



PONTIFICIUM OPUS A. S. PETRO APOSTOLO
Secretariatus Internationalis
Vatican City



In 2022, the *Pontifical Society of Saint Peter the Apostle*, founded by Jeanne Bigard, will celebrate its 100th anniversary of Pontifical designation, by which it was placed directly under the care and responsibility of the Holy Father, in his solicitude for the formation of local clergy in countries of recent evangelization.

By declaring the Society Pontifical, Saint Peter's successor recognized its universal value and vital importance for extending the reign of Jesus Christ. At the same time the Pope publically conveyed his ardent desire to have the Society radiate throughout the universal Church and in every diocese and parish throughout the world, in support of Churches in mission territories.

In fact, the work of formation of local Priests, Religious and Religious is a crucial focal point for evangelization. For by helping to increase the number of local Clergy, the *Society of Saint Peter the Apostle* multiplies the fruits of the missionary Apostolate in local Churches in mission lands.

The celebration of this hundredth Anniversary is an occasion to give solemn thanks to the Lord for having brought forth such a wonderful work for the apostolate, which responds so well to the needs of the mission entrusted to the Church by Jesus Christ.

The year 2022 will also be a Holy Year for the *Pontifical Mission Societies*, because this anniversary will encourage the promotion of holiness of life, the deepening of faith, the promotion of solidarity and fraternal communion within the Church. It will remind each and every baptised Christian of his or her missionary responsibility and encouraging everyone to an ever more active and living profession of faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

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