

October 15, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we approach World Mission Sunday (WMS) on **October 18, 2026**, I write to you with deep gratitude for your dedication to the mission of the Church to bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth. This year the WMS celebration is unlike any other in our lifetime, for two reasons: First, this World Mission Sunday marks the **100th anniversary** of its establishment by Pope Pius XI in 1926. This centenary is an opportunity to mark it with renewed missionary zeal. This year's theme, ***"One in Christ, United in Mission"*** chosen by Pope Leo XIV, invites us to rediscover the profound unity we share in Christ through baptism and how our baptismal missionary identity overflows into the mission of the Church to bring all creatures into communion with God and us. Secondly, the **beatification of Archbishop Fulton Sheen on September 24**, which reminds us of how every priest must have a mind and a heart for the missions.

Pope Leo XIV recognizes how important World Mission Sunday is for the Church. He spent a large part of his priestly ministry as a missionary in Peru, serving communities in the Andean highlands and rural villages, and has noted how dependent he was on the support of the Church universal through WMS.

Last World Mission Sunday Pope Leo asked our support by saying, *"Please help me help missionaries everywhere."* That's what WMS does: to help Pope Leo care for the 1,130 missionary dioceses and territories under his supervision through the Dicastery for Evangelization.

We must never forget that 5.5 of the 8.1 billion people alive are not Christian, two millennia after Pentecost. The second collection we take up on World Mission Sunday supports the Church's missionary work in places where the Gospel has never been heard before and where the Church is too young, persecuted, or poor to sustain itself.

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will renew in us the fire of the early Church, that we might truly be One in Christ, United in Mission.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Scan to give



+Lawrence T. Persico

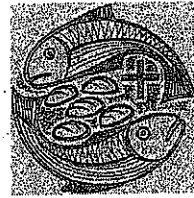
The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL.
Bishop of Erie



Saint Boniface Food Pantry

9333 Tate Road - Erie, PA 16509

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We want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank each and every one of you for the incredible support you continue to give us and to the families we serve. Through the special events you hold throughout the year, your generous donations of paper products, cereal, canned goods, monetary gifts, and, of course, your valuable volunteer time, you make a tremendous difference in our community. We truly could not do what we do without you.



Two of our most successful and meaningful programs each year are "Turkey Sunday" and "Gifts of Giving." Our goal every Thanksgiving is to make sure that each of the families we serve has a turkey to put on their table. This year, Turkey Sunday will be November 8th, with our Thanksgiving distribution taking place on November 21st.

Our "Gifts of Giving" program is equally important and deeply appreciated. The gift cards you provide at Christmas allow us to bring a little extra joy and hope to families who may be struggling during the holiday season. The deadline for gift cards is Sunday, December 13th, with our Christmas distribution on December 19th.



We are incredibly grateful for your continued kindness and generosity. Every donation, every gift card, every box of food, and every hour of volunteer time helps provide hope and comfort to our neighbors who are facing difficult circumstances.

Happy Holidays!

Youth Ministry Sessions: Witness Of Faith

All of us are on a faith journey where we grow our relationship with the Lord.

There are many ways to grow this relationship: prayer, reading the Bible, and listening and having dialogue with those who live their Faith.

During these Youth Ministry Sessions, we will learn how individuals respond to the Lord in their lives. We will learn what tools each individual uses to strengthen his/her relationship with the Lord.

First Meeting: Sunday October 18, 2026 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm in Youth Ministry Room

First session will focus on Joe Mazzulla, Coach of the Boston Celtics.

FUN FACT ...” Before every home game Joe takes a quiet, prayerful walk around the court holding a rosary made from the old parquet floor of the Boston Garden...This ritual helps him recenter on Christ before stepping into the high-pressure environment of professional Basketball, reflecting that his faith guides his mindset and actions...”

You are encouraged to bring a friend.