

REVEAL Christ's LOVE

Dear Editor/ Communications Director,

Your diocese will soon participate in The Catholic Relief Services Collection. This collection provides parishioners with an opportunity to be neighbors to people living on the margins both here and around the world. Funds from the collection support organizations that aid victims of war and natural disaster, help resettle refugees and migrants displaced by violence and poverty, and address the pastoral needs of migrant workers, seafarers, and other people lacking stable parish communities.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) is one of the world's largest nongovernmental resettlement organizations, working to assist and to advocate for vulnerable people on the move. From victims of human trafficking, famine, and poverty to unaccompanied migrant children and asylees facing political and religious persecution, MRS has helped more than one million refugees build new lives in the United States since its inception in 1965.

Since 2001, countries around the world have observed World Refugee Day on June 20 to bring public attention to the needs of refugees and internally displaced persons. As Catholics who recognize the dignity of the entire human person, we know that assistance to refugees and other vulnerable migrants is not merely a political or economic issue—it is also a spiritual opportunity for us to be neighbors to our brothers and sisters. In this spirit, MRS collaborated with Catholic dioceses and interreligious organizations to organize interfaith prayer services for and with refugees on World Refugee Day 2021. These services brought local communities across political and religious lines together, in accordance with their local needs, including virtual gatherings in observance of COVID-19 protocols, to pray for the well-being of refugees in the United States.

With funding from The Catholic Relief Services Collection, MRS works to address the material needs of migrants and refugees, advocate for policies that recognize their human dignity, and bridge cultural and religious divides between refugees and their new communities. When you support the collection, your prayers are put into action and become a sign of solidarity and neighborly love for our brothers and sisters. We rely on your help in promoting this collection. Promotional materials, including prayer cards, web banners, and a social media tool kit, are available at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief/collection. Use your publication(s), website, social media channels, and any other outlets to tell this story and the story of all those who benefit from The Catholic Relief Services Collection and encourage parishioners' generous support.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact me at 202-541-3365 or ngerman@usccb.org. It may be helpful to know that [#iGiveCatholicTogether](https://www.usccb.org/catholic-relief/collection) also accepts funds for this program if parishioners in your diocese are looking for a way to support this collection through online donations.

Thank you for your continued support.

Gratefully in Christ,



Nicole Germain, Assistant Director, Promotions



The Catholic Relief Services Collection

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