Song of Solidarity

“... therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever Virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.”
— The Confiteor

For the one who cannot rest,
For the one who cannot cry,
I bow and pray.

For the vulnerable,
For the lost,
For the broken,
For all those who’ve been told that this glorious created world and the Word of God that echoes through it is for others, but not for them,
I bow and pray.

For the one who cannot stay,
For the one who cannot leave,
For the one who cannot forget,
For the one who cannot forgive,
I bow and pray.

For all the prayers that lie still in the hearts of the hungry, the thirsty, the homeless, the lonely, the imprisoned, the enslaved, the sick and the dying, those fearful or haunted by sin, I kneel and say my prayers for them.

May others pray for me,
For I am a child of solidarity,
A member of the body of Christ, And when my brother suffers, I suffer, And when my sister rejoices, I rejoice.

I put aside my prayers for myself, Lord, And pray for the one who cannot pray. This is my song of solidarity.

Amen.

Canción de Solidaridad

“... por eso, ruego a Santa María siempre Virgen, a los ángeles y los santos, y a ustedes, mis hermanos y hermanas, que intercedan por mí ante Dios nuestro Señor.”
— El Confetior

Por el que no puede descansar, por el que no puede llorar, me arrodillo y rezo.

Por los vulnerables, por los perdidos, por los quebrantados, por todos aquellos a quienes les han dicho que este glorioso mundo creado y la Palabra de Dios que hace eco a través de él es para otros, pero no para ellos, me arrodillo y rezo.

Por el que no puede quedarse, por el que no puede irse, por el que no puede olvidar, por el que no puede perdonar, me arrodillo y rezo.

Por todas las oraciones que yacen silenciosas en los corazones de los que sufren de hambre, los sedientos, las personas sin hogar, los solitarios, los presos, los esclavizados, los enfermos y los moribundos, aquellos temerosos o atormentados por el pecado, me arrodillo y rezo por ellos.

Que otros recen por mí, porque soy un hijo de la solidaridad, un miembro del cuerpo de Cristo, y cuando mi hermano sufre, yo sufriré, y cuando mi hermana se regocije, yo me regocijaré.

Dejo de lado mis oraciones para mí, Señor, y rezo por el que no puede rezar. Este es mi canto de solidaridad.

Amén
Share the Journey Resources for Teachers and Catechists

God’s love is a gift we are called to share with the world! As missionary disciples of Jesus we are invited to share and receive God’s love with those beyond our immediate experience, including those who are excluded, ignored, and rejected. By moving beyond our comfort zone and encountering and accompanying those on the periphery, we continue Jesus’ mission and are mutually transformed by the joy of the Gospel. Maryknoll Mission Education’s Discover Your Neighbor program highlights Going Forth in the current issue, available for FREE at discoveryournighbor.org. Available for Catholic youth in grades 1-8. Sign up today!

CRS Parish Ambassador Corps

Please join us for the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Parish Ambassador “Come and See” event on Saturday, April 21st from 2:00 – 5:00pm at the Chancery in Seattle.

This special session is for those interested in/thinking about bringing the CRS Parish Ambassador Corps to their parish. Meet current Parish Ambassadors, hear how the Corps has shaped global solidarity in their parishes, and learn more about this exciting initiative. Consider attending and/or sending someone from your parish! Please register at https://tinyurl.com/PACApril21.

CRS’ 75th Anniversary – Your Compassion, Our Thanks

You are invited to come celebrate with us as CRS marks its 75th anniversary this year! We will hear from CRS Regional Director Jim DeHarpporte, share stories, and toast to CRS in the Pacific Northwest.

Saturday, April 21st from 5:30 – 8:00pm at the Archdiocese of Seattle’s Isaac Orr Conference Center, 910 Marion St, Seattle, WA 98104. RSVP by April 16th to our office (contact info at the bottom of this page).

Vacation Bible School?

Will your parish this summer be using (Our Sunday Visitor) Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus?

Be sure to include the supplementary resources from Catholic Relief Services: Connecting Kids to Justice (under the “Tools” section at http://vbs.osw.com). If your parish will be using this particular VBS program, please let us in Missions Office know of that, and if you need any additional resources!

Catholic African Connections Conference – April 14, 2018


An annual event with keynotes, break-out sessions, panel discussion and plenty of networking opportunities.

This free event is open to all who are involved with (or just thinking about) a partnership beyond our borders, particularly in Africa. Contact: CatholicAfricanConnections@gmail.com

Recognizing and Responding to Human Trafficking at Work

Saturday, April 14, 2018 | St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Burien. Join us for an afternoon training and strategy session on how to detect and respond to human tracking in your occupation. Learn more and register at www.bit.ly/MCAHT.

Called to Missionary Discipleship 24/7

Pope Francis reminds young people that Jesus calls each one of us to become His missionary disciples - the path to sainthood. MISSIO, from the Pontifical Mission Societies USA, helps all children on the path of holiness, those at home and those in mission countries. Visit http://missio.org/resources.

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A beautiful selection of handcrafted spiritual and Christian gifts, from cross wall art to unique cross necklaces. Gifts of Faith that give back! The next time you are celebrating a loved one who is receiving a sacrament or marking a special occasion or holiday — give a gift of faith (via Catholic Relief Services) and honor your family and friends in a way that helps improve the lives of people in real need. Click on “Gifts of Faith” at www.serrv.org/crs. SERRV makes a generous donation to the CRS Fair Trade Fund for each product sold, so the purchases that you make happen count twice! For information on CRS ethical trade (and how your purchase supports CRS’ mission and impact) visit http://ethicaltrade.crs.org/.

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Good News from the Missions Office

April 2018 – Page Two

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GOOD NEWS is published monthly, September through Summer, by the Missions Office of the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Distributed to Catholic leadership in the Archdiocese of Seattle and those concerned with the needs of the poor, locally and internationally.

Much of this newsletter, and other resources, can be found at: www.seattlearchdiocese.org/missions

The Good News

July 2017 – Page One
Nourish Change To End Hunger

“We Pray For The Hungry. Then You Feed Them. This Is How Prayer Works.” — Pope Francis

One in nine people around the world do not have enough to eat.

When people live in extreme poverty, are forced to flee their homes and livelihoods to escape violence, or endure increasing natural disasters due to a changing climate, hunger and malnutrition follow and quickly threaten health. Poor nutrition not only stunts the growth of one in four children, but causes 45% of deaths in those under age 5, a total of 3.1 million children every year. And the numbers continue to climb.

Nourish Change For Millions Of People.

As the largest private distributor of U.S. food aid, CRS uses this aid to respond to immediate emergencies that keep people from accessing food, like drought and flooding, or war and conflict. CRS prevents hunger by working to address the root causes of poverty. Land management and conservation programs transform barren hillsides into productive farmland. Nutrition is delivered to children in their critical first thousand days of life. Small farm families learn agricultural practices that increase food production and income. School lunches spur regular school attendance, especially among girls. Lifesaving foreign aid is only 1% of our federal budget but does a world of good.

Nourish Change By Protecting Vital Policies And Programs.

As Catholics, we are called to honor the dignity of every human being. We must ensure consistent access to sufficient nutritious food for our human family around the world. The international food security programs authorized in the Farm Bill provide lifesaving emergency assistance and an opportunity for our most vulnerable brothers and sisters to lead healthy, productive and successful lives.

Before critical legislation in 2018 determines the fate of millions of people, Congress and the administration need to hear your voice.

Raise your voice to prevent and end hunger.

As Congress deliberates about the 2018 Farm Bill, your voice is needed to protect key food security programs. They provide lifesaving emergency assistance to those affected by conflict and natural disasters, and address the root causes of hunger through sustainable development.

TAKE ACTION at www.confrontglobalpoverty.org/issues/hunger

Blessed

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, who has given us: the grain of the earth, the fruit of the vine, the blood of your vein, the pulse of your heart.

Help us to break bread with the hungry as we are broken by their hunger. Teach us to live as your Body.

Amen.

Children’s Earth Prayer

Dear God,
Thank you for this beautiful planet. Bless it and keep it safe from harm. We pray for the protection of the animals, the soil, the air and water. May we care for all that you have made. Help us to love the Earth as you do. We pray in Jesus’ name.

Amen.
Good News from the Missions Office

April 2018 – Page Four

CCHD Grants, Thanks To You!

Each September a collection is held in all parishes for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). Some of the donated funds provide resources for Catholic social teaching and advocacy in parishes and schools throughout the U.S. (e.g., the Justice for Immigrants campaign), but most funds are used for grants. **National** grants are active in this archdiocese in several places, including through Catholic Community Services for its African-American economic enterprise program, and the PREPARES program. But each (arch)diocese keeps a portion of donations for smaller, **local** grants. Below is a list of current local grantees (2017-2018). More information can be found at [www.seattlearchdiocese.org/cchd](http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/cchd).

**Association of Manufactured Home Owners (AMHO)**

AMHO is a statewide organization that educates other homeowners about their rights and helps form homeowners’ associations within their park/ community. This grant is specifically for a largely Latino community in SeaTac whose land is being sold, allowing them to develop leadership and organize.

**Catholic Community Services Farmworker Center**

Plaza Comunitaria Adult Education Center, in the Skagit. Indigenous Farmworker/Latino community members have organized to improve their lives by confronting the institutional barriers that bar them from obtaining a basic education. Partners include Skagit Valley College, the Mexican Consulate in Seattle, and Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.

**Friends of the Carpenter**

Vancouver. Simple woodworking is used as a way of creating a safe and supervised space for volunteers and homeless persons to form friendships and help those who are homeless to network to find support and resources to change their life situation.

**Home Trust of Skagit**

Home Trust of Skagit is a Community Land Trust which balances the multiple interests of homeowners, neighborhood residents, and Skagit county as a whole in serving as the steward for an expanding stock of permanently affordable, owner-occupied homes by: long-term preservation of subsidies and long-term stewardship of housing.

**MercyWatch**

MercyWatch is a Snohomish County nonprofit ministry focused on street outreach to homeless in the area. MercyWatch provides street-based ministry of presence and needed survival supplies and medical assistance.

**Mother Nation**

Mother Nation is a unique organization which offers cultural services, advocacy and mentorship devoted to support the success of Native American Women in pursuit of healing from historical and intergenerational trauma.

**Reentry Corps: Voices and Faces**

In partnership with the Archdiocese of Seattle’s Criminal Justice Ministry, the project involves and is led by a community of former justice-involved consumers (adults who have completed transition from prison and jail) with a focus on developing re-employment skills through training, education and employer connections.

**Seattle Housing and Resource Effort (SHARE)**

SHARE facilitates the largest network of shelters in the Pacific Northwest. They self-manage 14 indoor shelters in donated spaces throughout Seattle, and tent cities which rotate among church parking lots in Seattle/King County. They also facilitate a Housing-for-Work program in three locations, and a storage locker program.

**Women’s Housing, Equality and Enhancement League (WHEEL)**

Projects controlled by low-income women regarding homelessness among women in Seattle/King County, including planning for micro-enterprise and for advocacy for increased shelter and housing.

**Women, And The Holy Spirit: Forces In Africa**

“One thing that cannot be ignored, when we speak of the African Church, is that, if the Holy Spirit is the invisible force of the Church of Africa, women, without a doubt, are the tangible force. Women are more numerous, have more courage, are more dynamic, more active and sometimes more competent. Without women, our churches in Africa would almost be empty, both as a presence and as a force.” So said Fr. Donald Zagore, of the Society of African Missions, in a conversation with FIDES on the occasion of International Women’s Day (March 8).

"In the imagination of the cultural and political structure of African society itself, women, despite the vital force they represent, are continually relegated to the background. Male power still imposes its legendary supremacy. Don’t you think it is about time to look further and to involve women more in the Church’s leadership?” the priest emphasized. “The Church of Africa would certainly gain a lot by opening her arms to women.”

Source: [FIDES](https://fides.org), the Vatican’s mission news service. For more mission news and resources, visit [www.Missio.org](http://www.Missio.org), a service of the Pontifical Mission Societies.
Gun Violence

“And a little child shall lead them.”
— Isaiah 11:6

“The Christian’s real force is the force of truth and of love, which involves renouncing all forms of violence. Faith and violence are incompatible! Instead, faith and strength go together. Christians are not violent; they are strong.”
— Pope Francis

From the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB):

For many years, the USCCB has supported a number of reasonable measures to address the problem of gun violence. These include:

- A total ban on assault weapons, which the USCCB supported when the ban passed in 1994 and when Congress failed to renew it in 2004;
- Measures that control the sale and use of firearms, such as universal background checks for all gun purchases;
- Limitations on civilian access to high-capacity weapons and ammunition magazines;
- A federal law to criminalize gun trafficking;
- Improved access to and increased resources for mental health care and earlier interventions;
- Regulations and limitations on the purchasing of handguns;
- Measures that make guns safer, such as locks that prevent children and anyone other than the owner from using the gun without permission and supervision; and
- An honest assessment of the toll of violent images and experiences which inundate people, particularly our youth.

The USCCB also supports recent proposals to set a more appropriate minimum age for gun ownership, and to ban “bump stocks.” In addition, the USCCB supports wholistic measures, such as the promotion of mercy and peacebuilding in our communities through restorative justice policies and practices, ongoing encounters and discussions at the parish level regarding violence in communities.

Catholics and all people of good will are urged to contact their Senators and Representative to support policy and legislative measures that uphold the safety and wellbeing of all persons in our communities.

Care For The Earth, Care For The Poor:
A Summit Marking The Third Anniversary Of Pope Francis’ Landmark Encyclical Laudato Si’

Saturday, June 2nd at Seattle University’s Le Roux Conference Center (Student Center 160), Gather: 9:30am, Program: 10:00am – 3:30pm

This will be a day for Catholics to come together in prayer, learning and action around the Pope’s encyclical, Laudato Si, which invites everyone (all people of goodwill!) to Share the Journey in Care for the Earth and Care for the Poor. Keynotes include Dan Misleh (Executive Director, Catholic Climate Covenant) and Caroline Brennan (Global Humanitarian Response Team, Catholic Relief Services). Consider sending a delegation from your community to join in this Archdiocesan effort!

***A special blessing will be offered by the Archbishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle, J. Peter Sartain. This is a free event and lunch will be provided.

For more information, resources, and to register (before May 29th!), visit www.ipjc.org/programs/a-new-solidarity-with-creation/.

For questions, contact the Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center (206) 223-1138 or ipjc@ipjc.org.

Photo: Oscar Leiva/Silverlight for CRS
THANK YOU for using the Rice Bowl program in your parish, school and/or home this Lent. What started as a way for Catholics in the U.S. to respond to the famine in Africa in 1976 has evolved into a Lenten tradition bringing us closer together as one church and one human family. The prayers you offered, the learning shared, and the sacrifices made are bringing new life to our poorest and most vulnerable sisters and brothers in western Washington and around the world.

Over 71,000 rice bowls with Lenten calendar inserts were requested, along with educator guides, posters, and customized placemats for soup suppers and other events. Many teachers, youth ministers, catechists, liturgists, committees and others used the new DVD with story videos as well as the many online resources. Some parishioners took an extra rice bowl for reaching out to a family member or friend, inviting them to prayer, giving and advocacy.

Seventy-five percent of Rice Bowl donations are used by Catholic Relief Services to support humanitarian aid projects that bring vital hope and life-saving aid to the poorest of the poor overseas.

Twenty-five percent of Rice Bowl donations stay here in the archdiocese to help those experiencing poverty and hunger in western Washington. To see how we are helped locally in the Archdiocese of Seattle, visit our website with a list of grants made in 2017 (a record number - over 280!), the recipients of the 25% share of Rice Bowl donations last year: www.seattlearchdiocese.org/ricebowl. (In a later issue we will announce the total dollar amount of donations this year to Rice Bowl, and the list of new grantees.)

To stay connected to the global work of Catholic Relief Services throughout the year, please visit www.confrontglobalpoverty.org to learn how you/your community can join Catholics across the country in urging our nation’s leaders to make decisions that defend the life and dignity of all people. With our shared spirit of solidarity, we can continue to share the journey of bringing Christ’s light of hope to the world. A one-minute video, “Easter Joy/Thank You”, from CRS, for sharing in classes, at liturgies, for meetings, can be found at www.crsricebowl.org/diocese.