



Global Solidarity Sunday Collection

Called to Global Communion

June 6, 2010

God has bestowed each of us with certain gifts and talents. One person's gift, when freely given, can release another's gift which may have been stifled or hidden through poverty, oppression, or lack of education. The Global Solidarity Sunday Collection is an opportunity for Catholics of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis to help release the gifts and talents of our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout other parts of the world.

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

Catholic Relief Services Collection

Catholic Relief Services (CRS): creates opportunities for U.S. Catholics to live their faith in solidarity with poor people overseas by providing financial assistance and working to remove the root causes of poverty.

Catholic Legal Immigrant Network, Inc: provides legal and support services to Catholic programs representing poor immigrants. It focuses on reunification of families and protection of those fleeing persecution or civil unrest.

Migration and Refugee Services: resettles approximately one quarter of the refugees admitted to the U.S. It promotes just public policy for newcomers and migrants and responds to their spiritual needs.

Social Development and World Peace: advocates for the poor and vulnerable and for international peace and justice. It enables the Church to respond to global concerns such as religious freedom and debt relief for poor countries.

Collection to Aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

Help sustain our Catholic family in Central Europe which has been a story of vitality and strength, a story of hope. Collection funds support seminaries, social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral centers, church restoration, and the spreading of the Gospel message by utilizing mass media throughout Central and Eastern Europe.

Collection for the Church in Latin America

Funds from this collection are given as collaborative grants to pilot pastoral programs initiated by local bishops in Latin America to strengthen the Church's work towards peace and reconciliation. These grants assist in the formation of priests, religious and lay pastoral leaders, missionaries, pastoral workers, catechists, and youth ministers. In 2005, the Committee on the Church in Latin America, through its collaborative grants program, was able to fund 463 pastoral projects in 210 dioceses for a total of more than \$4.7 million.

Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa

The Church in Africa is spiritually rich, but desperately poor. It needs our support to meet both its current needs and achieve its enormous potential. This fund helps build pastoral capacity in response to the pastoral needs and the mission of the African Church.

Please be as generous as you are able during your parish's collection on June 5/6. Thank you.