



## The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Manila

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Circular No. 2019-27  
17 June 2019

**TO: ALL CLERGY, RELIGIOUS SUPERIORS (MEN AND WOMEN),  
CATECHISTS, SCHOOL HEADS, CAMPUS MINISTERS, YOUTH  
MINISTERS, LAY ORGANIZATIONS, LAY ASSOCIATIONS AND  
ECCLESIAL MOVEMENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE**

**RE: EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH OF OCTOBER 2019**

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Dear Monsignori / Fathers / Brothers / Sisters:

Greetings of peace!

This year the whole Church will celebrate the centenary of the promulgation of Pope Benedict XV's Apostolic Letter *Maximum Illud* – an important papal document on mission. Thus, Pope Francis has declared October 2019 as Extraordinary Missionary Month (EMM) “with the aim of fostering an increased awareness of the *missio ad gentes* and taking up again with renewed fervor the missionary transformation of the Church’s life and pastoral activity” (Letter of Pope Francis to His Eminence Cardinal Fernando Filoni, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, 22 October 2017).

To prepare for and celebrate EMM, we request for your support and cooperation in the following initiatives:

1. **PROMOTION.** Kindly prominently display EMM logo and theme in your church / school / office website, façade or lobby before October 2019. Copy of said logo and theme is hereby attached. You may download it from the EMM website: <http://www.october2019.va>
2. **FORMATION.** Lay organizations, lay associations, ecclesial movements and BECs are invited to send representatives to join our *Katolikong Pinoy* on 21 September from 8 am to 12 noon at San Lorenzo Ruiz Lay Formation Center (Layforce), San Carlos Pastoral Formation Complex, EDSA, Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City. You may also contact our Commission on Mission to give your group a talk about EMM. You may contact Mr. Clark Nolasco at tel. 6388801 / email: [rcam.mission@gmail.com](mailto:rcam.mission@gmail.com), or Bro. Anthony Dameg, FSM at tel. 7313208 / email: [pmsphilippines2011@yahoo.com](mailto:pmsphilippines2011@yahoo.com)

You can also find in the EMM website reflections on the daily Mass readings for the whole month of October 2019, biblical and theological reflections on mission, as well as mission testimonies by Saints, missionary martyrs and confessors of the Faith.

3. **REGISTRATION.** In our schools, students may be encouraged to join / register as members of the Holy Childhood Association (Grades 1 - 6) or of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith (Grade 7 - College, including faculty and staff).

In the parishes / offices / organizations / associations / movements, children, youth, young professionals and adults may also be encouraged to join these two Pontifical Mission Societies.

Just contact our Commission on Mission for the orientation on membership in these two Pontifical Mission Societies even as early as June.

4. **COOPERATION.** Let us pray the attached EMM Prayer just before the Mass or after post-communion prayer for the whole month of October. It may also be downloaded from the EMM website.

May we be more generous in our material offering for the mission, especially in our scheduled special collection on World Mission Sunday.

5. **CELEBRATION.** Let us come together on 19 October Saturday, eve of World Mission Sunday, to celebrate and proclaim our Faith, to pray for and renew our commitment to mission. It will be a gathering from 8 am to 3 pm. Venue to be announced.

Thank you for your support and cooperation! In the words of our beloved Pope Francis: "I hope that all communities will devote the necessary effort to advancing along the path of a pastoral and missionary conversion that cannot leave things as they are. 'Mere administration' can no longer be enough. Throughout the world, let us be 'permanently in a state of mission'" (EG 25).

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Luis Antonio G. Card. Tagle*  
+ **LUIS ANTONIO G. CARDINAL TAGLE**  
Archbishop of Manila

**Prayer offering from Pope Francis  
for the Extraordinary Missionary Month  
October 2019**

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.



**Baptized  
and sent**

**THE CHURCH OF CHRIST  
ON MISSION IN THE WORLD**

EXTRAORDINARY MISSIONARY MONTH

October 2019