

**Extraordinary Missionary Month**  
**The Church of Christ on mission in the world**



**Baptised  
and sent**

October  
2019

«I call for an Extraordinary Missionary Month to be celebrated in October 2019, with the aim of fostering an increased awareness of the *missio ad gentes* and taking up again with renewed fervour the missionary transformation of the Church's life and pastoral activity.

May the Extraordinary Missionary Month prove an intense and fruitful occasion of grace, and promote initiatives and above all prayer, the soul of all missionary activity.»

*Franciscus*



# **An extraordinary month to join forces for the mission**

The Extraordinary Missionary Month in October 2019 is a unique opportunity to unite our forces for mission here and elsewhere. I sincerely hope that this month all the baptized will feel sent to the mission and encouraged to live their baptism to the fullest! I encourage everyone to propose missionary ideas to their pastor, pastoral team, diocese or vicariate.

Below you will find an e-mail address where you can send your ideas and share your projects with us.

God bless you!

## **Bishop Jean-Marie Lovey**

Delegate of the Swiss Bishops Conference  
for the Extraordinary Missionary Month

## **Suggestions and materials**

To promote missionary creativity and encourage the teams to commit themselves to the extraordinary month of mission, various suggestions and materials are available on the website. Existing activities can be highlighted under the motto «Baptized and Sent», new ideas can be generated through missionary innovation centers.

In French-speaking Switzerland, they will be proposed by various vicariates and will take place from October 2019.

In German-speaking Switzerland, they will be organised at various levels (diocesan / pastoral unit / youth groups, etc.) as needed. If you are interested in an innovation centre, simply inform the coordination team, the vicariate or the diocese.

further information: [www.getauftundgesandt.ch](http://www.getauftundgesandt.ch) or [www.baptisesetenvoyes.ch](http://www.baptisesetenvoyes.ch)  
contact: [Oktober2019@getauftundgesandt.ch](mailto:Oktober2019@getauftundgesandt.ch)

# Three celebrations in October shape the missionary month

## 1 October: kick-off

The Extraordinary Month of World Mission begins with an opening ceremony on 1 October 2019 at the Baptistery in Riva San Vitale, the oldest christian building in Switzerland.

## 20 October: World Mission Sunday

Each parish celebrates the World Mission Sunday on the penultimate Sunday in October. The focus is on the worldwide dimension of missionary work. We celebrate being one church and we experience ourselves as part of the worldwide church.

## 31 October: Sending celebration

At the end of the month there is a celebration with a sending character because the Extraordinary Month of World Mission is the beginning of the missionary activities by the newly-inspired baptized.

## Four dimensions shape October

Deepening the **personal encounter with Jesus Christ** alive in His Church. The **witness of Saints**, Missionary Martyrs, and Confessors of Faith, who are unique expressions of the Churches throughout the world.

Focus the **educational work** on the motto «Baptized and Sent».

**Missionary charity** as material support for the immense work of evangelization, and Christian formation in Churches that are most in need.

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### Mark 16,15

«Go into all the world and proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation.»

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## Prayer for the Extraordinary Missionary Month

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



SCHWEIZER BISCHOFSKONFERENZ  
CONFÉRENCE DES ÉVÊQUES SUISSES  
CONFERENZA DEI VESCOVI SVIZZERI  
CONFERENZA DILS UESTGS SVIZZERS

# missio

Weltweit miteinander Kirche sein  
Echange et partage entre Eglises  
Essere assieme Chiesa nel mondo

*With the generous support and in close cooperation:*



IM – Inländische Mission  
MI – Mission Intérieure  
MI – Missione Interna  
MI – Missiun Interna

