



A Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your interest in the *Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty*. Through this Campaign, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services invite Catholics in the United States to join in efforts to respond to the pervasive poverty that affects so many of our brothers and sisters around the world. As believers, we recognize the presence of Christ in all our brothers and sisters—especially those in greatest need—and we respond to Jesus’ call to care for the “least” among us.

The Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty takes a two-pronged approach. It begins with **education**—helping parishioners and those in our schools, universities, and other institutions to learn more about global poverty, about how Catholic social teaching can inform our responses to it, and about U.S. policies that can promote development for impoverished people. These educational efforts can then lead to **action**—through advocacy for U.S. policies that foster economic and social development for people living in poverty throughout the world.

The campaign focuses on the following three areas of U.S. economic policy.

- **Trade:** Shaping U.S. trade policies so that overcoming poverty and promoting human development are central priorities
- **Aid:** Supporting effective foreign aid programs that foster long-term development and empowerment of the poor
- **Debt:** Eliminating the debt of the poorest countries in ways that reduce poverty and promote dignity

This parish kit includes a range of resources to help you weave education and action on global poverty into your parish ministries. We hope you will find it helpful and that you will copy and distribute the enclosed materials to parish staff and leaders. For more information and additional resources on the campaign, please go to www.usccb.org/globalpoverty or www.crs.org/globalpoverty.

Thank you again for joining the Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty and helping to bring “glad tidings to the poor” throughout the world.

Sincerely,

Most Rev. Robert N. Lynch
Chairman
Catholic Relief Services
Board of Directors

Most Rev. Thomas G. Wenski
Chairman
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
International Policy Committee