

Good News *from the* MISSIONS OFFICE

Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle

710 9th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104

February 2016

One More
Season of

Mercy

Invitation to Prayer

This is what Yahweh-God asks of you--- only this: to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

God's mercy transforms human hearts; it enables us, through the experience of a faithful love, to become merciful in turn. (Pope Francis, Lenten message for 2016)

Opening Prayer:

"Lenten Psalm of Awakening" *

Side 1: Come, O Life-giving Creator
and rattle the door latch of my slumbering heart.
Awaken me, as you breathe upon a winter-
wrapped earth, gently calling to life virgin Spring.

Side 2: Awaken in these fortified days
of Lenten prayer and discipline
my youthful dream of holiness.
Call me forth from the prison camp
of my numerous past defeats
and my narrow patterns of being
to make my ordinary life extra-ordinarily alive,
through the passion of my love.

Side 1: Show to me these Lenten days
how to take the daily things of life,
and by submerging them in the sacred,
to infuse them with a great love
for you, O God, and for others.

Side 2: Guide me to perform simple acts of love and
prayer, the real works of reform and renewal
of this overture to the spring of the Spirit.

All: O Father of Jesus, Mother of Christ,
help me not to waste these precious Lenten days
of my soul's spiritual springtime.

Reflection:

"Loving Source of All Being" **

Refrain: *Loving Source of all being, fruitful womb of all the living, show to us one more season of mercy.*

- ❖ Let us sense your compassion for the creatures you have fashioned, with tenderness and with love. *(Refrain)*
- ❖ Let us feel your great anguish for the people who languish in poverty and despair. *(Refrain)*
- ❖ Put our hands to your labor in the service of our neighbor whom you commit to our care. *(Refrain)*
- ❖ Let us sense your deep wisdom in the beauty that has come from the depths of your mystic word. *(Refrain)*

[If time allows, an invitation for each to share a Lenten practice]

Closing Prayer (all)

Merciful God, you are the Source of all being.

You call us forth from the dust of Earth.

You claim us for Christ in the waters of Baptism.

Look upon us during these forty days of
Lent begun with the mark of ashes; be with us as we
journey through this spiritual springtime.

May our fasting, almsgiving, and prayer enable us to do
justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.
All this we pray in this season of mercy.

Amen.



Do You Have The "Social Justice" Gene?

Check out the IPJC Justice Cafes for Young Adults. February Topic — *Globalization: Truth & Consequences*. Visit the Justice Cafe Facebook Page to join in the conversation with young adults around the world! www.facebook.com/groups/justicecafe. (March's topic: Water)



International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking

February 8, 2016: U.S. Bishops' Anti-Trafficking Program: www.usccb.org/stopslavery. Monthly Human Trafficking Awareness vigils held every month in Seattle at Westlake Park, 1:30 to 2pm, and at other locations. Contact Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center for resources, and for a toolkit to start a monthly vigil in your local community. www.ipjc.org.



The Year of Mercy and CRS Rice Bowl

Presenter: Thomas Awiapo, CRS Global Solidarity Coordinator, Ghana.

Orphaned before the age of ten, Thomas survived poverty and hunger in a small village in Ghana with the help of a CRS Food for Education program. Now, Thomas works for Catholic Relief Services, training community leaders in his home country and traveling through the U.S. sharing his story.

Wednesday, March 2, 2016; 12:00- 1:00 pm

Archdiocese of Seattle, Isaac Orr room, 910 Marion St, Seattle
Complimentary lunch will be served (featuring one of the Rice Bowl program recipes!). RSVP to missions.office@seattlearch.org or 206.382.4580 by February 22nd.



Catholic African Connections Conference – April 9, 2016 "The Gift of Mercy"

At Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Kent. Tenth annual day-event with speakers, Mass, networking, discussions and lunch. This free event is open to all who are involved with (or just thinking about) a partnership beyond our borders, particularly in Africa. Contact the planning committee through the Missions Office (below) for more information.



Missionary Disciples Formation Program March 12-13, 2016

The Maryknoll Missionary Disciples Formation Program in partnership with the Missions Office provides practical tools and strategies for educators and ministers to:

- Identify as missionaries and mission educators
- Discover and relate the Mission Story in Scripture
- Form students/school communities as evangelizing communities rooted in Gospel values
- Engage students in relationship and service to the world around them, locally and globally, in accordance with Church teaching and best practice

Location: Maryknoll House, Seattle. Limited accommodations available for commuters. Learn more and register or contact Anna Clarke at 206-322-8831; acclarke@maryknoll.org.



JustFaith
MINISTRIES

JustFaith
Retreat

Jack Jezreel, founder of *JustFaith Ministries*, will be giving a retreat at Christ Our Hope Parish in Seattle, open to all! The retreat will be Friday evening, February 26, and all-day Saturday, February 27. For complete details contact Frances Farrell: frances@christourhopeseattle.org; (206) 448-8826.



Forgiveness & Freedom: Accepting Mercy for Ourselves and Others

As part of the *Ignatian Spirituality for Men* program, join men from the Ignatian Spirituality Center and Recovery Café to explore what it might mean to accept the gifts of forgiveness and mercy for one's self and for others. The time will include reflections on forgiveness and mercy by presenters Dave Shull from the Recovery Café and Rev. Peter Ely SJ from Seattle University, group reflection and conversation, and a closing ritual of forgiveness. At Recovery Café in Seattle.

Saturday, Feb. 20, 2016; 12:30 Lunch, 1:00-2:30 pm program. No cost—donations appreciated. RSVP at (206) 329-4824 or andrea@ignatiancenter.org by Feb. 16.

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.seattlearchdiocese.org/missions

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Rural Immigrants Advocate for Stronger Families

Sedro Woolley



Justice for Women is a grassroots movement for social justice and systemic change, especially women living in poverty, and receives funding from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Women's Justice Circles empower women to identify issues of concern in their community and act for change. The article below, in Spanish as well, and with other stories, can be found in the current Circles newsletter at www.ipjc.org/programs.

The population of Latino Immigrants in this picturesque agricultural and logging town is growing rapidly. Many in the community speak Mixtec, an indigenous language from Mexico, as their first language so they struggle to navigate the school system in a foreign language. Latino students are the largest ethnic group in the Sedro Woolley School District (19.8%), but the limited number of Spanish resources prevents parent involvement and decision-making power in school-related events. One Justice Circle participant put it best, saying, "There is a great need for the women to be accepted and appreciated in the schools and for staff to see them actively participating with their children."

The Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center partnered with Catholic Community Services (CCS) to organize Justice Circles among immigrant women residing in CCS La Casa de Santa Rosa. Circle participants plan to develop tools to communicate and support their children to overcome the challenges of growing up in a bicultural environment. In their search for culturally appropriate programs in Spanish, the Circle met with the local Program Director of Strengthening Families. Thanks to their efforts, a Spanish version of this nationally recognized parenting program is being implemented in their rural community in early February.

To learn more about Women's Justice Circles, or to look into getting a Circle started in your parish, contact Giselle Cárcamo at 206.233.1138 or gcarcamo@ipjc.org.

Keeping the World In View

The Pontifical Mission Societies' news agency, FIDES, has launched a dynamic new website which brings to life a unique international perspective and a resource for illustrating that the Church's mission activities are very much a part of a significant global presence. The new FIDES website now provides:

- Connection to "breaking news." E.g. as Pope Francis met with Iranian President, FIDES featured an interview with an Iranian priest about life for the small Catholic population there
- In-Depth Analysis section focusing on "human rights" and "emergencies"
- News categorized and searchable by continent, country and topic
- Color photos and interactive maps with each story
- Photo gallery and archive
- Stories and statistics, including those published annually on World Mission Sunday (in October)
- Visit www.fides.org/en!



Prayer for the Hungry (a mealtime prayer)

*Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts:
The gift of food, for us and for others;
Of generosity, that when we have plenty
None should go hungry
the whole world over;
The gift of hearts that grow
in humility and compassion
For each of your children
who suffers misfortune;
The gift of your love that extends our reach,
And would not deny your gifts to another.
Through Christ, Our Lord.
Amen*

Oración por los que pasan Hambre (una oración para la hora de la comida)

*Bendícenos Señor, y estos tus dones:
el don de los alimentos,
para nosotros y para los demás;
de la generosidad,
que cuando tenemos abundancia
nadie en el mundo entero
debería pasar hambre;
el don de los corazones que crecen en la
humildad y la compasión
por cada uno de tus hijos
que sufren desgracia;
el don de tu amor que extiende
nuestro alcance,
y no negaría tus dones a otro.
Por Cristo, nuestro Señor.
Amén*



Visiting Rice Bowl Projects in Laos

It is the smells of cooking – vegetables in oil, rice steaming, freshly-chopped herbs – that you notice first. Then the welcoming smiles of the cooks, donning bright blue aprons bearing the Catholic Relief Services logo. They are washing the bowls that lunch will be served in, chatting and laughing and taking turns adding ingredients to the cooking food. The cooks – all mothers to the children at the school just a few yards away – are volunteers, creating a meal at the Dongthada primary school in Atsaphone district, Laos, that provides the students with nutritious food, served at the school so there is no need to travel home for lunch, followed by continued class time. The lunch is provided as part of the CRS Learning and Engaging All in Primary School (LEAPS) project and funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Without the LEAPS lunch, not every student would eat a nutritious lunch, would stay at school the entire school day, would grow and learn well.

This January J.L. Drouhard and Kelly Hickman, CRS diocesan directors for the Archdiocese of Seattle, traveled to Laos to visit this CRS Rice Bowl featured project. Accompanied by CRS staff Vatvisa Keosalivong, LEAPS project manager, J.L. and Kelly witnessed first-hand the various approaches of

— Continued on page 5



Vatvisa and Kelly in the school community garden

Called To Global Discipleship: A Friendly Quiz

“An intelligent mind acquires knowledge” — Proverbs 18:15

1. Fill in the blanks:

“For I was hungry and you gave me _____, I was thirsty and you gave me _____, a _____ and you welcomed me, naked and you _____ me, _____ and you cared for me, in prison and you _____ me.” (Check out Matthew 25:35–36 if you need a little help!)

2. Which of the following are important parts of Catholic social teaching? (Circle all that apply!)

- a. Caring for the poor
- b. Making a lot of money
- c. Having a fancy car
- d. Protecting human life in all forms

3. Pope Francis just wrote an encyclical—a letter to the Church— called *Laudato Si'*, in which he asked all people to work hard to protect what?

- a. Their own houses
- b. The environment—our common home
- c. Our right to use the internet
- d. Religious buildings around the world

4. In the countries of the developing world, _____ million primary school-age children attend classes hungry?

- a. 66 b. 45 c. 37 d. 12

5. Why do we fast during Lent?

- a. To remember that everything is a gift from God—and that ultimately we depend on God
- b. To put aside our own money and resources for those in need
- c. To be more open to receiving the grace of God in our lives, especially through the sacraments
- d. All of the above

6. Who said the following?

“In an ever new miracle, divine mercy shines forth in our lives, inspiring each of us to love our neighbor and to devote ourselves to what the Church’s tradition calls the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.”

- a. Saint John Paul II
- b. Blessed Teresa of Calcutta
- c. Pope Francis
- d. Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

7. Through Catholic Relief Services, Catholics in the United States are helping those who are poor and suffering in more than _____ countries. (Choose the closest answer!)

- a. 40 b. 60 c. 80 d. 100

8. We pray, fast and give through CRS Rice Bowl so that we can help our brothers and sisters _____.

- a. Around the world
- b. In our own community
- c. Both (a) and (b)

9. In 2015, _____ Rice Bowl grants were made to food banks and other hunger fighting organizations in western Washington.

- a. 152 b. 252 c. 10

10. Along with the Gospel’s call to pray, fast and give, what other action in faith can we offer?

- a. Learn how to advocate at www.confrofrontglobalpoverty.org.
- b. Learn about our neighbors at www.csricebowl.org.
- c. Learn about CRS resources beyond the Lenten season at <http://resources.crs.org>.
- d. Any or all of the above!

— Answers can be found on page 5

The Catholic Relief Services Collection

March 6, 2016, in all parishes

The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC) funds six different Catholic agencies that serve our suffering brothers and sisters around the world. These agencies provide a broad range of services, including advocating for immigrants, providing humanitarian aid in the wake of natural disasters, resettling displaced individuals and families (*especially now with Syrian refugees in Europe and throughout the Middle East*), and working for increased peace in our world. This work seeks to **help Jesus in disguise**.

Thank you all for your support of the collection! More information and parish resources (including the prayer, below) at www.seattlearchdiocese.org/crs.

In families striving to stay intact through adversity.

Let us see Christ.

In the poor and lowly of the world.

Let us see Christ.

In those forced to leave their homes because of war or famine.

Let us see Christ.

In children who go to bed hungry and who cannot attend school.

Let us see Christ.

In those who are living with HIV/AIDS and other diseases.

Let us see Christ.

In immigrants and refugees seeking freedom and hope.

Let us see Christ.

In those who are orphaned or abandoned.

Let us see Christ.

In the elderly who are forgotten.

Let us see Christ.

In those who struggle to find meaningful work.

Let us see Christ.

In those who work for justice and peace for all people.

Let us see Christ.

LET US PRAY.

Jesus, teach us to recognize your presence in those who are in need. May we give of ourselves in service to them and so help to bring the Kingdom you have promised, where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

AMEN.

Visiting Rice Bowl Projects in Laos — from page 4

the LEAPS project: the school community garden, started by a small grant from CRS and maintained by students of the primary school; the kitchen where the above-mentioned volunteer cooks use the oil, rice, lentils, and split peas provided by the USDA McGovern-Dole Food for Education initiative, adding their own local ingredients to make a nutritious meal – on this visit, it was shallots, eggs and collard greens; the Reading Room established by Room to Read, which provides a reading and teaching space to improve student literacy rate, with most students lacking access to books outside of school.

Kelly and J.L. reflected with CRS/Laos staff that back in their archdiocese, schools (and parishes) also use small grants from the 25% share of Rice Bowl donations to start and maintain gardens for community use.

The CRS LEAPS project is one example of inspiring CRS partnerships that, on behalf of U.S. Catholics, improve lives all over the world.

Watch the 2016 CRS Rice Bowl video on the LEAPS project in Laos at www.crsricebowl.org.

Quiz Answers (from page 4)

1. Matthew 25:35–36: “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.”

2. (a) **The Preferential Option for the Poor** is an important principle of Catholic social teaching. Jesus tells us to care for those who are most in need in the world. (d) **The Sacredness and Dignity of the Human Person** is the foundational principle of Catholic social teaching, reminding us that, being made in the image and likeness of God, we each have a special value and purpose.

3. (b) Pope Francis’ encyclical, *Laudato Si’*, was released in June 2015 and discusses our Christian responsibility to protect **the environment—our common home!**

4. (a) 66 million. The World Food Program calculates that \$3.2 billion dollars per year could reach all 66 million hungry school-age children.

5. (d) The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops details **several reasons** to fast during Lent. It is particularly important to remember the poor during our Lenten fast, to reflect on what we can give up in order to lift up those who are most in need. Isaiah 58:6–7 reflects this: “Is this not, rather, the fast that I choose: [...] sharing your bread with the hungry?”

6. (c) Quote cited from **Pope Francis’** message for Lent 2016.

7. (d) CRS is motivated by the example of Jesus Christ to assist poor and suffering people in more than **100 countries** on the basis of need, without regard to race, religion or nationality.

8. (c) The Lenten sacrifices you offer through Rice Bowl help those in need **around the world and in your community**: What you give up for Lent really does change lives! Seventy-five percent of your donation goes to support lifesaving programs in countries around the world, and 25% percent helps fund homelessness and hunger alleviation projects in this archdiocese.

9. (b) In 2015, Archbishop Sartain through your Missions Office awarded a record **252 Rice Bowl grants!** Visit our website, www.seattlearchdiocese.org/ricebowl, for a full listing of the grants made, and to view the grant application materials.

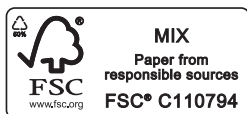
10. (d) Why not?!

This quiz is adapted from Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl program. It can be found online, in its original form in English and Spanish, along with many other activities, at www.crsricebowl.org and www.crsplatodearroz.org. The above version can be found at: www.seattlearchdiocese.org/ricebowl.

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Good News *from the* Missions Office

February 2016 – Page Six

Pope Francis' Social Teaching and the Year of Mercy

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Justice, Peace and Human Development office publishes online a quotes document, updated regularly, which contains a section of the Holy Father's quotes on the Year of Mercy and social justice. Download the quotes document in English or Español, at (bottom of web page):

www.usccb.org/about/justice-peace-and-human-development/index.cfm.

"With the present Jubilee of Mercy I want to invite the Church to pray and work so that every Christian will have a humble and compassionate heart, one capable of proclaiming and witnessing to mercy. It is my hope that all of us will learn to 'forgive and give,' to become more open 'to those living on the outermost fringes of society - fringes which modern society itself creates,' and to refuse to fall into 'a humiliating indifference or a monotonous routine which prevents us from discovering what is new!'"

