



Catholic Charities Social Concerns

Dear Friend,

“Let us hand over our fears to him so that he can conquer them.”

Words spoken by Pope Francis during his extraordinary “urbi et orbi” blessing this past March 27th are powerful words that sound simple... right? Yet it can be hard to let go of the fear when we continue to struggle with so much uncertainty.



I have received several calls and emails the last several weeks from people asking if I had any suggestions on what they could physically do to help those in need. That is a difficult question to answer because unfortunately there is not a lot people can physically do as far as volunteering, but there is much we can do emotionally, spiritually, and monetarily.

Monetarily. Please remember our Catholic Charities agencies who continue to provide services and are already planning for the long term economic impact and recovery that will affect so many. Please remember your parishes or places of worship, as so much of their budgets are tied to the weekly collections. Learn how you can support your parish and/or Catholic Charities [HERE](#).

Emotionally. Use this time to slow down and to pray and reflect on how can we live our lives differently? What a great opportunity to practice patience in all areas of our lives. (Cue eyeroll from my children when I remind them of the gift of patience.) “How many fathers, mothers, grandparents, and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday gestures, how to face up to and navigate a crisis by adjusting their routines, lifting their gaze and fostering prayers. How many are praying, offering and interceding for the good of all. **Prayer and quiet service: these are our victorious weapons.**” (Pope Francis, March 27, 2020)

Spiritually. As we are preparing for Good Friday and Easter Sunday within our homes, I would be remiss if I didn’t mention another Holy Day that also offers us hope in this time of trial...Divine Mercy Sunday (April 19). Fr. Michael Gaitley, in his book “33 Days to Merciful Love” speaks about Divine Mercy in reference to the Good Samaritan story.

“So, what is mercy? More specifically, what is Divine Mercy? Well, it’s when God doesn’t pass us like the priest and Levite but, rather, like the Samaritan, comes to us where we are, sees our weakness, brokenness, and misery, and then acts to heal us and bring us to a place of comfort and rest. In other words, mercy involves two things: The heart and the arms. It’s God being moved to compassion at seeing our suffering (heart) and then taking action to help alleviate it (arms).”

Mercy multiplies as we live it out and extend it to others. In this time of quarantine, start by

extending mercy to those you live with. If you are alone in your quarantine, offer your isolation as an act of mercy to help alleviate the sufferings of others. **“Prayer and quiet service: these are our victorious weapons.”**

In this time of blind faith, please do not forget that through our prayers and acts of sacrifice, God is accomplishing great things to alleviate the suffering of so many in our world. And if you wonder, “what could I possibly do to help extend mercy to others while I remain in isolation?” ***Remember the little boy who shared his simple lunch with Jesus. Jesus blessed it and then in one afternoon feed thousands of people with it. (Mark 6:34-44)***

As we enter into the Eastern Season, I pray this may be a time of spiritual growth and renewal for us all. In the words of Pope Francis in his extraordinary “urbi et orbi” blessing; “He brings serenity into our storms, because with God life never dies.”

Sincerely in Christ,

Theresa Chamblee

Catholic Charities - Director of Social Concerns

** Make sure you scroll down to find information on services that are available during COVID 19 and options for turning in your CRS Rice Bowl.

[Visit our Website - Catholic Charities - Social Concerns](#)

COVID-19 Resources

**Below is a list of Catholic COVID-19 resource webpages.
These webpages include the following information:**

- * The Catholic Churches response to COVID-19
- * A breakdown to the CARES Act
- * Prayers resources
- * Resources for families and parishes, including a listing of organizations that are offering their subscriptions for free. (Listed on USCCB webpage)

[Catholic Charities USA - COVID 19 RESOURCE CENTER](#)
[Breakdown of the CARES Act](#)

[USCCB - Cononavirus - COVID 19 Webpage](#)

(Click on [Resouces for Families, Parishes and Dioceses](#) for a listing of publications that are now free.)

[Justice for Immigrants \(JFI\) - COVID 19 Resource Page](#)
[Synopsis of the CARE Act and Migration](#)

[Catholic Relief Services \(CRS\) - COVID 19 WORLD RESPONSE](#)
[Emergency FactSheet - COVID 19 Prevention Response](#)

**Pope Francis
Message and Prayer for the World**

March 27th, 2020



Extraordinary 'urbi et orbi' Blessing

**"Pope says COVID-19 is not God's judgment,
but a call to live differently" (CNS)**

Read 'urbi et orbi' here

**EXTRAORDINARY MOMENT OF PRAYER
PRESIDED OVER BY POPE**

Holy Week

The liturgies of Holy Week—including Masses of Holy Thursday, the commemoration of Christ's passion on Good Friday, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday will be LIVE STREAMED on www.Archindy.org

Mass Schedule:

April 9 at 6 p.m. — Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper; celebrant: Archbishop Charles C. Thompson

April 10 at 3 p.m. — Good Friday, Celebration of the Lord's Passion; celebrant: Archbishop Thompson

April 11 at 8:45 p.m. — Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night; celebrant: Archbishop Thompson

April 12 at 11 a.m. — Easter Sunday; celebrant: Archbishop Thompson; Homilist: Father Patrick Beidelman

April 13 at 9 a.m. — Easter Monday; Celebrant: Father Beidelman

All Masses can be viewed at www.archindy.org

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

What is a spiritual communion?

St. Thomas Aquinas described it as "an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the most holy sacrament and lovingly embrace him" at a time or in circumstances when we cannot receive him in sacramental Communion. Many saints who were masters of the spiritual life would incorporate making a spiritual communion as part of their daily lives especially when their desire for union with God was more than just once a week or if circumstances prohibited them from receiving the Eucharist.

Here is a prayer that you can say to make a spiritual communion.

My Jesus,
**I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to
You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
*Amen.***



Holy Week at Home

[Check out these helpful tips for participating in Holy Week at Home](#)

(Thank-you to Fr. Eric Augenstein for compiling the following resource)

God's Work Through Our Hands



GOD'S WORK
through
OUR HANDS

"For even the son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
Mark 10:45

In response to so many who have asked us how they can support their parish, archdiocesan Catholic high school, Catholic charity or ministry during this time

of uncertainty, we have created a central location where you can do just that.

You can now give to your parish or Catholic Charities online at
www.archindy.org/giving

Catholic Charities Services Availability

Catholic Charities Indianapolis

Holy Family Shelter - Open

For More Information: 317-635-7830

Crisis Office

For More Information: 317-236-1512

COVID-19 Procedures

Crisis Office is open only for individuals & families to receive prepared boxes of food and sack lunches. Clients must arrive at the following times and stand in line for the distribution of food:

Monday 1 pm and 5 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 10 am & 1 pm.

Counseling Services

For More Information: 317-236-1500

Mental health/counseling services are offered via teleconferencing or by telephone. Please note: Medicaid is covering Telehealth counseling. For

St. Elizabeth/ Coleman

For More Information on Services available - call 317-787-3412

St. Elizabeth / Catholic Charities, New Albany

For more information call - 812-949-7305

Open

- All 3 women/children's shelter programs
- Adoption services that have critical timing needs
- Our residential client services for our SLP clients (adults with developmental delays)

Modified

- Food pantry limited to staff delivering to residential programs
- School Counselors working through Principals via e-technology to support students/faculty
- Office staff all working remotely and available to be on-site when needed

Closed

- Marie's Community Distribution - basic needs, clothing, diapers, baby food/formula
-

Catholic Charities - Bloomington
for More Information, call - 812-332-1262

Counseling Services available via Telehealth
Please Note: Medicaid is covering Telehealth counseling.

Catholic Charities - Becky's Place
For More Information, call - 812-275-5773
Shelter for women and children is open.

Catholic Charities - Tell City
For More Information, Call - 812-547-0903

Table of Blessings - Carry Out only
Martin's Cloak Food Pantry - Boxes of food will be available at the door.

Catholic Charities Tell City is working closely with United Way and the Council on Aging to ensure that all elderly residents are getting the food they need, as well as hygiene items. The agency is also working with local schools to ensure that all children are being fed as needed. It is also continuing to assist with utilities, rent and prescriptions as needed.

Catholic Charities - Terre Haute
For More Information - call 812-232-1447

- Terre Haute Catholic Charities Foodbank is continuing to work with partner agencies and mobile pantry locations to ensure food is available to those in need. Please check the calendars on our website at <https://www.archindy.org/cc/terrehaute/emergency.html> for food pantry and mobile pantry dates and times.
- Ryves Youth Center and Ryves Preschool are closed until further notice.
- The Fishes & Loaves Soup Kitchen dining room is closed. Carryout meals are available Monday - Friday from 11:30 - 1:30pm from the former Foodbank warehouse location at 1356 Locust St. Sack lunches are available from Bethany House at 1402 Locust St. on Saturday & Sunday from 11:30-1:00pm.

Parish and Community Food Pantry Availability

**Below are several resources to see what Food Pantries are
available in your area.**

ALWAYS CALL FIRST TO LEARN COVID-19 PROCEDURES

OR TO SEE IF THE FOOD PANTRY IS OPEN.

Family & Social Services Administration
[Food Assistance Availability Map](#)

Many Archdiocesan parishes have updated their FOOD PANTRY procedures to reflect COVID-19 procedures.

[Catholic Parishes and Community Food Pantry Updates](#)

(Updated 4/6/20)

Catholic Relief Services Options for turning in Rice Bowls



Thank you for all the time and energy you have invested to make CRS Rice Bowl 2020 a success!! **Your efforts, even in this crazy time, are very important to our U.S. Catholic Church's work to serve our most vulnerable brothers and sisters around the world.**

Given the necessary COVID-19 containment measures implemented by Governor Eric Holcomb and Archbishop Charles Thompson, our CRS Rice Bowl calendar for this spring has been turned upside down. Some of you have asked us about ways to wrap up CRS Rice Bowl 2020 under the current circumstances, when neither schools nor churches are open.

Two possible options for consideration:

1) Hang on to your CRS Rice Bowls until Churches are able to gather again. Several parishes/schools are already planning to have their CRS Rice Bowl collections at a later date over the summer. School principals are advising their students to turn in their Rice Bowls with the parish collection.

2) Submit CRS Rice Bowl donation now.

Online:

- English <https://support.crs.org/donate/change-life-lent-0>

- Spanish <https://support.crs.org/donate/cambia-una-vida-esta-cuaresma>

By Phone:

- **Call (877) 435-7277 from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Eastern Time.** Be sure to tell the operator that the gift is for “CRS Rice Bowl”.

Check by Mail:

- Please write “CRS Rice Bowl” and your zip code (if it is not already on your check) in the memo line of your check. This will ensure that 25% of your Rice Bowl gift is returned to the archdiocese to support local non-profit organizations that help to alleviate hunger and poverty in our own communities. Then mail it to:

**Catholic Relief Services
CRS Rice Bowl
P.O. Box 17090
Baltimore, Maryland 21297-0303**

If you have questions regarding CRS Rice Bowl, please contact Marilyn Ross, CRS Global Solidarity Coordinator at mross@archindy.org

[Learn more how CRS is assisting our global neighbors COVID-19 PREVENTION](#)

Creating on the Margins Youth Contest Winners

Thank you to all the wonderful young artists who participated in this year's Creating on the Margins Youth Art Contest.

The theme of this year's contest is “*More Than a Roof*” and reflects upon how the crisis of unaffordable housing and homelessness affects both families and individuals in our communities. “A house is much more than a roof over one's head. It is a place where a person creates and lives out his or her life.” – St. John Paul II

The contest is designed to be used across disciplines. Contestant art entries can be of any form—for example, video, short story, painting, song, photography, etc. The contest requires that students respond to four reflective essay questions. Youth in grades 7-12 are eligible to participate.

Below are the winning art pieces for each of the two grade categories.

Both pieces will represent the Archdiocese of Indianapolis in the national USCCB Creating on the Margins contest.

**Winner for the 10th-12th Grade
Category.**



"Our Greatest Shelter, God"
by
Emily Och
Roncalli High School

**Winner for the 7th-9th Grade
Category.**

"Jesus Is With Us"
by
Florgisel Garcia Cazares
Providence Cristo Rey High School



Reflection for April

USCCB President's Reflection and Prayer During Coronavirus

March 13, 2020

WASHINGTON- Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has issued the following regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19):

With the worldwide outbreak of the coronavirus, we are confronted once more with the fragility of our lives, and again we are reminded of our common humanity — that the peoples of this world are our brothers and sisters, that we are all one family under God.

God does not abandon us, he goes with us even now in this time of trial and testing. In this moment, it is important for us to anchor our hearts in the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. Now is the time to intensify our prayers and sacrifices for the love of God and the love of our neighbor. Let us draw closer to one another in our love for him, and rediscover the things that truly matter in our lives.

United with our Holy Father Pope Francis, let us pray in solidarity for our brothers and sisters here and around the world who are sick. Let us pray for those who have lost loved ones to this virus. May God console them and grant

them peace.

We pray also for doctors, nurses, and caregivers, for public health officials and all civic leaders. May God grant them courage and prudence as they seek to respond to this emergency with compassion and in service to the common good.

In this time of need, I invite all the faithful to seek together the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and I share this prayer with you:

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,
Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.
We fly to you today as your beloved children.
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,
as you did at the wedding in Cana.
Pray for us, loving Mother,
and gain for our nation and world,
and for all our families and loved ones,
the protection of your holy angels,
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.
For those already afflicted,
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.
In this time of trial and testing,
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.
We come to you with confidence,
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,
health of the sick and cause of our joy.
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,
keep us in the embrace of your arms,
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Ministries of Catholic Charities Social Concerns

What is Social Concerns?

Social Concerns encourages the Community to grow in a deeper understanding of Catholic Social Teaching by providing resources and strategies for effective action in parishes, schools and surrounding communities. Most importantly, it calls us to a deeper understanding in living out the Two Greatest Commandments, which is to Love God and to Love our Neighbors, both locally and globally."

Below are the Ministries that fall under Catholic Charities - Social Concerns.



CARE
Catholic Accompaniment
and Reflective Experience

**Archdiocesan -
Catholic Charities
Anti Trafficking
Ministry**

Catholic Charities - Social Concerns | Theresa Chamblee
317-236-1404 | fax 317-261-3375 | Tchamblee@archindy.org www.Archindy.org/socialconcerns

