

# Christmas Artwork

## 2022-2023 Contest Winners Nationally

This year we would like to congratulate **Liliana Espinoza from St. Gregory the Great School, Whittier**. She was selected as one of this year's national finalists for the MCA Artwork Contest. This is a wonderful honor for her because this is the second time that she has been selected as a finalist for Los Angeles. We are very happy to see this artist continue to grow and develop her gift of drawing to help share the faith with others.



Liliana's artwork will be on display along with all the other national winners at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. during the 2023 Advent Season.

### Locally

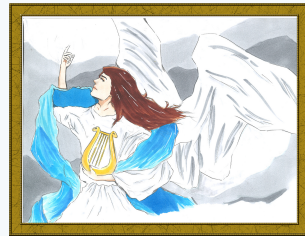
Our office selected local finalists from all the entries we received and may be viewed on our website. They will also be on display along with the national finalist, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels during the 2023 Advent Season.

We would like to encourage all students to enter the contest this year.

You will find the entry form in the Welcome Packet, on our website, or simply scan the QR code to view and print. Please use tape or a paperclip to secure the entry form to the back of the drawing.



## 2022-2023 Local Finalist



Carter Sosa, 6th Grade  
St. Gregory the Great  
Whittier, CA



Elsa Gracia, 2nd Grade  
St. Gregory the Great  
Whittier, CA



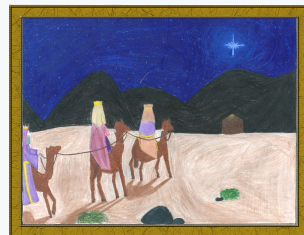
Gia Deidrich, 6th Grade  
All Souls World Language  
Alhambra, CA



Isabel De Lama, 4th Grade  
Beatitudes of Our Lord  
La Mirada, CA



John Paul Jimenez, 2nd Grade  
Saint Felicitas & Perpetua  
San Marino, CA



Lily Pang, 7th Grade  
Beatitudes of Our Lord  
La Mirada, CA



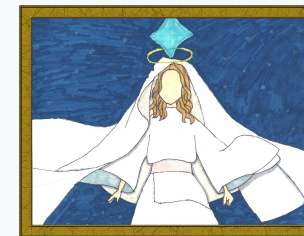
Lorenzo Mejia, 4th Grade  
St. Gregory the Great  
Whittier, CA



Madison Sistoza, 6th Grade  
Beatitudes of Our Lord  
La Mirada, CA



Mia Paz, 2nd Grade  
Beatitudes of Our Lord  
La Mirada, CA



Sage Compton, 8th Grade  
Saint Felicitas & Perpetua  
San Marino, CA



Vanessa Hernandez, 3rd Grade  
St. Gregory the Great  
Whittier, CA



THE PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES



Los Angeles **missionary childhood association**  
Children Helping Children



A PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETY IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES

Exec. Director: Msgr. Terrance Fleming

Director: Lydia Gamboa

Program Coordinator: Magdalena Arellano

# 2023-2024 MCA WELCOME BULLETIN

**NATIONAL LITTLE WAY DRESS DOWN DAY**

On October 1st, we celebrate the feast of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux. Even though she never left the convent, she is the patroness of the Missions. We too, can support the Missions from wherever we are in the world.

**GIVE \$2**

TO DRESS DOWN AND SUPPORT THE MISSIONS

ON FRIDAY **SEPTEMBER 29TH**

The Missionary Childhood Association is part of the Pontifical Mission Societies. As a pontifical mission society, we are part of a worldwide and national network here in the United States. This year we are going to have a National Giving Day, inspired by St. Thérèse of Lisieux, patron saint of foreign missions, "Little Way". She was a Carmelite nun that never left the monastery her community lived in, however, she

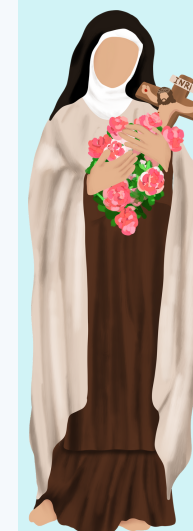
always expressed a desire to be a missionary and spread the love of God throughout the world. In her autobiography, Story of a Soul, she wrote about how we could all reach sainthood through the "Little Way". Through prayer and living in her religious community, St. Thérèse came to realize that to be a holy person was not impossible. Her "Little Way" consisted of performing "little virtues" not looking to perform great deeds but little acts of holiness. She wrote "You must practice little virtues. This is sometimes difficult, but God never refuses the first grace - courage for self-conquest; and if the soul corresponds to that grace, she at once finds herself in God's sunlight."

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### PRAYER TO ST. THERESE

Dear Little Flower of Lisieux, how wonderful was the short life you led.

Though cloistered, you went far and wide through fervent prayers and great sufferings. You obtained from God untold helps and graces for his evangelists. Help all missionaries in their work and teach all of us to spread Christianity in our own neighborhoods and family circles. Amen.



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Embracing the attitude of St. Thérèse, that all we do no matter how small is for the service of God, allows the grace that he bestows on us to grow and give fruits within us for the good of the Church. We invite all children in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to participate in **The Little Way Dress Down Day on Friday, September 29th**. Across the United States children participating in MCA will be supporting the missions, all in preparation to start the month of October, which is also the month of the missions.



### Mission Moderator "Meet and Greet"

If you are a new Mission Moderator and would like to meet other mission moderators or learn a bit more about the Missionary Childhood Association, please join us for a "Meet and Greet".

**Friday, September 15, 2023**

**10am - 1pm (Lunch will be provided)**

Ideas will be shared about the National Giving Day for MCA on September 29, 2023, as well as things that can be done with the student body to promote a missionary spirit.

In addition, we will be discussing our collaboration with other neighboring dioceses of San Diego, Orange and San Francisco, for a virtual prayer service for the missions. We will need students and school leaders to help us lead the prayer service.

You can RSVP to the meeting using the mission moderator form in the Welcome Packet, by visiting our website, or by scanning the QR code.



## YOU ARE INVITED TO THE MCA YOUTH APPRECIATION MASS 2023

### TUESDAY

10 | 17 | 2023  
10:00 AM

CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS  
555 WEST TEMPLE ST.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

We would like to extend an invitation to our annual MCA Youth Appreciation Mass. This year, the MCA Mass will be on Tuesday, October 17, 2023. Our theme for this year's mass will be the same one as World Mission Sunday: "Hearts on fire, feet on the move."

Our theme comes from the bible passage of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, whose encounter with the living Christ not only filled them with awe but also lit their hearts on fire and put them on the move to share what they had witnessed with others.



During the summer, several missionary groups have been visiting the Archdiocese of Los Angeles sharing their mission experiences with all parish communities. With our theme in mind, we have collected some of their stories to share with you.

When your students come to this year's MCA mass, they will be able to stand on the feet of a missionary and hear their stories, students will be able to interact with mission stories on the Cathedral Plaza by looking for the footprints and then scanning the QR code to hear the story from each missionary group.

You will find the RSVP form in the Welcome Packet, on our website, or simply scan the QR code.



## Mission Magazine

You might be aware that the Missionary Childhood Association is a Pontifical Mission Society, however, did you know that there are also three other societies!

- Society of St. Peter the Apostle**
- Society for the Propagation of the Faith**
- Missionary Union of Priests and Religious**

We would like to familiarize you with the other three societies that are part of The Pontifical Mission Societies (TPMS), in part because we recognize that all four societies overlap in the work that we do as a church to evangelize all corners of the world.

The TPMS national office for the United States publishes a Mission Magazine in which it shares stories about the work being done in all the four societies. Each issue shares personal testimonies of those who are impacted by donations and the work being done through the TPMS.

If you are interested in learning more about the work being done by the TPMS, your school can subscribe to the Mission Magazine. Let our office know and we will be happy to add your school to the mailing list. The magazine is also a great way to share mission stories with the students in the upper grades of your school.

You can read a digital copy of the latest issue of the magazine by scanning the QR code.

You can also visit our newly redesigned website, [www.missionsla.org](http://www.missionsla.org), to read more about the history of each society.



## Order MCA Resources Free of charge



MCA offers free resources such as bookmarks, prayer cards for children to pray for the missions, and mite boxes to encourage children to make a sacrifice and give monetary aid to help other children in the missions.

Introduce children to the World Mission Rosary with the pamphlets our office provides. We can also provide free rosaries for your students. Please request them via email to [mca@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:mca@la-archdiocese.org).

All of these resources are offered free of charge and can be mailed to your school or faith formation office at your parish.

Fill out the material order form in the welcome packet or scan the QR code to fill-out the online form.



## Missionary Speakers

Invite a missionary speaker to share the work they do with your school. This is a great way to not only teach the children about sacrificial giving to the missions, but also to teach them how we are all called to be witnesses of the faith right where we are.

Missionaries are available to speak to your school via zoom or in person. Please let us know if your school would be interested in receiving a speaker by using the form provided in the Welcome Packet, visiting our website or simply scan the QR code.

