

**To talk about:**

Talk with your child/ren about the idea of sharing with others, of being a witness.

As a family who do you, or could you, share the love of God with?

**Pray together:**

God our Father,  
when your Son Jesus Christ rose from the dead, he commissioned his followers to 'go and make disciples of all nations'. Through our Baptism you send us out to continue this mission among all peoples.

Empower us by the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be courageous and enthusiastic in bearing witness to the Gospel, so that the mission entrusted to us, which is still far from completion, may bring life and light to the world.

May all peoples experience the saving love and generous mercy of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*Official EMM prayer, adapted for use in the UK © Missio 2019*



**Theme: “You are My Witnesses”**



**For Parents / Carers**

**Our Catholic Schools' Week  
7 - 13 October 2019**

**Pope Francis has declared October 2019 to be an Extraordinary Month of Mission. This special month of prayer and action calls us to renew our missionary commitment to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with all peoples. We are called to be witnesses to Jesus, to his love and mercy for all people** (c.f. [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk)).

Since our Diocesan Catholic Schools' Week falls within this month we are taking Pope Francis' call to mission as our theme. We are given an opportunity during this week to continue to foster, build up and enhance relationships between our parishes, schools and homes for the good of all. God calls us together as a community, a family, a people. He calls us together to know his love and share his love with others. **Pope Francis has asked us to reflect on 4 themes in particular:**

1. A personal encounter with Jesus Christ living in his Church.
2. The witness of missionary saints and martyrs.
3. Missionary charity as a commitment to support the Church's missionary activity and communities too poor to support themselves, through Missio.
4. How we train and form ourselves for reaching out to others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

More information, including inspiring stories of missionary saints can be found at:

[www.october2019.va/en.html](http://www.october2019.va/en.html) & [www.missio.org.uk/emm](http://www.missio.org.uk/emm)

### To think about:

How have I encountered the love of God in Jesus Christ in my life?



In the parish/ Church?  
In my family life?  
Through friendship?  
In the Bible?  
In the beauty of creation?  
Through the sacraments of the Church?  
In the Catholic school I belong to?

What of this can I share with others?

How do I witness to the love and mercy that I have received from God?

