



Aid to the
Church in Need
CANADA

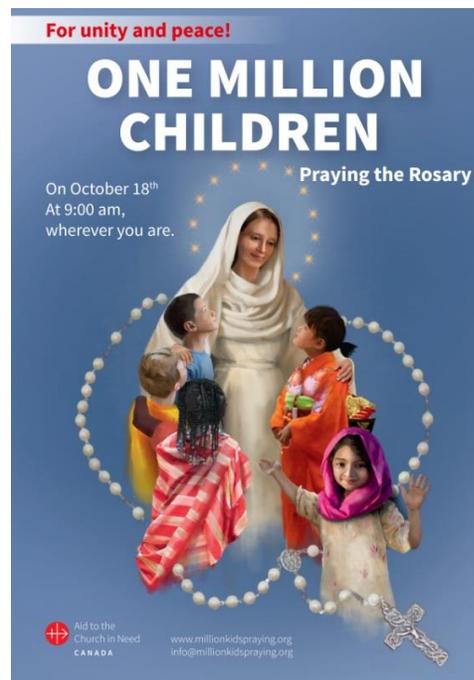
PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Children Praying the Rosary

**More than ever:
Pray for Peace and Unity**

**Montreal, Wednesday October 5 –
Again this year, Aid to the Church in
Need is supporting the One Million
Children Pray the Rosary*
campaign, an international event
with participation also across
Canada taking place Tuesday,
October 18.**

By Mario Bard,
Aid to the Church in Need Canada
Adapted by Amanda Bridget Griffin



Since the inception of this initiative born in Venezuela in 2005, the international organization has been attracted to the idea of uniting children together to pray for peace in the world. In Canada, several pastoral services, dioceses and parishes, will participate in the nearing event. “We want to share this initiative which represents our mission so well, year after year,” explains Marie-Claude Lalonde, the pontifical charities’ national director. “Even more so given what is happening in Syria at the moment, in Iraq and in the Democratic Republic of Congo making praying for peace and for unity in the world an essential part of Christian life.”

Christians also have a few more reasons to be touched by this call to prayer, particularly because it is a question of religious persecution, as the upcoming Report on Religious Freedom will demonstrate when it is launched this

November. “In many countries, Christians are a minority and experience persecution. It is our duty to do what we can to help them, if only to pray for them,” explains Mrs Lalonde.

This prayer initiative connects to one of the goals Aid to the Church in Need has – which is to pray for Christians who are poor, isolated and persecuted throughout the world, as well as to stay informed about their situation and act on their behalf.

Material available!

In order to support our parishes, schools and Catholic spiritual centres, or other organizations who wish to participate in this pastoral initiative; the Canadian office of Aid to the Church in Need has material made for children and their guides: a leaflet and a letter for children, a poster and decade Rosaries among others.

We invite anyone interested to contact us, at 1 (800) 585- 6333 or (514) 932-0552 or send an email to info@acn-aed-ca.org to request the free material.

**Witnessing children praying the Rosary before the Virgin Mary in Caracas (the capital of Venezuela) a few women felt the strong presence of the Holy Mother and became aware of the power of the children’s prayer. What followed was the launch of this great prayer initiative.*

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Source: Mario Bard, Information, Aid to the Church in Need Canada

Mario Bard, Information 514-932-0552, ext. 224 - Amanda Griffin, English Information, ext. 221

or toll free at 1-800-585-6333 com@acn-aed-ca.org

Mario Bard Cell: 514-967-8340

Website: www.acn-aed-ca.org

National Director Marie-Claude Lalonde, of Aid to the Church in Need Canada is available for interviews.

*ACN’s articles are given freely for partial or full publication on condition that **©Aid to the Church in Need** is mentioned as the source. If you would like to use an original photo, or for an interview with the National Director, Marie-Claude Lalonde, please contact us at the coordinates above.

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), founded in 1947 by Father Werenfried van Straaten, is a Pontifical foundation which has as Mission to provide assistance to Catholics wherever the Church suffers from poverty or persecution. The international foundation operates offices in 20 countries including Canada, who together support projects in over 145 countries.