

# Good News from the MISSIONS OFFICE

Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle

710 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

September 2010

## Prayer Service for the Start of a New Year



### Opening Prayer:

#### **Leader:**

Gracious God,

We gather as a community open to Your word and  
Your works.

In the months ahead, during our time of seeking and  
learning together, mold, shape, and transform us.

Give us a mind that engages with Your word and seeks  
to understand Your truth in this complex world.

Give us ears to be attentive to Your voice in the world  
and to hear what we have not heard before.

Give us eyes to see You in all of your children on this  
earth and to see our world from new perspectives.

Give us a willing heart to be open to others and to  
nurture deep solidarity with the human community.

### Reading from Scripture:

**Reader:** A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the  
Corinthians (II Corinthians 9: 8, 10-14)

God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so  
that in all things, always having all you need, you  
may have an abundance for every good work.

The one who supplies seed to the sower and bread for  
food will supply and multiply your seed and increase  
the harvest of your righteousness.

You are being enriched in every way for all generosity,  
which through us produces thanksgiving to God,  
or the administration of this public service is not  
only supplying the needs of the holy ones but is also  
overflowing in many acts of thanksgiving to God.

### Prayers of Intercession:

**Leader: Please respond: "God of Truth, Hear Our Prayer"**

For a new year of possibilities and potential,

**We pray to the Lord...**

For the transformation of heart and mind that God  
call us to, **We pray to the Lord...**

For the truth and wisdom God offers in abundance,

**We pray to the Lord...**

For new ways of seeing, hearing and responding to  
others, **We pray to the Lord...**

For what else shall we pray? (spontaneous petitions)

### Closing Prayer:

**Leader: Let us pray:**

Be with us early and late, our God,

As we move through the days ahead.

Be with us to challenge us.

Be with us to guide us to learn what is difficult.

Be with us as we move from our places of comfort  
to new expanses and new horizons.

Be with us as we discover and nurture solidarity  
with others.

Be with us, O God, early and late.

**Amen.**

*Source: Adapted and shortened from Center of Concern's Education for Justice program. Membership encouraged to avail a community of this great resource: [www.educationforjustice.org](http://www.educationforjustice.org). Art: Lee Miller.*



## Have you taken the St. Francis Pledge?

The Feast of St. Francis (October 4) provides a prime opportunity to promote the St. Francis Pledge to Care for Creation and the Poor, especially for parishes, schools and youth groups.

Now is the time to pledge yourself and your community for that Fall feastday. Please visit <http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/the-st-francis-pledge> to get started!

Also on the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change website, you will find prayers, bulletin inserts, and liturgy suggestions to celebrate the life and witness of St. Francis and to encourage participation by families, parishes, youth groups, schools and other organizations.



## Build Hope Collection, September 11 – 12

This annual collection supports two national campaigns instituted by the U.S. Catholic Bishops: the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and the Catholic Communications Campaign. CCHD serves to combat domestic poverty and to implement the Church's social teachings. The CCHD portion of donations is used for grants to low-income controlled community organizations, and for education on Catholic social teaching (e.g. resources for parishes participating in the JustFaith program).



## Rice Bowl featured countries for Lent of 2011

(from Catholic Relief Services, for those who like to look ahead!)

Week 1: Haiti — Food Security

Week 2: Senegal — Microfinance

Week 3: Indonesia — Agriculture / Water

Week 4: Honduras — Health

Week 5: Kenya — Education

Week 6: (United States) the national materials will feature a project in a U.S. diocese. You can also draw from a list of **Rice Bowl grantees** in this archdiocese — maybe in your local community — for bulletins and web sites. Perhaps bring in a speaker from, or have a class or group visit, the grantee's site? Contact us in **Missions Office**.

## U.N. International Day of Peace – Sept. 21

Maryknoll is in a partnership asking for a "million minutes for peace." [www.maryknoll.org/peace/index.htm](http://www.maryknoll.org/peace/index.htm).

**GOOD NEWS** is published monthly, September through Summer, by the Missions Office of the Archdiocese of Seattle.

Distributed to Catholic leadership in the Archdiocese of Seattle and those concerned with the needs of the poor, locally and internationally.

Much of this newsletter, and other resources, can be found at: [www.seattlearch.org/missions](http://www.seattlearch.org/missions)

## FOODFAST

[www.foodfast.org](http://www.foodfast.org)

## New Materials for Grades 8 – 12

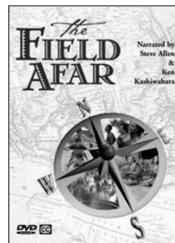
Food Fast is Catholic Relief Services' 24-hour hunger awareness retreat for Catholic youth. Focusing on global poverty and hunger, Food Fast offers a journey of solidarity with our brothers and sisters overseas, as a way of living out our Catholic faith. The materials can be adapted for a shorter time (for school). Your Missions Office can assist with speakers and other resources. And... at the FoodFast website check out the YouTube video featuring one of our parishes' youth group participating in FoodFast this past year!

*"Those who eat the Bread of Christ cannot remain indifferent before those who, even in our days, lack daily bread." — Pope Benedict XVI*



## Just Video Contest from IPJC

It's time for Catholic Social Teaching in film. All high school juniors and seniors are eligible to enter. Create a 4-6 minute video on topic of Immigration, Human Rights or Environment. Winning participants will receive monetary prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. For all the details of the contest go to the Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center (IPJC) website [www.ipjc.org](http://www.ipjc.org) or (206) 223-1138 for a brochure and details. (Deadline: March 30, 2011)



## The Field Afar series on DVD

This 15-part series from Maryknoll explores the richness, vibrancy and spirit alive in the world today as experienced by Maryknoll missionaries: priests, brothers, sisters, and lay people. Through the work they do and the friendships they make with the peoples of the world, viewers can see the hand of God at work in lands both near and far. Each episode is 22 minutes long, designed to be viewed in a single showing or class period. Available on loan from the Missions Office or for purchase from Maryknoll, [www.maryknollsmall.org](http://www.maryknollsmall.org).



## Gathering for Life, Justice & Peace Contacts

September 18, 2010, Saturday; 9am-Noon.

For information: Jim Thomas, archdiocesan Director of Adult Faith Formation for Catholic Social Teaching and Family Life; [jim.thomas@seattlearch.org](mailto:jim.thomas@seattlearch.org); (206) 382-4268; (800) 950-4970.

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# Labor Day Statement

"And yet, Yahweh, you are our Father; we the clay and your our potter, all of us are the work of your hands" — *Isaiah 64:7*

Each year a Labor Day statement is issued by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' chairman of its Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development. This 2010 statement's title is **"A New 'Social Contract' for Today's 'New Things."** The statement is five pages long, and a link to it and to other resources from the USCCB can be found at our website: [www.seattlearch.org/missions](http://www.seattlearch.org/missions).

*An excerpt from the statement:*

"As a Church with a long tradition of bringing the light of the Gospel to the concrete social, economic, political, and cultural questions of the day, Pope Benedict reminds us this Labor Day that we as a nation and people do not live in isolation, we influence and are influenced by our brothers and sisters in all the nations, economies, and cultures that make up this globalized world. More than ever, the dignity of the worker is a foundation upon which we should measure much of what is good, and not so good, in the financial, industrial, and service sectors of our economy and our world."

*The above quote, and perhaps the one below, could be used in a parish or school bulletin around Labor Day weekend.*

"God gave humanity intelligence, sensitivity and the power of thought – tools with which to finish and perfect the work God began. Every worker is to some extent a creator – whether artist, craftsman, executive, laborer or farmer. ....when work is done in common – when hope, hardship, ambition and joy are shared – it brings together and firmly unites the wills, minds and hearts of people." — *Populorum Progressio* (Pope Paul VI, 1967)



The Holy Childhood Association (HCA) offers young Catholics (grades K-8) an opportunity to grow in faith through mission education, sacrifice and service for others. A Pontifical Mission Society, HCA focuses entirely on "children helping children" throughout the world.

The 2010-2011 school-year theme is, "Lord, I put my faith in You" (John 9:38). This year, the HCA membership newsletters will be regional in focus. As such, HCA membership materials for fall will feature Oceania and the Americas. Advent materials will focus on Asia, and Lent materials will emphasize Africa.

Looking ahead: October is Mission Month. The HCA website offers reproducibles and other resources to help schools and religious education programs celebrate. October 1 is the Feast Day of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, co-patron, with St. Francis Xavier, of the Church's worldwide missionary work.

The HCA Resource Guide for 2010-2011 was sent to each school principal last May, and more copies are available from us in the Missions Office. The Guide can also be found online at [www.onefamilyinmission.org/hca.html](http://www.onefamilyinmission.org/hca.html).

## Looking ahead: October is Fair Trade Month



Now might be a good time to plan some education and awareness in one's parish or school.

Would you like a sample CRS fair trade item (coffee, chocolate and/or handcraft) to use for a committee, council, or school meeting? Contact us in the Missions Office (page two of this newsletter)!

Excellent resources can be found online at <http://www.crsfairtrade.org/resources>.

"It is good for people to realize that purchasing is always a moral — and not simply economic — act. Hence the consumer has a specific social responsibility, which goes hand-in-hand with the social responsibility of the enterprise. Consumers should be continually educated regarding their daily role...." (Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate*, 66)

# Sudan Catholic Church

## A message of hope and a call to action

A statement by the Sudan Catholic Bishops' Conference was written in July in anticipation of January 9, 2011, when the people of southern Sudan are due to vote in a referendum on whether they should secede from the northern region of Sudan. In the next newsletter, and on our website before then, we may have a joint announcement from the bishops of Sudan and of the U.S. regarding ways to be in special solidarity with the people of Sudan. For more information: <http://crs.org/sudan> and [www.usccb.org/sdwp/international/callafrica/sudan.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/international/callafrica/sudan.shtml).

[from the conclusion of the statement]

We commit ourselves and our Church to the work of peace-building and reconciliation on a daily and practical basis, in collaboration with others and in line with Catholic Social Teaching. We pledge ourselves to journey together with our people towards a just and lasting peace.

*I call heaven and earth today to witness against you; I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live... (Deuteronomy 30:19)*

We have come a long way to reach this point. Our journey has not been easy and we have met with great difficulties. But we have faced these challenges as best we could with the help of God. Our hope is not dimmed, and we look to the future with confidence in God's loving care for us all.

We therefore encourage all those who are entitled to vote in the referenda in Southern Sudan and in Abyei to choose what kind of future they, their children and generations to come will enjoy. We encourage them to choose what kind of life they and their offspring will have, a life of freedom with justice and equal rights for all. As the Shepherds of the Church in Sudan we place our hope in God and look forward to a just and peaceful society where each person's rights and dignity are upheld.

We encourage them to choose life.

*For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare, not for woe! plans to give you a future full of hope. (Jeremiah 29:11)*



## Prayer for Pakistan

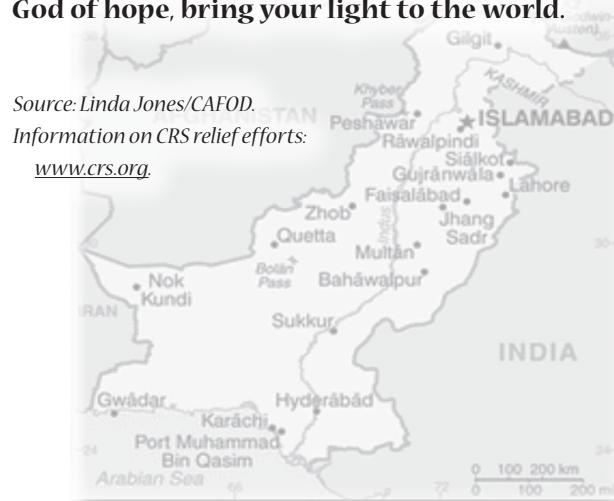
We pray for those who have been affected by the immense flooding in Pakistan. From the northern mountains to the southern wheat fields the rising water has left devastation in its wake. **Compassionate God, have mercy.**

Wipe away the tears of those who have lost their families, their homes and their livelihoods.

**Loving God, hear our cries.**

We pray for those battling to deliver aid and support, and for the families and friends of those who are missing or hurt. Bring the light of hope into the lives of those who wait. Stir in us the spirit of compassion and love for all in need.

**God of hope, bring your light to the world.**



Source: Linda Jones/CAFOD.

Information on CRS relief efforts:

[www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)

**“Religion ...is a leaven of justice and solidarity. Communion with God is necessarily followed by communion of brothers and sisters with one another.”**

— Benedict XVI

# Catholic Social Teaching Multiple Choice Quiz

This quiz is taken from: *In the Footsteps of Jesus: Resource Manual on Catholic Social Teaching*, © United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2004. The manual and an accompanying *In the Footsteps of Jesus* video (DVD or VHS) are available on loan from the Missions Office and from the archdiocesan Library Media Center. Or one can order the manual and DVD (video available in Spanish) at [www.usccbpublishing.org](http://www.usccbpublishing.org).

1. The Church's teaching on human life and dignity leads the Church to:
  - a. oppose abortion as a preeminent threat to human life.
  - b. oppose assisted suicide.
  - c. oppose the use of the death penalty.
  - d. work to end world hunger.
  - e. all of the above.
2. Human dignity is best promoted when:
  - a. each person looks out for his/her own interests.
  - b. we keep the government out of people's lives.
  - c. the poor are forced to improve their own lives.
  - d. people work for the common good.
  - e. all of the above.
3. The central social institution is:
  - a. the individual.
  - b. marriage and the family.
  - c. the government.
  - d. the Church.
  - e. all of the above.
4. People have a right to:
  - a. life.
  - b. food and clothing.
  - c. housing and health care.
  - d. employment.
  - e. all of the above.
5. A basic moral test of society is:
  - a. how well the middle-class is doing.
  - b. whether all people have a chance to get rich.
  - c. how well the poor and vulnerable are faring.
  - d. the survival of the fittest.
  - e. all of the above.
6. Workers have a right to:
  - a. productive work.
  - b. decent and fair wages.
  - c. choose to organize and join unions.
  - d. own private property.
  - e. all of the above.
7. A just wage is:
  - a. the rate of pay that market conditions set.
  - b. what an employer can afford to pay and stay in business.
  - c. enough for a family to meet its basic living expenses.
  - d. what an employee agrees to accept.
  - e. all of the above.
8. Solidarity requires that:
  - a. we care about others no matter where they live or how different they appear.
  - b. charity begins at home.
  - c. all persons need to pull themselves up by their bootstraps.
  - d. all people need to have equal incomes.
  - e. all of the above.
9. The Catholic view of the environment is that:
  - a. the natural world needs to be dominated.
  - b. we must choose between jobs and the environment.
  - c. mistreating the natural world hurts humanity.
  - d. poor communities have few environmental problems.
  - e. all of the above.
10. The Church's social teaching calls Catholics to:
  - a. help the poor and vulnerable by contacting legislators.
  - b. help the poor and vulnerable by getting involved in a charity.
  - c. support groups that empower low-income people.
  - d. make a difference in the world by using our gifts.
  - e. all of the above.

## Quiz Answers

1. E. The Church consistently defends human life.
2. D. The common good is the sum total of social conditions that enable people as individuals and groups to reach their human potential.
3. B. Marriage is the foundation and the family is the basic cell of society. Other institutions are supposed to support, not undermine families. Government is charged with promoting the common good to create conditions in which human dignity and families can flourish.
4. E. The foundational right to life includes a right to all those things necessary to sustain a dignified life. With these rights come responsibilities to one's family, community and the common good.
5. C. The poor and vulnerable have a special claim on society because their needs are greatest and their human rights are more at risk.
6. E. Work is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. Workers have fundamental rights.
7. C. The Church supports a family wage.
8. A. Solidarity expresses the interdependence of the human family, God's family; it requires just policies, locally, nationally and internationally.
9. C. The fate of humanity is bound up with the fate of God's creation.
10. E. All Catholics are called to use their gifts to meet the needs of the poor and vulnerable in charity and to transform unjust social structures in justice.



# 2010 Grants

The following CCHD grants were recommended to and approved by Archbishop Brunett. Funds for the grant program come from the Build Hope collection held in every parish in September (Sept. 11/12th this year). Local applications are available in March/April each year, and national ones throughout the year. Contact the Missions Office or visit [www.seattlearch.org/missions](http://www.seattlearch.org/missions) for more information on the grant programs, and to contact or become involved with any of these organizations. Information on CCHD: [www.usccb.org/cchd](http://www.usccb.org/cchd) and PovertyUSA: [www.usccb.org/cchd/povertyusa](http://www.usccb.org/cchd/povertyusa).

## Local Grants (average of \$2,500 each)

**Friends of the Carpenter:** Vancouver. Woodworking is used as a way of creating a safe and supervised space for homeless persons to form friendships and help others who are homeless to network to find support and resources to change their life situation. Project involves learning promotion and publicity skills.

**Homestead Community Land Trust:** Seattle. Addresses the need for housing equity in the Seattle-King County region by helping low- and moderate-income families buy affordable homes, by ensuring that these homes remain permanently affordable, and by working to eliminate the policy barriers that stand in the way of true housing equity.

**Women's Justice Circles:** (Sponsored by Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center). Various western Washington sites. To build relationships among low-income women in Washington state who want change, to claim personal and collaborative power, to understand the issues that make life difficult for low-income women, and to learn the skills of grassroots organizing and leadership.

**Latinos for Community Transformation:** South King County. The group develops new leaders from immigrant, low-income families so they can take action for social change in their communities. Through training, skills development and action participants gain tools and knowledge for advocacy.

**Lopez Community Land Trust:** Lopez Island. Local grant is for projects complementing the national grant.

## Women's Housing, Equality and Enhancement League (WHEEL)

**(WHEEL):** Seattle/King county. Projects on homelessness among women in Seattle/King county, including planning for micro-enterprise and for advocacy for increased shelter and housing.

## National Grants (totaling \$85,000)

**Lopez Community Land Trust:** Lopez Island. Building a diverse, sustainable island community, specifically through affordable housing programs that primarily support low-income households.

**OPAL Community Land Trust:** Acquires and owns land so that residents of Orcas Island who are in need may have access to permanently affordable homes and workplaces. OPAL collaborates with others, develops improvements and stewards the land in a manner that is cooperative, stable, environmentally sensitive and socially responsible.

**Tenants Union:** Seattle/King County. Creates housing justice through grassroots education, organizing and advocacy. Organizing victories are achieved through outreach, training, leadership development, strategic analysis, creative direct action and legislative advocacy.

*Pope Benedict XVI reminds us, our "fraternal communion" in the Eucharist leads to "a determination to transform unjust structures and to restore respect for the dignity of all men and women, created in God's image and likeness" (Sacrament of Charity #89).*



**The Multi-Media Youth Arts Contest** is an annual contest organized by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). It is designed as a tool for schools and parishes to engage Catholics in grades 7 through 12 in learning about the causes of poverty, Catholic social teaching, and CCHD.

The **2011** contest theme is: "Our Faith, Our Mission, Our Future: Building Community, Overcoming Poverty, Defending Human Dignity." Lesson plans and activities, contest information, and rules can be found at [www.usccb.org/cchd/contestmaterials.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/cchd/contestmaterials.shtml). All types of art (eg video, song, painting, acting, writing, etc.) are welcome!

The Missions Office is the local CCHD representative with resources and the local deadline for entries.

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