

*“Everything and everyone is won by the sweetness of our words and works.”
– St John Bosco*

PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE MONTH: Peace & Promise: *That we, as missionary disciples, enter 2020 with hearts full of love, peace, and promise for a wonderful year.*

FOCUS POINT:

- ❖ What is a Missionary Disciple?
- ❖ What is Catholic Schools Week? It was started in 1974 by the NCEA to celebrate Catholic education in the U.S. and through its celebration brings focus to the vital role these schools play in the church, community and country.
 - **Celebrated:** The last week of January each year.
 - **2020 Theme:** “Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.”
 - To enhance your celebration of Catholic Schools Week – and to remind children of their baptismal responsibility for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, their “job” of being missionaries consider designating one day that week as World Mission Awareness Day.

SAINTS OF THE MONTH (Refer to the *About the Saints* section for details):

- ❖ 4th - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- ❖ 27th - St. Angela Merici
- ❖ 31st - St. John Bosco

ACTIVITIES:

- ❖ Plan a World Mission Awareness Day during Catholic School Week (Last week in January)

EXTRA RESOURCES*:

- ❖ Catholic Schools Week World Mission Prayer Service
- ❖ [More About Catholic Schools Week](#)

*See Extra Resources section at rcbo.org/mca



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK PRAYER SERVICE

LEADER: Today we gather to celebrate in thanksgiving for all Catholic Schools. We remember Jesus' promise that the Holy Spirit will be with us in all that we do and pray that He guides us in our call to Missionary Discipleship. Through the sacrifices of MCA members, children in Missions around the world receive a Catholic education and learn about the Good News of Jesus. MCA members support 1,200 Catholic Schools, over 10,000 orphanages and catechetical programs in 1,108 Mission Dioceses.

Opening Song- All (optional)

Choose an appropriate song such as We are Called- David Haas or The Prayer of St. Francis

LEADER: We give thanks to you Lord for the many sisters, brothers, priests, and laypeople who have dedicated their lives to teach in our Catholic Schools, allowing us to LEARN each and every day about your love for us and Your People.

ALL: May all children have the opportunity to further their Catholic education, so that they can come to know your son, Jesus.

LEADER: Fill our hands with the tools we need to SERVE others.

ALL: May we show children around the world Your unceasing love through our actions.

LEADER: Father, help us to LEAD the way to your Love through our Missionary Discipleship.

ALL: May we inspire others to support the Missions through prayer and sacrifice.

LEADER: Let us now ask for your grace, that we may succeed as we go forth as MCA members, as Ambassadors for Jesus—as Missionaries. Now let us all pray together the Lord's Prayer. Our Father . . .

ALL: Amen

