Beginning the School Year with a Missionary Spirit

**WHAT** is Missionary?
A person who shares God's love with others. This happens through sharing the Gospel and/or providing aid (health care, clean water, food, education etc.

**WHO** is Missionary?
We All Are! Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are all missionaries. Some are called to special places for mission.

**WHERE?** We can be missionaries right here where we are by sharing God’s love with everyone we encounter. Being a missionary begins with prayer and generosity.

Reflect on what it means for you to be a missionary. Then list all the ways in which you can put into practice your Baptismal called to be a missionary this new school year.

“I am a Missionary”. This year I can...

________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
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________________________________________________________________________________
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________________________________________________________________________________
YOU ARE A MISSIONARY!

YOU...are a witness to truth, beauty and the goodness of life
YOU... fulfill in a unique way Christ’s command; “Go forth and teach”
YOU... proclaim with your life that God loves us
YOU... emphasize that participation in mission is not an option but rather a responsibility.

The MCA Story

wants u 2 +come a missionary
and share your love with other!

As a member of mca (that’s missionary childhood association), u
a missionary for MCA missionaries promise
to do 3 things: to
for needy
around
the globe, 2 learn about their lives, and 2 share with them.

Needy don’t have enough
, , +s, or . Some do not know how much

, , +s them.
Early Life

Mother Teresa, also known as Saint Teresa of Calcutta, was born on August 26, 1910, and given the name of Agnes. She was baptized on August 27, and she always considered this her “true birthday.”

At the age of eighteen, Agnes joined the Sisters of Loreto in Ireland. She hoped to learn English so she could become a missionary with the Sisters of Loreto in India. On May 24, Agnes made her first profession and took the name of Saint Therese of Lisieux, the patron of Missionaries. Since another sister had taken the name Therese, Agnes chose the Spanish spelling and became known as Sister Teresa. During this time, Sister Teresa worked as a teacher. On May 14, 1937, Sister Teresa made her final profession.

Serving the Poor

Sister Teresa was transferred to the convent school of the Sisters of Loreto in Calcutta, and she taught there for almost twenty years. During her years teaching, she became disturbed by the poverty that abounded in Calcutta. On September 10, 1946, Sister Teresa experienced “the call within the call.” She describes the experience in the following way,

“I was to leave the convent and help the poor while living among them. It was an order. To fail would have been to break the faith.”

In 1948, Teresa donned a cotton sari (traditional Indian garb) with a blue border. Armed with Indian citizen and basic medical training, Teresa ventured into the slums. She founded a school and began caring for the poor and the hungry. Women began joining her in her work in 1949. Teresa then began formulating the groundwork for a new religious community dedicated to serving “the poorest of the poor.”

Missionaries of Charity

The road to founding a new community was filled with difficulties but that did not discourage Teresa. On October 7, 1950, the Vatican approved Teresa’s new community of thirteen sisters which would care for those who had no one to care for them – “the poorest of the poor,” the unlovable, and the burdensome, and the shunned. Teresa became Mother Teresa and served as superior general of the Missionaries of Charity from 1950 until her death in 1997.

Each member makes the customary vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. However, they also make a fourth vow – to give wholehearted free service to the poorest of the poor. In 1963, Mother Teresa also founded the Missionaries of Charity Brothers.

At the time of Mother Teresa’s death, the Missionaries of Charity had grown to more than 4,000 sisters and 300 brothers working at 610 missions in more than 123 countries.

Feast Day: September 5
Patron of: World Youth Day, Archdiocese of Calcutta
Birth: August 26, 1910
Death: September 5, 1997

Discussion Questions
*What could you do in your everyday life to act/live like St. Teresa?
*Can you commit to pray a Hail Mary everyday for the needy children in the world?

Taken from mycatholickids.org
Hi, I’m Mother Teresa!

People started calling me Mother Teresa after I founded the Missionaries of Charity. The sisters in my order take care of the poorest of the poor all over the world. After spending my life taking care of those who had no one to take care of them, and teaching the world about the great love of God, I died and went to Heaven to be with Jesus just a few years ago.
In the box above, write your name on the line and draw a picture of yourself. Be creative in illustrating a picture of you doing Missionary work. You could be making sacrifices for children who have no water, you could be helping plant crops in a place where many go hungry, you could be teaching a young child in a Mission Land how to read, or praying for others who have no one else to pray for them. When finished, hang this in your favorite place as a reminder that we must continue our journey as Missionaries, you never know where your love for Jesus and the Missions can take you!
Use the Form attached to order your MCA Mission Materials
All materials are FREE!

The Missionary Childhood Association exists to raise awareness of what it means to be a missionary and how to foster a Missionary Spirit to students throughout our diocese.
MY Missionary Pledge!

I Promise to:

Learn about you, Lord, because I love you and want to know you better.

Pray, everyday for my family and friends, all missionaries and most specially for the needy children in missions lands around the world.

Sacrifice by giving generously and joyfully to my brothers and sisters in missions lands.

I am a Missionary disciple, I will share my faith in Jesus with my words and actions.

Hail Mary...

Pictured here is the World Mission Map. GREEN symbolizes the forests and grasslands of AFRICA, BLUE is for the ocean surrounding the ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC, WHITE symbolizes the home of the Holy Father, RED symbolizes the fire of faith that brought the first Missionaries to the AMERICAS, and YELLOW is for the morning light of the east, symbolizing. We must pray and sacrifice for all the children in these places who do not know the love of JESUS!