



Global Solidarity Sunday Collection

"...I was blind and now I see"

March 19, 2023

God has bestowed each of us with certain gifts and talents. However, due to oppression, poverty and lack of education, these are often hidden or stifled for our brothers and sisters. The Global Solidarity Sunday Collection is an opportunity for Catholics of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis to help nurture the gifts and talents of Catholics around the world.

The collection is distributed among four initiatives determined by the United States Catholic Bishops: humanitarian efforts of Catholic Relief Services, the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, the Church in Latin America, and Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa.

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Catholic Relief Services Collection

Catholic Relief Services (CRS): It works to provide for basic humanitarian needs, protecting vulnerable children, uniting families and encouraging legislation reflecting family unity in society. Organizations supported by this collection include:

- Catholic Legal Immigrant Network, Inc:**
- Migration and Refugee Services**
- Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development:**
- Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church**
- Holy Father's Relief Fund for emergency relief**

The Church in Central and Eastern Europe

Our Catholic family in Central Europe has been a story of vitality and strength, a story of hope after enduring years of persecution, which continue today. With the invasion of Ukraine, families are especially in need. The Holy Father has asked Catholics to show solidarity with those struggling from war and violence by supporting this collection. In addition, donated funds are used for projects in other 28 countries that rebuild the spiritual, material and emotional needs of those suffering from conflict. facilities.

The Church in Latin America and the Caribbean

Communities in Latin America to the Caribbean face a lack of basics like food, shelter and healthcare. In addition, human trafficking and environmental concerns are prominent and are destructive to human dignity. Collected funds support many Church programs and emergency grants in response to challenges like enhancing the dignity of human life by addressing human trafficking, protecting the vulnerable and poor as a result of disasters, poverty, and emigration. It also supports Catholic education, lay leadership training, priestly and religious formation. Programs spread God's Kingdom of justice, holiness and peace.

Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa

Although the Church in Africa is growing, they face challenges that include economic and social obstacles of debt, severe poverty and political need for reconciliation. Many suffer due to high rates of unemployment, poor education and water/food scarcity due to drought. This Solidarity Fund supports pastoral projects that foster lasting peace and reconciliation in a continent often marked by division and tension.

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