



Caring for seafarers
around the world



Power of Partnerships

Impact Report

Supporting seafarers through partnership

We are The Mission to Seafarers

Caring for the shipping industry's most important asset: its people.

For 170 years, The Mission to Seafarers has been at the forefront of providing essential support and care for seafarers and their families across the world. Operating in over 200 ports across more than 50 countries, our dedicated teams are on duty 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, providing lifelines to seafarers who work in some of the world's most challenging environments to keep global trade moving.

We have stood by seafarers through the toughest of times, from world wars and economic crises to the unprecedented challenges of the global pandemic. Today, the pressures of modern shipping continue to evolve, and so does our response. Through ship visits, seafarer centers, welfare programmes and mental health support, we combat loneliness, improve wellbeing, and provide practical assistance when seafarers need it most.

Industry partnerships remain instrumental in everything that we do. From funding our work to enabling us to reach more seafarers, our partners help drive innovation and impact. In 2025, initiatives such as the second Adventure Race Japan, along with global industry events and corporate collaborations, brought the maritime community together to raise vital funds and awareness for seafarer welfare.

In 2025, we continued to expand our global reach, establishing new centers in Piraeus, Greece and Poti, Georgia, strengthening our ability to support seafarers in key maritime hubs. With the support of partners across the maritime industry, we can continue to expand our reach and ensure that every seafarer has access to welfare support, wherever they are in the world.

Thank you for making our vision a reality.

Jan Webber
Director of Development

Our Year in Numbers



144,352

**VISITS TO OUR
SEAFARERS'
CENTRES**



91,824

**SEAFARERS,
FAMILY MEMBERS**

**AND MARITIME
PROFESSIONALS**
ARE BENEFITTING FROM

**KNOWLEDGE
AND TOOLS OF**



 **WE CARE
AND safeTALK
TRAINING**



World Map

With your support, the Mission to Seafarers has open new services in Piraeus, Greece and Poti, Georgia





We encountered more than 274,000 seafarers through ship visits

‘How are you today? How can I help?’

Our chaplains and volunteers provide face-to-face support to seafarers in over 200 ports worldwide, offering:

- Pastoral support and counselling
- Provision of sim cards and Wi-Fi
- Transportation to the Seafarers’ Centre and the local town
- Help with shopping and currency exchange
- Advocacy support
- Mental Health interventions

In-person ship visits are a foundational aspect of our work and vitally important to global seafarer welfare. Seafarers are more likely to seek help through direct conversation than via phone or email.

Expansion in Poti

The port of Poti is located on the Black Sea in Georgia and acts as a European gateway for international trade in Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan. In a typical week around 10 to 15 ships are in the port, making this one of the largest ports on the Black Sea.

80–85% of seafarers are on short circular Black Sea routes, which highlighted the need for a strategically located welfare hub. MtS began work in Poti in 2023 and have since appointed a full-time chaplain, created a legal entity under Georgian law, and are building a long-term presence in Poti and Batumi.

New services in Piraeus

A new MtS chaplain has been appointed in the Port of Piraeus, Europe’s fifth-largest port, following exploratory work that confirmed significant seafarer welfare needs. Building on DSM Shipping’s work in the port, we have begun collaborating to expand the welfare facilities and provisions in this key region.

We are looking to open our own small Seafarers’ Centre in Piraeus, providing a place for seafarers to relax and chat to staff and volunteers.



Expansion of our ship visiting programme, providing crucial face-to-face support in over 200 ports around the world.



208,605 seafarers used our transport services

Shore leave

Our most recent Seafarers Survey reveals that restrictions to shore leave continue to present a significant challenge. Although national pandemic restrictions have universally been lifted, barriers to shore leave have increasingly become systemic and industry-driven, arising from smaller crew sizes, heavier workloads, shorter port turnaround times, and company-imposed limitations. MtS continues to advocate vigorously for fair and universal shore leave for all seafarers and has published new research highlighting its critical link to mental health, wellbeing, and overall safety at sea. We continue to explore new and innovative ways to deliver care and connection to ensure that support reaches seafarers whether they are on board, in port, or at home, and that our ministry continues to evolve with the changing realities of global shipping.

“In the constant pursuit of meeting targets and completing voyages, seafarers are often pushed deep into routine and pressure. Shore leave is a seafarer’s chance to rise to the surface and take a breath.” — 3rd Officer Jay Daquila

Seafarers’ centres

Our chaplains and ship visitors remain a lifeline for seafarers through proactive gangway visits, emergency assistance, and the continuation of our personal shopping service. Their vital work ensures that those at sea continue to receive practical and emotional support when it matters most. This level of care manifests in our seafarers’ centres across the globe, providing respite for seafarers on long contracts who may have already spent months away from home.

Often, it’s the simplest things that mean the most – a lift to the shops, a familiar taste of home or someone who has time to listen. As our Chaplain Sue reflects, “We may not be able to change the ocean environment, but we can be there for people who work on it.”



Transport

A key part of our frontline work is facilitating shore leave through our transport services.

Many ports worldwide are located far from the nearest town or city. Distances are often considerable, and in some locations, seafarers are not allowed to walk within the port area. This leaves seafarers reliant on taxis, which can be costly and unreliable, particularly given strict shore leave schedules. As a result, MtS transport is essential to enable access to rest, recreation, and basic services.

Chaplains and volunteers are on hand to provide transport to our port-based Seafarers’ Centres, providing a safe and welcoming space with food, WiFi and recreational facilities. Transport is also provided to shops, sightseeing locations, and essential city amenities when requested.

We've supported 1,712 seafarers with justice and welfare cases

When Kenner contacted MtS in Dubai, he had been without wages for several months. Debts were mounting, his family in the Philippines was under severe financial pressure and his visa was close to expiry. He had been removed from his vessel and was living in cramped accommodation and struggling to meet his basic needs.

After completing a needs assessment, our welfare team provided Kenner with emergency support, pastoral care and practical guidance. We worked closely with the UAE Marine Transport Affairs Department to progress his case, and to urge the shipowner to take remedial action. We eventually partnered with the vessel's flag state to repatriate Kenner home. Because of our intervention, Kenner was able to stabilise his finances, protect his family home and find work with a more reputable shipowner.

"From the bottom of my heart, I sincerely thank The Mission to Seafarers for standing by me during one of the most difficult times of my life. When I felt hopeless, they were there for me. They gave me strength, guidance and hope when I needed it most,"

Kenner's situation is sadly familiar. We assisted with over 45 cases of justice and welfare this year, supporting seafarers who had been abandoned by their employers and often left on board without food and water. We work closely with industry, port authorities and government to seek pragmatic solutions to a range of issues, including:

- Unpaid salaries
- Immigration challenges
- Medical assistance
- Death and compensation claims

Through our dedicated efforts and strong collaborations we remain committed to promoting high-quality shipping standards across the UAE, by prioritizing the rights, dignity, and wellbeing of all seafarers. We continue to drive positive change in the maritime community and create lasting improvements for those who work at sea.



4,860 seafarers' families supported through our Family Support Networks

While our port chaplains are meeting seafarers on board, our family support teams are helping their families back home.

Our Family Support Network (FSN) was founded in Manila in 2016, born from a partnership between MtS and the Iglesia Filipina Independiente (Philippine Independent Church). It now operates across 14 communities, reaching from northern Luzon through central Romblon to southern Bohol. The programme runs through local “chapters”, supporting over 4,000 seafarers and their families every year.

Each chapter offers access to practical, emotional and spiritual support, including counselling, referrals and emergency help. FSN also runs financial well-being and skills training through WeCare, alongside community events such as **Sea Sunday** and **International Day of the Seafarer**, where families can meet, share experiences and support one another.

Family Support Networks are now operational across the Philippines, Myanmar and South India, and enable us to provide integrated multi-channel support, continuity of care and a depth of engagement that would be impossible with port based operations alone.



Over 90,000 seafarers have access to our WeCare training programmes

“SafeTALK encouraged me to speak up, even when it feels uncomfortable. One conversation can save a life.”

SafeTALK:

- Suicide alertness is becoming part of modern maritime safety culture.
- Suicide Prevention being made a compulsory topic in Shipboard Management and STCW within the UK.

WeCare strengthens:

We are pleased that more companies are now accessing our WeCare e-learning through the OTG and Mintra platforms, and making use of the in-person and virtual training opportunities for their crews.

WeCare strengthens:

- Early intervention capability
- Communication at sea
- Crew cohesion
- Confidence to speak up
- Psychological safety

Working with cadets in maritime colleges:

In 2025, we partnered with the City of Glasgow College and achieved:

- 165 cadets certified in SafeTALK
- 13 lecturers ASIST trained
- Real-life suicide intervention delivered
- Curriculum integration confirmed for 2026
- Of the 123 cadets who submitted feedback, 100% said they intended to tell others they would benefit from the training.
- Cadets repeatedly connected the learning to real-world readiness



Raising funds and awareness

Thanks to amazing supporters like you, we can engage with more seafarers and their families around the world.

Adventure Race Japan — Thank you to the 33 sponsors and 300 participants from the maritime industry who collectively raised over \$1.8m to help expand our seafarer welfare services.



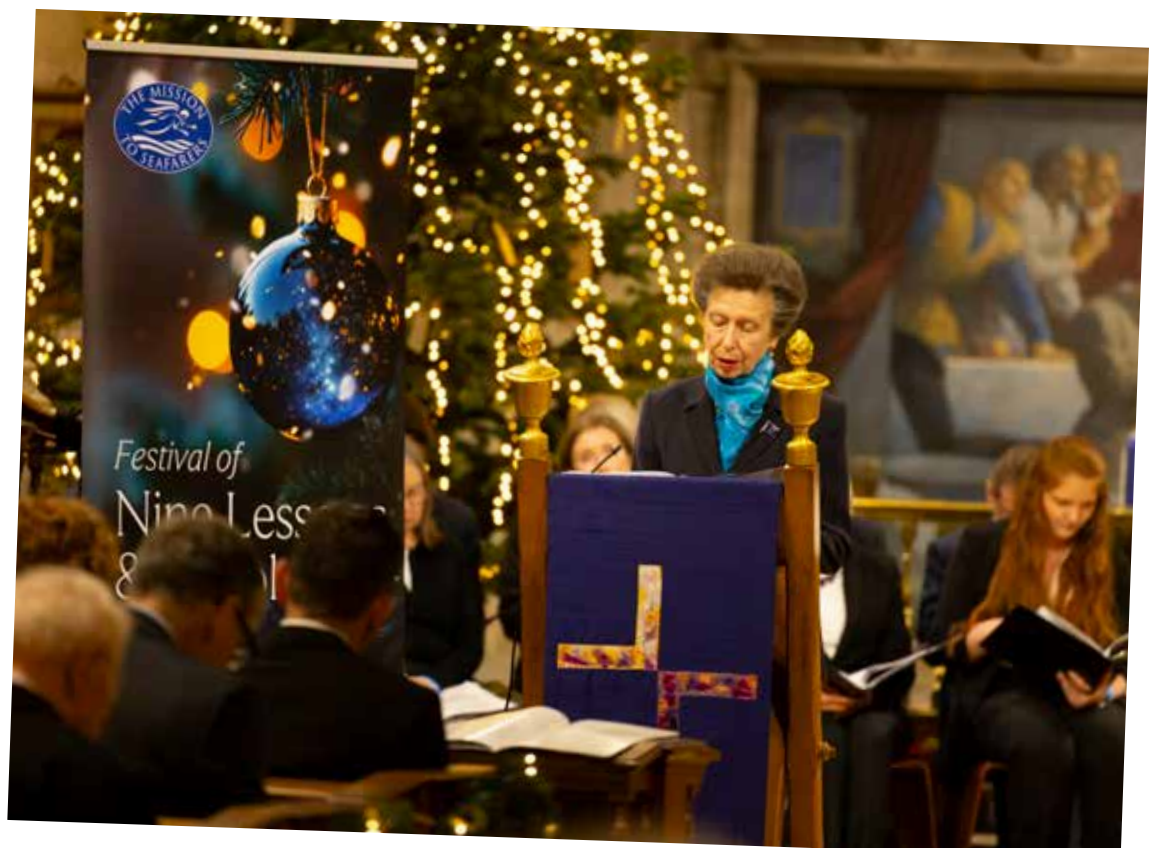
Seafarers Awards 2025,
Singapore



Launched the new Power of Partnership events



Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, London



Looking ahead

With your support, we can reach more of the world's 1.89m seafarers, ensuring that every seafarer has access to the care and support they deserve.

Your support will help us to:



Expand our global reach

Bringing welfare support into more ports. We are actively growing our global network of seafarer centres and chaplaincy teams, focusing on key maritime hubs where demand is greatest. Building on recent openings in Piraeus, Greece and Poti, Georgia, we aim to establish a presence in new and underserved ports, ensuring no seafarer is beyond reach. Every new port means thousands more seafarers can access vital support, from a friendly face on board to emergency assistance in times of crisis.

Strengthen our ship visiting programme

Delivering face-to-face support where it matters most.

Ship visits remain at the heart of our work. Seafarers are far more likely to open up when someone steps on board, listens, and offers support in person. With your support, we can increase the number of trained welfare officers and volunteers in ports around the world, reaching more vessels, more frequently, and responding faster to those in need.

Create modern, welcoming seafarer centres

Safe spaces for rest, connection and recovery.

We are continuing to transform our Flying Angel Centres into modern, accessible environments where seafarers can relax, connect with loved ones, and feel part of a community. Future developments will focus on improving digital connectivity, enhancing wellbeing facilities, and creating spaces that reflect the diverse cultures of the seafarers we serve.

Expand wellbeing and mental health support

Responding to the evolving needs of seafarers.

Life at sea is changing, and so are the challenges seafarers face. From isolation and fatigue to mental health pressures, the need for support has never been greater. We are scaling programmes such as mental health training, crisis response, and wellbeing initiatives, equipping our teams and partners to provide timely, effective care wherever it is needed.

Champion inclusion across the maritime workforce

Ensuring every seafarer feels seen, supported and understood.

We are developing targeted initiatives to better support female seafarers, as well as those from under-represented and neurodiverse communities. By listening to seafarers' experiences and working with industry partners, we aim to create more inclusive support systems that reflect the realities of modern seafaring.

Together, we can reach more seafarers'

Through our partnerships, we will continue to grow, innovate and respond, so that wherever a ship docks, The Mission to Seafarers is there.

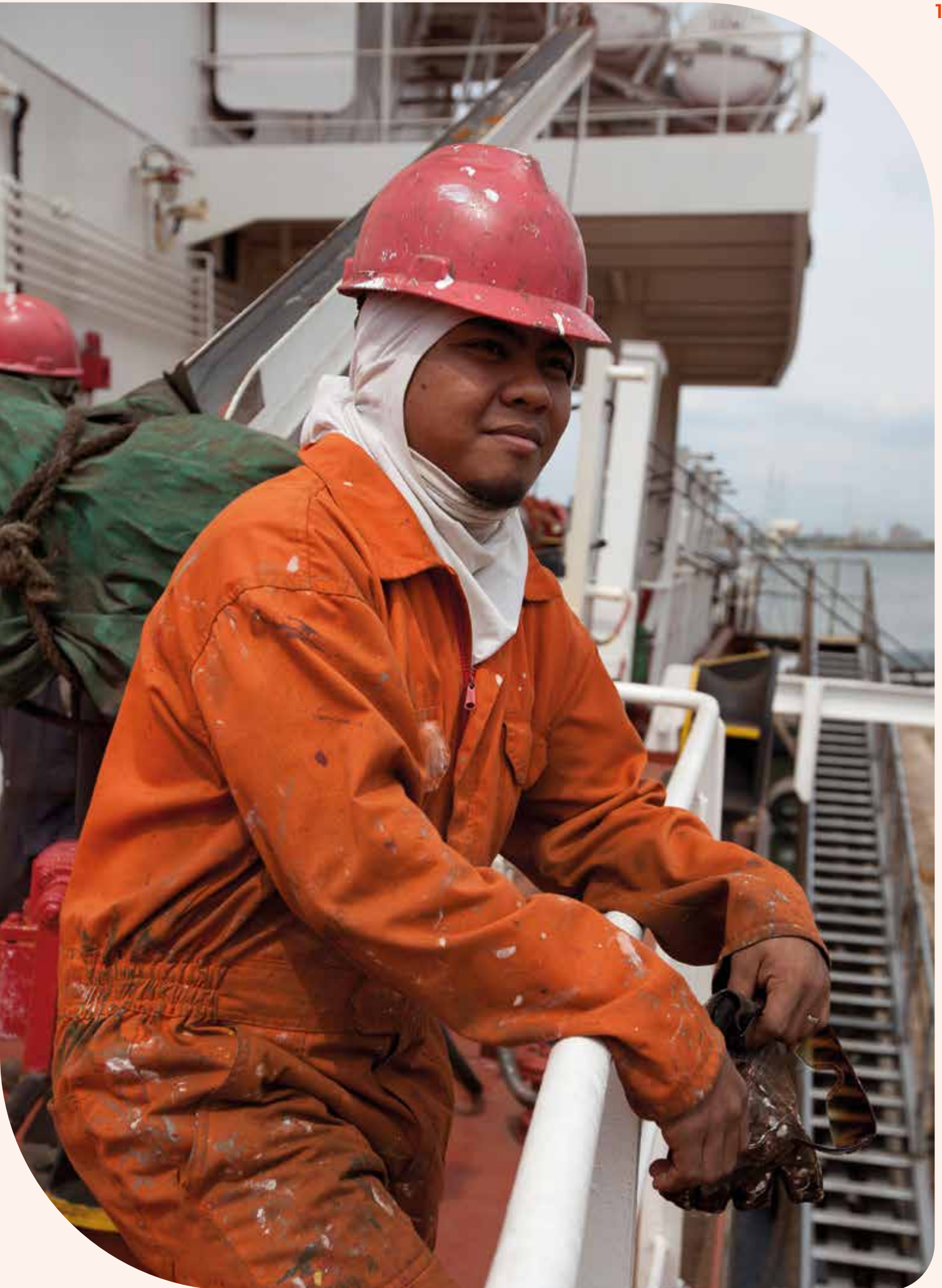
Thank you to our partners

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Event calendar for the year ahead

Date	Event	Location
22nd May 2026	Drinks Reception	Piraeus, Greece
30th May 2026	Posidonia Tour	Piraeus, Greece
26-28th June 2026	Maritime Mountain Race	Geneva, Switzerland
25th September 2026	Partners Lunch	London, UK
9th October 2026	Golf Day	Clandon Regis Golf Club, London
13th November 2026	Seafarers Awards Dinner	Singapore
1st December 2026	Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols	London, UK
13th-16th May 2027	Adventure Race Japan	Near Tokyo, Japan



Get in touch

We would like to thank all of our partners who have supported The Mission to Seafarers, we look forward to working with you in the years ahead.

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The Mission to Seafarers



**Caring for seafarers
around the world**

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