## MISSION EASTER EGGS

Discuss the missions, the importance of prayer, and the color symbolism of the World Mission Rosary. The color symbolism of the World Mission Rosary and this activity are the same. As the students color the "mission eggs", encourage them to say a prayer for the missionaries and children living in the missions represented by that specific color. Suggest that the students be mindful of the challenges the children in the missions may face and what sacrifices they may make for them. How will they be missionary and share Jesus' love with others?

## ROSARY COLOR SYMBOLISMS

Yellow = Asia/Middle East/Orient—where the sun comes up and civilization traditionally began.

## Red = The Americas/Latin

America/USA/Canada—for the fire of faith that brought missionaries to the Americas. White = Europe—for the home of the Pope, shepherd of the world and his call for new evangelization. (draw a design on a white egg or use stickers with the background remaining white)

Blue = Oceania/Island nations of the world—for the ocean surrounding the islands in the Pacific.

**Green** = <u>Africa</u>—for its forests and grasslands.



You may wish to make a themed Mission Easter Basket with your mission eggs to serve as a reminder of the missions throughout Lent.

End activity with a mission prayer such as the one below.

Dear God, we ask You to bless the children of the world. We know that children in so many places are suffering. In Your love, help people of all countries to live together as one family, so that children may grow up in justice and peace. Help all people to be compassionate and loving so that each child may be fed, sheltered, healthy and able to go to school. May children who have no families be cared for by people filled with love.

Father, we raise our hands and hearts to You. Help us to reach out to children around the world. May they know how much Jesus loves them. We offer this prayer in union with the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.