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Rome, October 2, 2026

Prot. No. 270/2026

Subject: Rogationist Missionary Day 2027

Chapel of St. Ephrem, Tonalá, Jalisco, Mexico

To the Most Reverend Major Superiors
of the Rogationist Circumscriptions

To the Rogationist Communities
and to the Family of the Rogate

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we journey toward the Centenary of the blessed passing of Saint Hannibal Mary Di Francia, we have agreed to celebrate together—Rogationists and Daughters of Divine Zeal—the Missionary Days of 2026 and 2028, contributing jointly to the works of solidarity, dedicating the year 2026 to a project of the Daughters of Divine Zeal, and the year 2028 to one of the Rogationists.

As we recalled last year on the same occasion, the first work we must promote annually, on the Missionary Day and beyond, is the missionary awareness of us all. In his message for World Mission Day, Pope Francis reminds us that we are **One in Christ – United in Mission**. He affirms: “At the heart of mission lies the mystery of union with Christ. Before His Passion, Jesus prayed to the Father: ‘*That they may all be one; as you, Father, are in me and I in you, may they also be in us*’ (Jn 17:21). In these words the deepest desire of the Lord Jesus is revealed, and at the same time the identity of the Church, the community of His disciples: to be a communion born from the Trinity and living by and within the Trinity, at the service of fraternity among all human beings and harmony with all creatures. (...) From this union flows the mutual communion among believers, and from it every missionary fruitfulness is born. Yes, ‘*communion is both the source and the fruit of mission*’, as Saint John Paul II taught” (CL, n. 32).

Father Hannibal, who personally longed for the grace of going to the missions, proposed this holy ideal to his spiritual sons and daughters, speaking explicitly of the *missio ad gentes*. He also felt the urgency of proclaiming the Rogate to all peoples.

Following the example of our Founder, and in response to the missionary commitment that the Church entrusts especially to religious, we are called to look upon all the peoples of the earth as a harvest ripe for gathering, and to give particular attention to those places where poverty and abandonment wound the little ones most deeply.

We recognize that the *missio ad gentes* fosters the diffusion of our charism, and the renewal and growth of our Congregations. In communion with the universal Church, we participate in World Mission Day, and at the same time we feel the duty and the need to gather around our specific identity through a *Rogationist Missionary Day*, as a reminder of our roots and of our mission to respond to the appeal of the Lord of the harvest: “*Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into His harvest*” (Mt 9:38).

We desire that this be a true **day of prayer**—a prayer that gives birth to mission. The root of every apostolic work of ours is the prayer of intercession. Father Hannibal understood that wounded

humanity, scattered like sheep without a shepherd, needs above all hearts consecrated to invoking divine grace.

There is no authentic mission that does not spring from a profound encounter with the Lord. To pray for good laborers means to entrust the destiny of the world to God and to acknowledge our poverty before the vastness of spiritual and material need.

The Rogationist Missionary Day invites us to renew our daily commitment within our institutes, parishes, and centers of spirituality, so that the Rogate may resound as a constant prayer—one that transforms our very lives into an offering.

The social work associated with this day is: **Apostolate of Saint Ephrem, Tonalá, Jalisco, Mexico – “Bread for the Children, Hope for the Families.”**

The Chapel of Saint Ephrem is located in the Agua Escondida neighborhood of Tonalá, Jalisco, and belongs to the Parish of Saint Lucy. Founded to respond to the spiritual and communal needs of the area, the chapel has served local families through sacramental ministry and pastoral accompaniment.

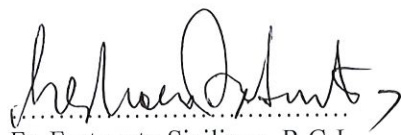
Since 2008, the Rogationists have offered stable pastoral assistance, strengthening the presence of the Church through the Eucharist, catechesis, prayer, human formation, and charitable service. What began with a small group of families has grown into a living Christian community sustained by priests, religious, seminarians, catechists, volunteers, and benefactors.

Today, the Apostolate of Saint Ephrem accompanies approximately **174 families**. Around **153–160 children and youth** participate in catechetical and formative programs, while Sunday Eucharistic celebrations normally gather at least **150 people**. The mission responds to spiritual, educational, nutritional, medical, psychological, and social needs within a community marked by significant poverty and vulnerability.

The **Mission Day 2027 Project** focuses on three interconnected priorities: 1 – consistent food assistance for about **100 families** living in severe poverty; 2 – practical improvements to catechetical, pastoral, and service facilities; 3 – replacement of the aging Nissan pickup with a reliable pastoral vehicle suitable for the difficult access road.

I exhort the Confreres, the Rogationist Missionaries, the Lay Associations of the Family of the Rogate, and the lay collaborators of our Communities to rekindle their missionary sensitivity—beginning with prayerful support for those who labor on the front lines, then by making them feel our closeness, and finally by promoting solidarity among acquaintances and friends for the realization of this important project.

With the hope that the Divine Superiors may bless this sign of unity within the Family of the Rogate and accompany our journey, we greet you with affection in the Lord.


Fr. Fortunato Siciliano, R.C.J.
General Secretary.




Fr. Bruno Rampazzo, R.C.J.
Superior General