

A banner for St. Joseph Catholic Church. The background is a photograph of the church building, which is a single-story brick structure with a red roof. In the foreground, there is a statue of St. Joseph holding the Christ Child, set on a large rock. To the left of the statue is a flagpole with the American flag and a yellow and white flag. To the right is another flagpole with the American flag. The church's name is written in large, bold, black letters across the top. Below the name is the address and website. On the left is a cartoon illustration of St. Joseph holding the Christ Child. On the right is the Franciscans of Mary logo. At the bottom left are the email and Facebook information. At the bottom right is the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend logo.

**ST. JOSEPH  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

50 N. 100 E. - LaGrange, IN 46761  
[www.saintjosephlagrange.org](http://www.saintjosephlagrange.org)

E-mail address: [stjosephlagrange@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephlagrange@gmail.com)  
Facebook: St. Joseph Parish LaGrange

Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

### MASS TIMES

**Saturday:** English Vigil Mass of Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday:** English 10:00 a.m. / Spanish 12:30 p.m.

**Weekdays:** Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday at 9:30 a.m.  
and Thursday 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)

### MASSES WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

**First Wednesday of the month:**

English at 9:30 a.m. with Litany to St. Joseph.

**First Thursday of the month:**

Spanish at 6:30 p.m.

### CONFESSIONS

**Saturday:** From 6:15 p.m. until last penitent.

**Sunday:** From 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

**Weekdays:** Tuesday & Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:20 a.m.  
Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and  
from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### EUCHARTISTIC ADORATION

**Thursday:** From 10:00 a.m. to 6:15 p.m.

### SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

By appointment.

### ENGLISH MASS DEDICATED TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

**First Friday of the month:**

At 9:30 a.m. and coffee & donuts after Mass.

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Telephone number: (260) 463 - 3472

**Tuesday & Wednesday:** From 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Thursday:** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and  
from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Monday & Friday: Closed!**

A banner for Respect Life Month. The background is a photograph of a baby's face, looking up. A hand is pouring water from a glass bottle onto the baby's head. The word "LIFE" is written in large, white, serif letters across the top. Below it, the words "Our Sign of Hope" are written in a green, cursive font. At the bottom, the words "RESPECT LIFE MONTH" are written in white, serif letters. Below that, the text "October 2025" and "respectlife.org/celebrate" are written in white.

**LIFE**

*Our Sign of Hope*

**RESPECT LIFE MONTH**

October 2025  
[respectlife.org/celebrate](http://respectlife.org/celebrate)

### *Life:* Our Sign of Hope

Read the full version at  
[respectlife.org/life-our-sign-of-hope](http://respectlife.org/life-our-sign-of-hope).

In baptism, we share in Christ's death and resurrection, and through the outward signs of water and oil, are made *children of God* and given the hope of eternal life with Him. Our sins are forgiven, death is overcome, and life is victorious. We are called to be signs of hope to all people, especially those whose goodness, value, and dignity are undermined.

**Hope  
does not  
disappoint.**

As members of the Body of Christ, we carry this hope with us as we continue Jesus' mission on earth. Sadly, there is a devastating absence of hope today. We see this most profoundly in a sweeping disregard for human life in its most vulnerable forms and stages. Confident of God's presence within us, may we share the Gospel of Life with those most in need of hope.

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## A SPIRITUAL DROP FROM OUR PASTOR

### XXVIII SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 12th, 2025

We are all painfully aware of the terrible wars ravaging various countries around the world, such as Gaza and Ukraine. Pope Francis repeatedly reminded us that we are in a “piecemeal” Third World War, while the Vatican Secretary of State recently stated that we are on the brink of a Third World War. Alongside these wars, we see that violence and religious persecution are growing at alarming rates in many countries. Tragically, this leaves our world more fragile and less safe. The very place that God created for us to live in peace has become marked by its opposite.

It is our duty as Christians not only to pray unceasingly for peace but also to live as peacemakers, striving to become men and women of peace. Yet we must remember that true peace begins at home. I am not talking about the house where we live, but the home of our hearts - there, in the depths of our being, we can create both good and evil, healing and harm. Let us strive each day to be kind; may our gestures, our gaze, our voice, and our words not be weapons that hurt those around us. Do we truly believe that Jesus is pleased when we pray for peace in the world, but fail to be peacemakers in our own families, friendships, and communities? Let us then begin where peace truly starts: in our hearts. From there, God’s grace can radiate outward to heal our homes, our communities, and, in time, our world.

Todos sabemos sobre las guerras terribles que azotan varios países del mundo como Gaza y Ucrania. El Papa Francisco dijo varias veces que estábamos en una Tercera

Guerra mundial a pedazos, por su parte el secretario de Estado del Vaticano dijo recientemente que estamos a punto de una Tercera mundial. Por otro lado, vemos que la violencia y la persecución religiosa crece de una forma alarmante en muchos países. Lamentablemente, esto hace del mundo un lugar menos seguro. El lugar que Dios creó para nosotros para vivir en paz se ha convertido en todo lo contrario. Es nuestro deber orar incesantemente por la paz en el mundo, pero también es nuestro deber convertirnos en constructores de paz para ser hombres de paz. Sin embargo, debemos recordar que la paz se empieza a construir en casa, no hablo de la casa donde vivimos sino de la casa de nuestro corazón; ahí en lo más íntimo de nuestro ser podemos crear tantas cosas buenas y tantas cosas malas también. Luchemos todos los días por ser amables; que nuestros gestos, nuestra mirada, nuestra voz, nuestras palabras no sean rifles que lastimen a todos aquellos que pasan a nuestro alrededor.

¿De verdad creemos que Jesús está contento cuando oramos por la paz del mundo, pero no somos constructores de paz en nuestro mundo? Comencemos, pues, donde realmente comienza la paz: en nuestros corazones.

Desde allí, la gracia de Dios puede irradiarse hacia afuera para sanar nuestros hogares, nuestras comunidades y, con el tiempo, nuestro mundo.

**God loves you with great tenderness.**

**Happy Sunday!**

**Fr. Osman Ramos, FM**





## Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN

We invite you to consider “**Mental Health Sunday**” as a way that Catholics in their local parish communities can engage this important issue that impacts millions of people worldwide. From depression and loneliness to behavioral and developmental disabilities, mental health is part of so many families and friendships. For 2025, this takes place **October 11-12**, on the [Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time](#), the Sunday after World Day for Mental Health (Oct. 10). The USCCB and Catholic Charities of our Diocese has prepared the following resources for you:



## DIOCESAN CLINICAL LIAISON SERVICE

**A free-of-cost, direct service for clergy in our diocese:**

- Consult with a Licensed Catholic Mental Health Professional regarding the mental and emotional needs of your parishioner(s)
- Connect individuals and families to a network of faith-based counseling services



**LEARN MORE:**

[WWW.CCFWSB.ORG/COUNSELINGLIAISON](http://WWW.CCFWSB.ORG/COUNSELINGLIAISON)



**CONTACT:**

Dr. Melanie Williams, PsyD, HSPP  
Director of Diocesan Mental  
Health Ministries  
574-626-4117  
[mwilliams@ccfwsb.org](mailto:mwilliams@ccfwsb.org)

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES IS NOT AN EMERGENCY SERVICE

\*If you are helping someone experiencing a mental health crisis, please call 911 and ask for a mental health trained police officer, or call the 988 Crisis Hotline (English and Spanish)

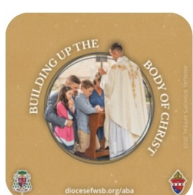
Encourage participation in the USCCB's national novena for mental health from Oct. 10 to 18. The Novena begins on the World Day for Mental Health and concludes on the Feast of St. Luke, patron saint of physicians. Please scan the QR code for the novena and for more information on this National Campaign.



### #39 Annual Bishop's Appeal

Please consider in prayer the possibility of supporting us again this year. Your donation has a double effect: it supports the work of our Diocese's services, ministries, and programs, and if we reach our goal, the extra money will be returned to our Parish.

**Our goal is \$20,493.78.** We hope we can count on your support!



Online donations  
scan QR code



### Campaña Anual del Obispo #39

Por favor, considere en oración la posibilidad de apoyarnos nuevamente este año. Su donación tiene un doble efecto: apoya el trabajo de servicios, ministerios y programas de nuestra Diócesis, y si llegamos a la meta, el dinero extra se le devolverá a nuestra Parroquia.

**Nuestra meta es \$ \$20,493.78 ¡Esperamos contar con su apoyo!**



## Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



### The *Changing Face* of Life-Limiting Prenatal Diagnoses, Part 2:

Clinical, Pastoral, and  
Ethical Considerations

A DAYLONG CONFERENCE BRINGING TOGETHER NATIONAL EXPERTS,  
HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS, PASTORAL MINISTERS, PARENTS, AND STUDENTS

Saturday, October 25

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.


University of Notre Dame | Geddes Hall Auditorium

Dive into new research  
concerning primary  
brain anomalies and new  
approaches to the  
treatment of apnea.


Consider the impact of  
prenatal diagnosis on  
perinatal palliative care  
and implications for  
pro-life legislation.

Explore concerns  
regarding the absence of  
accurate prognostic  
information available to  
parents and guidance  
regarding Catholic  
ethics.


Examine best practices  
in trauma-informed care  
and support for parents  
who receive a prenatal  
diagnosis.



Michael R. Egnor, MD




Glenn E. Green, MD



Tracy Winsor



Marty McCaffrey, MD,  
CAPT USN (Ret),  
PQCNC Director



Maureen & Brendan  
O'Connor

More information and register: [diocesefwsb.org/pnd-conference](https://diocesefwsb.org/pnd-conference)



DE NICOLA CENTER FOR ETHICS AND CULTURE  
MCGRATH INSTITUTE FOR CHURCH LIFE

*Be Not Afraid*



DIOCESE OF  
FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND  
LIFE, MARRIAGE, AND FAMILY FORMATION

## Memorial Masses

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST A CHILD  
BEFORE OR AFTER BIRTH

Fri, Oct. 3 | 5:45 p.m. | English  
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

Wed, Oct. 8 | 6 p.m. | Spanish  
St. John the Evangelist, Goshen

Tues, Oct. 14 | 6 p.m. | English  
St. Thérèse, Little Flower, South Bend

Tues, Oct. 21 | 6:30 p.m. | Spanish  
St. Joseph, Fort Wayne



For more information, visit:  
[diocesefwsb.org/avas-grace](https://diocesefwsb.org/avas-grace)



## Misas Conmemorativas

POR LOS QUE HAN PERDIDO A UN HIJO

3 de octubre | 5:45 p.m. | Inglés  
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

8 de octubre | 6 p.m. | Español  
St. John the Evangelist, Goshen

14 de octubre | 6 p.m. | Inglés  
St. Thérèse, Little Flower, South Bend

21 de octubre | 6:30 p.m. | Español  
St. Joseph, Fort Wayne



Para más información visite:  
[diocesefwsb.org/avas-grace](https://diocesefwsb.org/avas-grace)





## Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### OCTOBER - MASS INTENTIONS

2025

**Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. For the eternal rest of the souls of the Prescher family.

**Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. +Jane Pierce  
- 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Jonathan Luna (b-day)

**Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. Samuel Garcia (b-day)

**Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**

- 5:00 p.m. For the eternal rest of the souls of the Prescher family.

**Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**

- 10:00 a.m. People of the Parish  
- 12:30 p.m. (Spanish) +Nestor Rodriguez

**Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. For the eternal rest of the souls of the King family.

**Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. Ana Karen Garcia (b-day)

**Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. For the eternal rest of the souls of the King family.  
- 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) +Maria. Refugio Alvarez

**Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**

- 5:00 p.m. +Melchor Montoya

**Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup>**

- 10:00 a.m. People of the Parish  
- 12:30 p.m. (Spanish) +Ulises Rodriguez

**On these days of October 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**

There will be no religious services due to mandatory continuing education days for all priests in the diocese.

**Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

- 5:00 p.m. +Mary Mynhier

**Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

- 10 a.m. People of the Parish  
- 12:30 p.m. (Spanish) +Alberto Garcia

**Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. For the living and deceased members of the Knights of Columbus.

**Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. Manuel Garcia (b-day)

**Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

- 9:30a.m. +Lucas Cook  
- 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) Eduardo Anicua (b-day)

**Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

- 5:00 p.m. In thanksgiving for the Ballines Rico family.

**Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>**

- 10:00 a.m. People of the Parish  
- 12:30 p.m. (Spanish) +Alberto Garcia

**Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. For the health of Raymundo Gomez

**Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. Amada Villafuerte (b-day)

**Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30 a.m. +Lucas Cook  
- 6:30 p.m. (Spanish) +Maria. Refugio Alvarez



### REGULAR COLLECTION REPORT

**Saturday & Sunday**

- \$3,435.00

**Franciscans of Mary**

- \$1,753.25

**Votives**

- \$112.00

**Charity Box**

- \$1.00

**Maintenance Fund**

- \$15.00

**Ceiling repair Fund**

- \$50.00

**Donations**

- \$100.00

**Flowers**

- \$321.00

**Total: \$5,787.25**

### OFFERING MASS INTENTIONS

Remember that you can offer intentions for your deceased, sick relatives or for any other intention by coming to the Parish Office during office's hours. According to Canon Law, the bishops of a Providence determine the offering amount the offering amount that seems appropriate. The bishops of the Indiana Providence have determined that the appropriate offering is \$10.00.

### OFRECER INTENCIONES PARA LA MISA

Recuerde que puede ofrecer intenciones por sus difuntos, familiares enfermos o por cualquier otra intención viniendo a la oficina Parroquial durante el horario de oficina. Según el Derecho Canónico, los obispos de una Providencia determinan el monto de la ofrenda que les parece apropiado. Los obispos de la Providencia de Indiana han determinado que la ofrenda apropiada es de \$10.00.

### PRAYER REQUEST

Please remember to pray for those who are sick or suffering. If you have any prayer request and you would like us to post it in the Bulletin please contact the parish office.

We are here to pray for you and your needs!

Please pray for:  
- Gloria Davis



### "RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM"

**There will be no classes on Sunday, October 12th. Due to the Fall break.**

**The next class will be on Sunday, October 19th, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:20 p.m.**



Please notice that on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> The Solemnity of All Saints is NOT a Holy Day of obligation this year! Weekend Masses will be held at their regular times.

Por favor tenga en cuenta que el sábado 1 de noviembre la Solemnidad de Todos los Santos NO es día de Precepto este año. Las Misas del fin de semana se celebrarán en su horario regular.



Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE



MASS TIME & DATE	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTORS	EXTRAORDINARY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	USHERS
Saturday Vigil Mass October 18th at 5:00 p.m.	- Isabel Ballines - Fátima Hurtado	- Ruben Jr. Hurtado	- Ellen Heiny	- Jay Benack - Chris Benak - Raul Ballines - Ruben Hurtado
Sunday, October 19th at 10:00 a.m.	- Valentina Mendoza - Emilia Mendoza	- Delores Henderson	- Tom McCue	- Alejandro Medina - Maria Medina - Anna Mendoza - Osvaldo Mendoza
Domingo 19 de octubre a las 12:30 p.m.	- Arisbeth Álvarez - Thalia Luna	- Yolanda García - Sofia Ceballos	- Victor Rodriguez - Celia Rodriguez - Salvador Nieves	- Julio Luna - Javier Anicua - Jesus Luna - Adriana Alvarez

ST. JOSEPH PARISH AT THE CORN SCHOOL FAIR - 2025

St. Joseph Parish thanks everyone to support our parish at the fair.

The funds we raised for the parish ceiling are \$10,640.25

And for the Franciscans of Mary are \$3,546.75

God bless you!





## Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ANUNCIOS PARROQUIALES

#### On Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup>

- We invite all the 8th through 12th grade to join us at the youth group from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. See all of you there!

#### Hoy, domingo 12 de octubre

- Invitamos a todos los jóvenes de octavo grado a venir al grupo juvenil de 5 p.m. a 7 p.m. ¡Los esperamos!

#### From Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, through Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

the church will be completely closed all next week, and there will be no religious services due to mandatory continuing education days for all priests in the diocese. However, the parish office will remain open during its regular hours.

#### Del lunes 13 de octubre al viernes 17

La Iglesia estará completamente cerrada y no habrá ningún servicio religioso debido a los días de formación continua obligatorios para todos los sacerdotes de la diócesis. Sin embargo, la oficina parroquial permanecerá abierta en su horario regular.

#### On the weekend of October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>

- We have a special collection to support the World Mission Sunday. Thank you for your support!

#### El domingo 19 de octubre

- Tenemos una colecta especial para apoyar al Domingo Mundial de las Misiones. ¡Gracias por su ayuda!

#### On Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

- We invite all the 8th through 12th grade to join us at the youth group from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. See all of you there!

#### El domingo 28 de octubre

- Invitamos a todos los jóvenes de octavo grado a venir al grupo juvenil de 5 p. m. a 7 p. m. ¡Los esperamos!
- También comienzan los 46 rosarios a la Virgen de Guadalupe a las 6 p.m. en los hogares.

#### On Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>

- 9:30 a.m. We have the Anointing of the sick during Mass.

#### On Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>

##### First Friday of the Month

- 9:30 a.m. English Mass in honor to the Sacred Heart of Jesus then Litany at the end, after join us for coffee & donuts in the gathering area.

#### El jueves 6 de noviembre

- Tenemos la Uncion de enfermos durante la Misa de 6:30 p.m. en Español.

#### On the weekend of November 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>

- Land of Peace from Holy Land will sale religious articles after all Masses to support Christian people in the Holy Land.

#### El 7 de noviembre / Primer viernes del mes

- 9:30 a.m. Misa en Ingles en honor al Sagrado Corazón de Jesus con letania al final y despues de Misa acompañenos a tomar cafe con donas en el area de reunión.

#### On Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving English Mass at 9:30 a.m.

##### Note:

On Thursday Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> and Friday Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>  
No religious services and the Parish office will be **CLOSED**! Due to the holiday!

#### El fin de semana del 22 y 23 de noviembre,

- Land of Peace de Tierra Santa venderá artículos religiosos después de todas las Misas para apoyar a los cristianos de Tierra Santa.

#### El martes 25 de noviembre

- Misa de Acción de Gracias en español a las 6:30 p.m.  
**Nota:** El jueves 27 y el viernes 28 de noviembre no habrá servicios religiosos y la oficina parroquial permanecerá **CERRADA** debido a los días festivos.



## Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### PARISH STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

**Pastor: Fr. Osman Ramos, FM**  
(osmanramosguzman@hotmail.com)

**His office hours are:** Thursdays  
from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30p.m. / 5p.m. to 8p.m.

#### Parochial Vicars:

**Fr. Raúl Marroquin, FM** (raul@frmaria.org)

**Fr. Jorge Sis, FM** (jorge@frmaria.org)

If you want to talk to any priest, please make an appointment by calling at the Parish Office

**Parish Secretary & DRE: Lupita Hurtado**  
(secretary@saintjosephlagrange.org)

**Her office hours are:** Tues., Wed., from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Thurs. from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. & in the afternoon from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Business Manager: Anna Mendoza**  
(accountant@saintjosephlagrange.org)

**Her office hours are:** Tues. and Thurs. from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Wed. /5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**Sacristan & Cleaning: Veronica Montoya**

**Saturday evening Pianist: Kevin Ramer**

### KEY VOLUNTEERS

**Pianist of Sunday morning:**  
**Elizabeth Rogers**

**Cantors:**  
**Charlie & Megan Hire** (Saturday)  
**John Romer** (Sunday)

**Spanish Choir:**  
**Luz Piña & Miguel Muñoz**

**Youth Ministry Coordinators:**  
**Ruben Jr. Hurtado & Celina Gonzalez**

**Parish Council President**  
**Nathan Stroup**

### SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION



To request information for Baptism, Quinceañeras Masses, Weddings, house blessings, Anointing or Communion of the sick, funeral Masses or Masses for 25th, 50th, 60th wedding anniversaries, and also information about social hall rental please call the parish secretary during office hours at (260) 463 -3472.

### INFORMACIÓN SACRAMENTAL

Para solicitar información para Bautizos, Misas de Quinceañeras, Bodas, Bendiciones de casas, Unción y Comunión a los enfermos, Misas de funerales o Misas de aniversario de bodas de 25, 50, 60 años y también información para rentar de salón parroquial por favor llame a la secretaria parroquial durante el horario de oficina al (260) 463 -3472.



### Check out the great FREE resources on FORMED

1. Go to **www.formed.org** and click on sign up.
2. Write your name and last name, email address and phone number.
3. Click on find your parish or organization by writing the zip code: 46703 and select St. Anthony of Padua in Angola, IN  
Then you can start watching Catholic movies, books, etc... Available in English & Spanish



The Knights will have a meeting in October 15<sup>th</sup> at ICC in Kendallville starting with the rosary at 6:45 p.m. followed by a business meeting.



### Dear Parishioners,

If you would like to make a donation for the works of charity of our Franciscans of Mary priests, you can contact our Parish Secretary. Thank you for your generosity!





## DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

915 South Clinton Street • Post Office Box 390

Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801

September 24, 2025

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Each year, on the second-to-last Sunday in October, Catholics around the globe celebrate World Mission Sunday, a time of prayer and giving to support the missionary work of the Church. On the weekend of October 18-19, every parish in every country in the world will take up a collection to fund the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, which supports 1,124 mission territories in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands and parts of Latin America and Europe. These are regions where the Church is still young, growing, and often facing poverty, conflict, or persecution.

The theme of this year's collection is "Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples." Pope Leo chose this theme in reference to the Jubilee Year of Hope. He reflected on its meaning in his letter for World Mission Day:

"Through his disciples, sent to all peoples and mystically accompanied by him, the Lord Jesus continues his ministry of hope for humanity. He still bends over all those who are poor, afflicted, despairing and oppressed, and pours 'upon their wounds the balm of consolation and the wine of hope' (*Preface "Jesus the Good Samaritan"*). Obedient to her Lord and Master, and in the same spirit of service, the Church, the community of Christ's missionary disciples, prolongs that mission, offering her life for all in the midst of the nations. While facing persecutions, tribulations and difficulties, as well as her own imperfections and failures due to the weakness of her members, the Church is constantly impelled by the love of Christ to persevere, in union with him, on her missionary journey and to hear, like him and with him, the plea of suffering humanity and, indeed, the groaning of every creature that awaits definitive redemption. This is the Church that the Lord always and for ever calls to follow in his footsteps: 'not a static Church, but a missionary Church that walks with her Lord through the streets of the world' (*Homily at the Concluding Mass of the Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, 27 October 2024*)."

The funds raised in this collection foster the proclamation of the Gospel, the building of churches and schools and the provision of food and medical care in vulnerable communities. It is good to remember that the Church in the United States was once a mission territory and would never have grown as it did without the support of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Between 1822 and 1908, American dioceses received the equivalent of more than \$250 million in today's dollars to build parishes, schools, and seminaries. How beautiful it is that the Church in our country now has the opportunity to extend the same kind of financial support that was once bestowed upon us.

I would be grateful if you would keep the Church's missionary efforts in your daily prayers and give generously to this important collection, which serves the spiritual and material well-being of so many of our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ *Kevin C. Rhoades*

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades  
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend





## DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

915 South Clinton Street • Post Office Box 390

Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801

24 septiembre 2025

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo,

Cada año, el penúltimo domingo de octubre, los católicos celebran el Domingo Mundial de las Misiones, un tiempo de oración y donaciones para apoyar la labor misionera de la Iglesia. Durante el fin de semana del 18 y 19 de octubre, todas las parroquias de todos los países del mundo realizarán una colecta para financiar la Sociedad para la Propagación de la Fe, que apoya a 1124 territorios de misión en Asia, África, las Islas del Pacífico y partes de Latinoamérica y Europa. Estas son regiones donde la Iglesia aún es joven, está en crecimiento y a menudo enfrenta pobreza, conflicto, o persecución.

El tema de la colecta de este año es «Misioneros de la Esperanza entre todos los pueblos». El Papa León eligió este tema en referencia al Año Jubilar de la Esperanza y reflexionó hermosamente sobre su significado en su carta para la Jornada Mundial de las Misiones de este año:

«El Señor Jesús continúa su ministerio de esperanza para la humanidad por medio de sus discípulos, enviados a todos los pueblos y acompañados místicamente por Él; también hoy sigue inclinándose ante cada persona pobre, afligida, desesperada y oprimida por el mal, para derramar sobre sus heridas «el aceite del consuelo y el vino de la esperanza» (*Prefacio "Jesús, buen samaritano"*). Obediente a su Señor y Maestro, y con su mismo espíritu de servicio, la Iglesia, comunidad de los discípulos-misioneros de Cristo, prolonga esa misión ofreciendo la vida por todos en medio de las gentes. La Iglesia, aun teniendo que afrontar, por un lado, persecuciones, tribulaciones y dificultades, y, por otro lado, sus propias imperfecciones y caídas, a causa de las fragilidades de sus miembros, está impulsada constantemente por el amor de Cristo a avanzar unida a Él en este camino misionero y a acoger, como Él y con Él, el clamor de la humanidad; más aún, el gemido de toda criatura, en espera de la redención definitiva. Esta es la Iglesia que el Señor llama desde siempre y para siempre a seguir sus huellas; «no una Iglesia estática, [sino] una Iglesia misionera, que camina con el Señor por las vías del mundo» (*Homilía en la Santa Misa al finalizar la Asamblea general ordinaria del Sínodo de los Obispos, 27 octubre 2024*).»

La colecta del Domingo Mundial de las Misiones fomenta la proclamación del Evangelio, la construcción de iglesias y escuelas, y la provisión de alimentos y atención médica en comunidades vulnerables. Es importante recordar que la Iglesia en los Estados Unidos fue una vez un territorio de misión y nunca habría crecido tan rápido sin el apoyo de la Sociedad para la Propagación de la Fe. Entre 1822 y 1908, las diócesis estadounidenses recibieron el equivalente a más de 250 millones de dólares actuales para construir parroquias, escuelas y seminarios. Es maravilloso que la Iglesia en nuestro país tenga ahora la oportunidad de brindar el mismo tipo de apoyo financiero que una vez se nos brindó.

Les agradecería que mantuvieran en sus oraciones diarias los esfuerzos misioneros de la Iglesia y donaran generosamente a esta colecta importante que sirve al bienestar espiritual y material de tantos hermanos y hermanas nuestros en todo el mundo.

Sinceramente en Cristo,

*Kevin C. Rhoades*

El Reverendísimo Kevin C. Rhoades  
Obispo de Fort Wayne-South Bend