project for
children of all faiths and no faith.
EVERY CENT /PENNY donated by
Irish children is sent out
to these projects.



Our Mission Prayer

May all children
In the world
Share love
Share friendship and live
In the peace
Of God's love
Now and forever.



AMEN!



*Today's Mass readings and prayers are for children in need.
We help them with our prayers and by sharing if we can.*

Choose your favorite Alive-O songs for this Mass.

Opening Prayer

God our Father, you have given us many gifts. Help us to show concern for children in need; help us to reach out and to share our blessings with them. We ask this through Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

First Reading IS: 58:3, 4, 7, 8

This reading comes from the book of a wise man called Isaiah. He tells us that God wants us to help the poor and the hungry, so that the world can be full of His goodness and love.

God says:

Remember,

You must share things.

You must feed the hungry, and get houses for the poor people, and buy clothes for the people who haven't got enough.

If you do this,

You will make the whole world bright.

You will be like the sun that fills the sky with light each morning.

This is the word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 71:12-14, 18-19

God our Father wants us to know that he doesn't forget the poor. He will take care of those who cannot help themselves.

RESPONSE: *Never forget what the Lord has done.*

1. God will remember the poor when they cry. He will never forget them. **R.**
2. God is loving and kind. He will take care of the weak. He will take care of the helpless. **R.**

RESPONSE: *Never forget what the Lord has done*

3. God will not leave them to die of starvation, for he loves them very much. **R.**
4. Blessed be God, He can work wonders. Let the whole world be full of his goodness and love! **R**

Second Reading Mt 19:13-15 (OPTIONAL)

In this reading Jesus shows us that children are nearer to God than anyone else

Some people brought children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples scolded the people. When Jesus noticed this, he was angry and said to his disciples, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I assure you that whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it." He took the children in his arms, place his hands on them and blessed them. *This is the Word of the Lord.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia,

'Go help everyone, everywhere, to follow me' says the Lord.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Jn 21:15-17

This reading is from the gospel of St. John. It tells us that Jesus wants us to look after his friends.

After breakfast, Jesus turned to Peter as they walked along, and called him by his own name, Simon: 'Simon,' he said, 'do you love me more than anything else?' 'Yes,' said Peter, 'you know I love you.' 'Look after my friends,' said Jesus. Jesus spoke to Peter a second time. 'Simon,' he said, 'do you love me more than anything else?' 'Yes' said Peter, 'you know I love you.' 'Look after my friends,' said Jesus. Then a third time, Jesus spoke to Peter: 'Simon,' he said, 'do you love me?' For Jesus to ask him this question three times upset Peter. So he said, 'you know all about me. You of all people, know I love you.' 'Look after my friends,' said Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Prayer of the Faithful

God our Father, we come to you today with our own needs and the needs of children everywhere.

1. We pray for children who are hungry. Give them the food and drink they need today. **Lord hear us. R**
2. We pray for children who are cold. Give them clothes and warmth today. **Lord hear us. R**
3. We pray for children who are sick. Give them comfort and healing today. **Lord hear us. R.**
4. We pray for children who are frightened. Give them hope and peace today. **Lord hear us. R.**
5. We pray for children who are lonely. Give them happiness and friendship today. **Lord hear us. R.**
6. We pray for people who lovingly care for children, at home and all over the world. Give them strength. **Lord hear us. R.**

Preparation of the Gifts

1. We bring our mission boxes. We do without things we like, so that we can give to others.
2. We share a gift of bread, remembering many are hungry for God as well as for bread to eat.
3. We share a gift of wine aware that many children suffer.

Prayer over the gifts

God our Father, we bring ourselves to you with our gifts of bread and wine. May we grow in your love by our sharing, and by helping children in need. We ask this through Jesus your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

God our Father, may this Holy Communion help us to love each other more, and to work for the love and happiness of children everywhere. We ask this through Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and every. **Amen.**