The Pontifical Mission Societies in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles



August 8, 2023

Dear School Principal,

Greetings from the Missionary Childhood Association! We are looking forward to working with you, your students, and faculty this 2023-2024 school year. As a Pontifical Mission Society, MCA fosters a missionary spirit in all children, bringing attention to their relations and impact they have on the world when they live their faith and baptismal call to mission. We encourage them to pray for others, practice sacrificial giving, and commit to live a mission-minded life.

All of us can contribute to the missionary movement of the church. In his message for World Mission Sunday 2023, Pope Francis reiterates the message of "the Pontifical Mission Societies [being] the privileged means of fostering [a] missionary spirit on both the spiritual and material levels." Your students' participation as members of MCA is a contribution to the missionary church movement with their prayers and activities, material offerings and witnessing the faith to others.

MCA offers free bilingual material and resources that can be used by teachers to instill a mission-minded lifestyle in the children throughout the school year. Our monthly material includes activities, a calendar, a prayer service, and the life of a saint. In October, the month of the missions, we offer resources to celebrate a mission awareness week, culminating with World Mission Sunday. In addition to ordering prayer cards, bookmarks, posters, mite boxes, or coin cards, your school can also order pamphlets on how to pray the World Mission Rosary for all the students.

Our annual MCA Youth Appreciation Mass celebration will be Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 10 am at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. On this day, we will also be recognizing the annual MCA Christmas Artwork Contest national winner from our diocese.

As we look forward to our missionary collaboration with your school this coming year, I encourage you to take a moment to assign a faculty or staff member to act as the Mission Moderator for your school by filling out the enclosed Mission Moderator Form found inside this welcome packet. This person will be the point of contact for all future correspondence between our office and your school. You or the Mission Moderator may also be able to download the Welcome Packet by scanning the QR code on the front of the folder.

If you or the Mission Moderator have any questions, contact MCA Coordinator, Magdalena Arellano, at (213) 637-7416 or via email at <u>marellano@la-archdiocese.org</u>.

We look forward to working with your school as we share this missionary nature of love and generosity. May God bless you.

Yours in Christ,

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Reverend Monsignor Terrance L. Fleming S.T.D. Archdiocesan Mission Executive Director

Magdalena Arellano

Magdalena Arellano Program Coordinator- Missionary Childhood Association

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