

THE EXTRAORDINARY MONTH OF MISSION

October 2019



*The Church of
Christ on Mission
in the World'*

**Facts
and
Toolkit**



EMM2019 FACTS

What is EMM2019?

October is already established in the minds and hearts of the universal Church as Mission Month. However, this year, it will have even greater significance. The Holy Father has announced October 2019 as the **Extraordinary Month of Mission (EMM2019)**. EMM2019 will be an extra-special month of prayer and action to help strengthen and grow God's Mission and the Church.

The Four Focus Areas & Aims

The Holy Father has announced four focus areas:

1. A personal encounter with Jesus Christ living in his Church: in the Eucharist, in the Word of God, and in personal and communal prayer.
2. Testimony: missionary saints, martyrs, and confessors of the faith as an expression of the Church scattered throughout the world.
3. Missionary formation: biblical, catechetical, spiritual, and theological.
4. Missionary charity.

Therefore EMM2019 Aims...

1. To encourage Catholics into a deeper relationship with Jesus through prayer.
 2. To look to, and learn from, the actions and sacrifices made by our saints, martyrs and living missionaries.
 3. To rediscover and renew our understanding of overseas mission (*ad gentes*).
 4. To financially support overseas mission.
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Is EMM2019 Replacing Mission Sunday?

The Extraordinary Month of Mission and World Mission Sunday are two events that complement each other. Aims 1 - 3 cover the formation and strengthening of faith. However, Mission Sunday responds to the fourth aim of EMM2019, 'To financially support overseas mission'.

This year World Mission Sunday takes place on Sunday 20th October, with the theme 'Together We Are Mission'.

Who is Coordinating EMM2019?

EMM2019 will be coordinated by World Missions Ireland (The Pontifical Missions Societies). However, it will be through the actions and planned events of Catholics the length and breadth of Ireland that EMM2019 will be realised. Schools, organisations, orders, congregations, dioceses, parishes, communities and individuals are all being asked by the Holy Father to get creative and get behind this worldwide Church initiative.

When does the EMM2019 Start?

October is the focus month of EMM - however World Missions Ireland is aware of contemplative orders who are already praying the EMM prayer daily, and mission congregations who have begun to promote EMM2019. Supporting and highlighting mission is never time sensitive, in fact many will celebrate this extraordinary occasion until the end of the year.

EMM2019 marks the 100th anniversary of Pope Benedict XV's Apostolic Letter *Maximum Illud* on overseas mission. Pope Francis describes *Maximum Illud* as 'a milestone in the evolution of the Church's missionary work.' *Maximum Illud* repeats the biblical instruction to 'go to the ends of the earth and preach the Gospel', while recognising the importance of training people who come from and live in local communities.

EMM2019 FACTS



What Resources are Available?

By working in collaboration with their international offices, World Missions Ireland have created physical and digital materials to support EMM2019 celebrations. More details of these are found within this pack and also at www.wmi.ie/emm and www.october2019.va. People are also welcome to create their own themed events and materials.

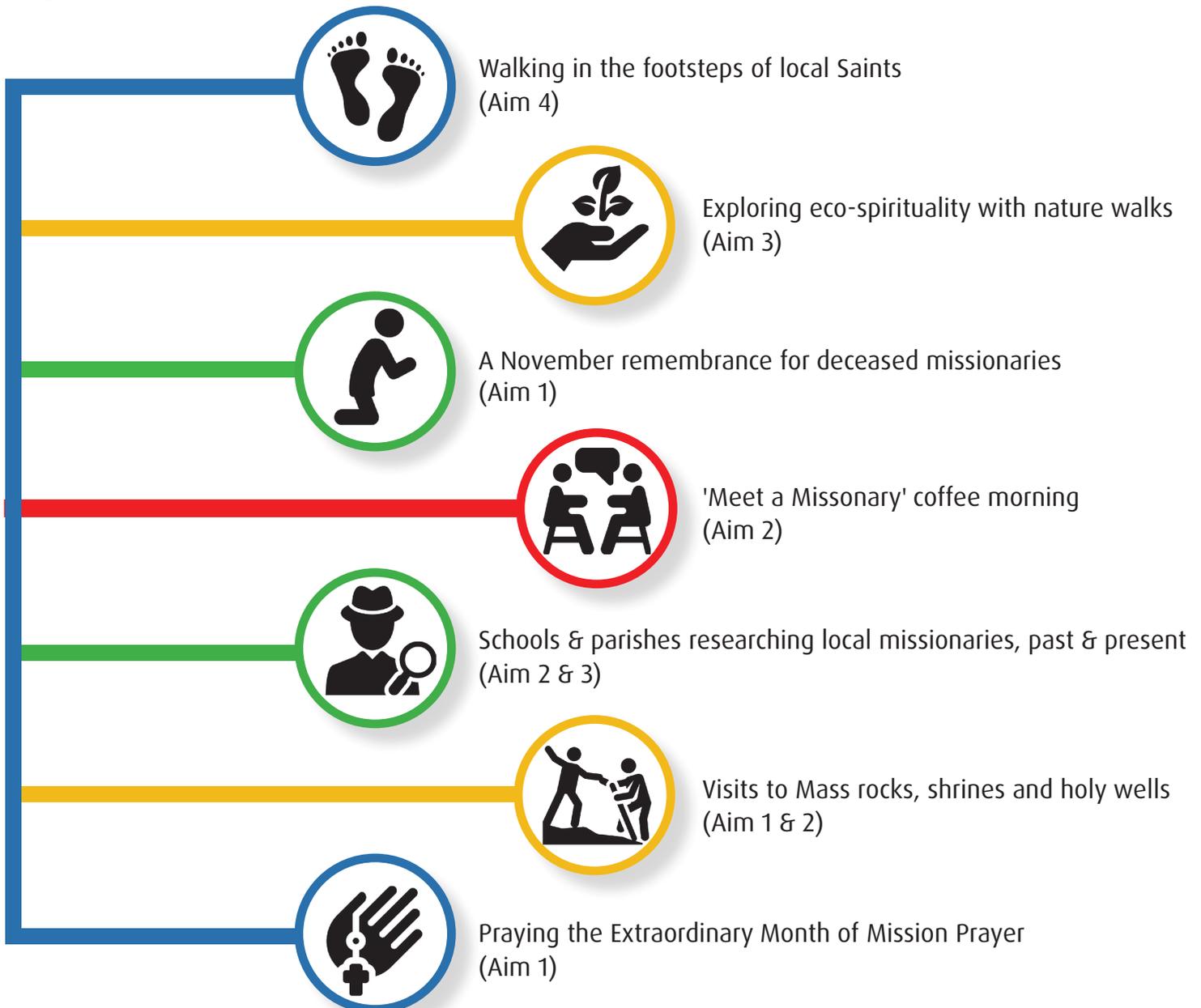
What is Your Part in EMM2019?

As mentioned, it will be only be through a collective, group effort that EMM2019 will be realised. Schools, organisations, orders, congregations, dioceses, parishes, communities and individuals are being encouraged to develop their own initiatives & materials - with absolute freedom and creativity - to help bring the aims of EMM2019 to life.

**EMM2019 theme is,
*Baptised and Sent:
The Church of Christ on
Mission in the World***

EMM2019 Event Inspiration at Local Level

As mentioned, EMM2019 celebrations have already begun. Below are some confirmed examples to help inspire...



EMM2019 WORLDWIDE CAMPAIGN

To highlight that we're all called to share God's love, and to gather the energy of our Church family, a worldwide EMM2019 campaign begins in August - and everyone is invited to get involved!

The EMM2019 worldwide campaign consists of four elements:

1. Social Media Campaign (#MyMission & #OurMission)
2. The Extraordinary Month of Mission Prayer
3. Universal Prayer Chain
4. EMM2019 Hymn ('Baptised and Sent')

1. SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN

The EMM2019 worldwide digital campaign has two aims:

1. To highlight that, both individually and collectively, as Catholics, we are called to share God's love with everyone.
2. To celebrate that no matter where we are, our faith connects us with millions of others.

#MyMission

The concept is simple. Use your Facebook or Twitter profiles to share your personal mission, tag World Missions Ireland and use the hashtag #MyMission. #MyMission is asking you to step-up and let the world know how you, just like our overseas missionaries, are reaching and sharing love. #MyMission could be a simple act of kindness, like visiting a neighbour or something bigger like volunteering with a fellow local charity. Click here to download #MyMission Template

#OurMission

Similarly to #MyMission, groups are being asked to share their mission on social media channels, tag World Missions Ireland and use the hash tags #OurMission.

#OurMission is asking schools, organisations, orders, congregations, dioceses, parishes and communities to step-up and let the world know what your collective mission is. Perhaps your community is a contemplative congregation and your mission is to pray the official EMM2019 prayer. Or perhaps your school's mission is to make everyone welcome, supported and included.



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Go to
www.wmi.ie/emm
print #MyMission or
#OurMission template
(or just use an
A4 piece of paper)



On the template,
write your mission.
Hold the page up, and
take a picture
or video



Post your
picture or video
to Facebook or Twitter.
Don't forget to use
#MyMission and tag
World Missions Ireland



Post your
group picture or video
to Facebook or Twitter.
Don't forget to use
#MyMission and tag
World Missions Ireland





2. THE EXTRAORDINARY MONTH OF MISSION PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
when your only begotten Son Jesus Christ
rose from the dead,
He commissioned His followers
to 'go and make disciples of all nations'
and you remind us that through our Baptism
we are made sharers in the mission of the Church.
Empower us by the gifts of the Holy Spirit
to be courageous and zealous
in bearing witness to the Gospel,
so that the mission entrusted to the Church,
which is still very far from completion,
may find new and efficacious expressions
that bring life and light to the world.
Help us make it possible for all peoples
to experience the saving love
and mercy of Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, forever and ever.

Amen

Both The Extraordinary Month of Mission Prayer and hymn 'Baptised and Sent', were specially commissioned.

The prayer was proposed by the Holy Father on announcing EMM2019. It has been adapted from Latin to English by World Missions Ireland, and other English speaking Missio offices.

3. UNIVERSAL PRAYER CHAIN

As an act of solidarity and love for all people, Pope Francis is inviting everyone to join the EMM2019 Universal Prayer Chain during the month of October. This worldwide prayer chain will connect the whole Church family, and give us all a little extra strength to live out our mission as Catholics!

WHO Everyone, everywhere, all over the world is invited to pray the official EMM2019 prayer

WHEN Every Friday after the Angelus, throughout the month of October

WHY Through praying together we'll revitalise and reawaken our missionary spirit

Even though the Prayer Chain happens each Friday in October, World Missions Ireland invites everyone to pray The Extraordinary Month of Mission Prayer as often as possible.



4. EMM2019 HYMN 'BAPTISED AND SENT'



In this field we can all be workers
Sow the seeds of Heaven's love
Let the rain caress the seedlings
Till they reach the skies above

Let us spread the word to every corner
let the weak be strong again
we are called and we're invited
to help the work of Jesus' hands

Though the years may pass remember
Still the message is the same
Reaching out to all who listen
It resounds with Jesus' name

**Baptised and sent, Baptised and sent
To share the joy in every continent
God is our friend, Baptised and sent
Baptised and sent, Baptised and sent
We'll bring hope where there is just despair
Show that we care, His love has no end**

Let's bear witness through our actions
They can speak louder than words
Lay a path for all to follow
So our voices can be heard

With our help there'll be a future
Help the fallen rise again
Faith is stronger than injustice
This we'll help them understand

Now our life can be a mission
In this plan to play a part

All it takes is one decision
To bring about a change of heart

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To share the joy in every continent
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Baptised and sent, Baptised and sent
We'll bring hope where there is just despair
Show that we care, His love has no end**

We are the ones to make it happen
We are the seeds, in love we grow
We'll be like clay so we'll be moulded
By His Hand so the world will know

**Baptised and sent, Baptised and sent
To share the joy in every continent
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**Choirs are encouraged to sing
the EMM2019 hymn during
October. The score can be found
on wmi.ie/emm/resources**

*The Missio Malta office was invited
to create the official hymn.*

To stay EMM up-to-date, go to:

www.wmi.ie  @missioireland  @missioIRL

World Missions Ireland is the Pope's official charity for overseas mission.
As part of a global network of 120 offices, they're responsible for the coordination of EMM2019.

