

HELP Jesus IN DISGUISE

“AMEN, I SAY TO YOU, WHATEVER YOU DID FOR ONE OF THESE LEAST BROTHERS OF MINE, YOU DID FOR ME.” (MT 25:40)



The Catholic Relief Services Collection funds six Catholic agencies that work to serve our suffering brothers and sisters around the world. Through humanitarian aid, resettling displaced individuals and families, and providing legal and advocacy services for migrants, the Catholic Relief Services Collection allows us to see every encounter with a person who is suffering as an opportunity to **help Jesus in disguise**.



In northern Pakistan, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) works with religious leaders and families to promote education for girls. In most rural areas of the country, education is only available and encouraged for boys. Some girls are taught to read and write at home, but for most of the girls their education stops there.

CRS staff realized that mothers could become primary facilitators of their daughters' education and met with groups of mothers to discuss the value of education for girls. After receiving information and meeting with teachers, several mothers decided to enroll their girls in school. This often meant sending them off some distance to a neighboring village, but the mothers began to play an active role in supporting and encouraging their daughters. And they have now seen a positive change. The girls show a passion for school and enjoy reviewing their homework with their mothers.



For young Nigerian Igbo Catholics in the United States, generational conflict presents a challenge to the faith. Because the Catholic faith is something associated with the rigid views of their elders, many of the young people have fallen away. They struggle to integrate their new American life with the African heritage passed down from their parents and elders and many no longer see the relevance of the faith for daily life.

The USCCB's Subcommittee on the Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers (PCMRT) reached out to this community of young people during an annual gathering of Igbo Catholics in Raleigh, North Carolina. Over 200 youth gathered to discuss their experience of culture and faith, voicing their difficulty finding their identity and engaging in their faith. As a result of this dialogue, the youth created their own organization, finding shared struggles and a common voice. Empowered by spiritual guidance and peer counseling during retreats, these young people are now engaged in their parishes, serving as lectors, altar servers, and choir members.

WITH YOUR DONATIONS

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

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

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 for Cultural Diversity in the Church**.

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

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



The Catholic Relief Services Collection

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