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Welcome to the **Global Solidarity Advocacy ministry**, part of your parish Global Solidarity Ambassador Program. Thank you for saying, “Yes,” to spreading the Gospel message to “Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. And to love your Neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37-39)

Pope Francis has said, “In the poor and outcast we see Christ’s face; by loving and helping the poor, we love and serve Christ…Our efforts are also directed to ending violations of human dignity, discrimination and abuse in the world, for these are so often the cause of destitution.” (*Lenten Message of Our Holy Father Francis, 2014*)

“Human dignity is respected and the common good is fostered only if human rights are protected and basic responsibilities are met. Every human being has a right to life, the fundamental right that makes all other rights possible, and a right to access to those things required for human decency—food and shelter, education and employment, health care and housing, freedom of religion and family life…Building a world of respect for human life and dignity, where justice and peace prevail, requires more than just political commitment. Individuals, families, businesses, community organizations, and governments all have a role to play. Participation in political life in light of fundamental moral principles is an essential duty for every Catholic and all people of good will.” (*Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, USCCB,* Nos. 49, 57*)*

Your parish’s Global Solidarity Advocacy ministry in your parish, in conjunction with the overall Global Solidarity Ambassador Program within the Archdiocese, will be an opportunity for you and your fellow parishioners to grow personally in faith and solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world. It is a powerful way for you to participate in the temporal and eternal life-saving mission of Christ’s Church on earth.

In the following pages of this simple guide for the ministry, you will find the tools that you need to launch and implement a successful Global Solidarity Advocacy ministry in your parish. Updates and other resources and materials will be provided to you by the Catholic Relief Services for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis to help you effectively and confidently carry out your ambassador role.

In Solidarity,

Catholic Relief Services

Archdiocese of Indianapolis