



Aid to the  
Church in Need

ACN CANADA

## One Million Children Praying the Rosary 2022

Montreal, August 2022

Dear Friends,

One of **Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Canada**'s annual campaigns—**One Million Children Praying the Rosary**—has become a not-to-be-missed opportunity for members of the Church far and wide to unite in prayer. In preparation for the upcoming global event on **October 18, 2022**, we would like to share a few thoughts with you from an archbishop in South Africa.

In a video reflection celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary in 2020, Archbishop Stephen Brislin, from the Archdiocese of Cape Town, said of the Rosary: “This prayer, more than any other, helps us to remember and concentrate on the life of Christ, his teaching and his self-giving.”

And as we meditate on the key moments of His life, the intercession of His mother Mary helps draw us closer to Him.

Just as Jesus taught His disciples to pray, the Church also teaches people to pray as a fundamental part of its ministry. “But in fact, it is the responsibility of all, most especially parents,” declared the archbishop. Indeed, parents and other caregivers are often the very first teachers of prayer to the children in their lives. Archbishop Brislin believes that prayer enables families to “meet with faith whatever life may bring to them.”

Let us be encouraged by these words in times such as these and be reminded that one of the most powerful prayers we can turn to is the Rosary.

### To trust in our heavenly Father

You may have noticed that our campaign logo now includes two open hands upholding the earth, symbolizing the hands of our Divine Father who has created the world in love and who wishes to save all His children and draw them close to Him.





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Security, love, and forgiveness are gifts bestowed upon us by our heavenly Father, in whom we can entrust our deepest fears and greatest needs. We also have an extended family of brothers and sisters to pray with, and for.

As we have shed light on in our communications, practicing Christians in many parts of the world still face persecution and oppression today, and many countries are experiencing war or deep poverty. This is often where peace is most fragile and where prayers are needed more than ever.

Special. Powerful. Beautiful. Christ-centered. These are but some of the words used to describe the Rosary. Pope Saint John Paul II described it as his favorite

prayer, writing that it is “marvellous in its simplicity and in its depth.” Let us not underestimate its ability to heal and transform.

**Churches and other pastoral settings, schools, communities, and families everywhere are invited to take part in this event of prayer for peace on October 18 and can do so in one of two ways: 1) by organizing an activity wherever children are (please request campaign material in writing at [vv@acn-canada.org](mailto:vv@acn-canada.org) or by calling 1-800-585-6333 ext. 227) or 2) by participating in the virtual prayer group at 7 p.m. (<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/one-million-children-praying-the-rosary-tickets-365893466207>).**

As our children grow and learn to navigate this world, let us guide them towards our heavenly Father and help them to develop a strong prayer life and steadfastness through which they can spread God’s light and peace in even the darkest of times.

*But Jesus said, “Let the little children alone, and do not stop them coming to me; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” (Matthew 19:14)*

Union of prayer,

**The Team of ACN Canada**