

DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE

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OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Prayers for Ukraine

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we begin the Holy Season of Lent, we are called to fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Let us remember in our prayers the people of Ukraine who are suffering the ravages of a brutal war of aggression by Russia. We see every day how this brutality is affecting men, women, children, the elderly and infirm. Children and the elderly are being forced from their homes in an attempt to flee destruction.

None of us can imagine our lives being upended as the Ukrainian people are enduring. In the middle of winter they are without heat, electricity, food and medicine. Many of the elderly, walking with crutches, must tread through snow, water and mud trying to find safety. We cannot help but be moved to have compassion for our fellow human beings. Please remember them in your prayers. Pray also that national leaders will be moved to seek peaceful means to resolve their differences.

Many have asked how they could help monetarily. Donations will be used to provide food, medicine and even warm clothes. If anyone wishes to help, donations may be given to your pastor or to me at the Diocesan Offices, 1408 Carmel Drive in Lafayette, LA 70501, marked "Ukrainian Relief". The United States Conference of Bishops has a close relationship with the Ukrainian Bishops and any donations will be forwarded to them for relief efforts.

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel, D.D.
Bishop of Lafayette

REVEAL Christ's LOVE



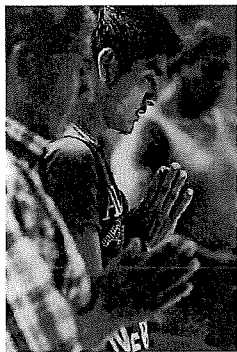
I should no longer say that I have neighbors to help, but that I must myself be a neighbor to others.

—Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, no. 81

The Catholic Relief Services Collection is an opportunity for you to help improve the lives of the most vulnerable people around the world and here in the United States. Your support funds organizations dedicated to aiding people affected by war and natural disasters, migrants and refugees in need of material and legal assistance, and people worldwide whose livelihoods are impacted by changing political and environmental conditions.

Guatemala is a leading producer of coffee, growing more than three million 132-pound bags annually, much of it exported

to the United States, Japan, and Canada. Aged farms, climate change, soil depletion, and a fungal infection called coffee leaf rust that causes leaves to fall off the plant and kill it—all of these pose challenges for small coffee farmers. Odilio Geronimo is one such farmer, whose ability to support his wife and young son was threatened by a fractured foot he suffered in an accident and by a crop destroyed by leaf rust.



Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is helping Guatemalan coffee farmers like Odilio through a water-smart agriculture program that teaches farmers practices such as soil-quality identification, use of cover crops, and use of better compost. Through this

CRS-supported program, Odilio has had bigger and healthier harvests with the skills he learned, which help him provide better for his family. When you support The Catholic Relief Services Collection, you provide emergency relief to those affected by disasters as well as long-term solutions that improve the lives of families like Odilio's.

Your Donations Help Our Brothers and Sisters . . .

In the United States

Feed Jesus' hunger in suffering refugees . . . through the **USCCB's Migration and Refugee Services (MRS)**.

Offer legal assistance to Jesus in struggling immigrants . . . through the **Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)**.

Reach out to comfort Jesus' loneliness in isolated workers . . . through the pastoral work of the **USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church**.

And Around the World

Give water to quench Jesus' thirst in the people of Syria and Niger . . . through the humanitarian work of **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)**.

Advocate on behalf of Jesus in the poor and marginalized . . . through the public policy work of the **USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development**.

Send aid to Jesus in the victims of natural disaster . . . through the **Holy Father's Relief Fund**.

The Catholic Relief Services Collection 2020

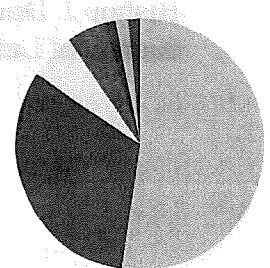
Grants

■ Catholic Relief Services	\$5,118,278	52.35%
■ USCCB Migration & Refugee Services	\$1,558,012	15.94%
■ CLINIC (Catholic Legal Immigration Network)	\$917,124	9.38%
■ USCCB Cultural Diversity in the Church*	\$687,134	7.03%
■ USCCB International Justice & Peace	\$574,700	5.88%
■ Holy Father's Relief Fund	\$500,000	5.11%
■ USCCB Justice, Peace & Human Development Education & Outreach	\$137,675	1.41%

Administration

■ Promotion & Education Costs	\$154,764	1.58%
■ Administrative Expenses	\$128,744	1.32%

*USCCB Cultural Diversity in the Church includes Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees & Travelers (\$447,490) and Asian & Pacific Island Affairs (\$239,644)



The Catholic Relief Services Collection

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Join us after 9 o'clock mass

Sunday, April 17, 2022

For an

Easter Egg Hunt

Hunt will take place on the front lawn

For ages 0-11

Please remember to bring your Easter baskets

