

The origins of World Mission Sunday



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In 1922, Pope Pius XI made the Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF) the official mission-funding society for the whole Catholic Church.

On 14 April 1926, Pope Pius XI gave his approval to a request formulated by the APF which, in a plenary assembly, petitioned the Pope to establish 'a day of prayer and propaganda for the missions to be celebrated on the same day in every Catholic diocese, parish and institute in the world'. The reasons for the request were clearly stated: 'The day would foster understanding of the greatness of the missionary task, encourage zeal among the clergy and the people; offer an opportunity to make the APF ever more widely known and encourage offerings for the missions...'



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