

WITNESSING AS ONE



WHAT IS SOLIDARITY:

Solidarity: A firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good. We are connected to God and each other in **one human family**.

From the Catechism...

CCC 1939 The principle of solidarity, also articulated in terms of "friendship" or "social charity," is a direct demand of human and Christian brotherhood.

From the Bible...

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 "Christ died for all; those who live no longer live for selves, but live for him; therefore we live for all."

From the Saints...

Our life of poverty is as necessary as the work itself. Only in heaven will we see how much we owe to the poor for helping us to love God better because of them.

- Mother Teresa

"I cannot fail to note once again that the poor constitute the modern challenge, especially for the well-off of our planet, where millions of people live in inhuman conditions and many are literally dying of hunger. It is not possible to announce God the Father to these brothers and sisters without taking on the responsibility of building a more just society in the name of Christ."

- Pope John Paul II

Ways to Live Solidarity

Pray for Justice and Peace! We are a people of prayer. Pray for justice, peace, and the work of Catholic Relief Services around the globe.

Learn about Justice Issues! What you *know* determines what you can *do*. Learning about justice issues and the Church's position on them is the first step to serving well.

Participate! Respond to the Church's call by living in global solidarity. Begin by acting justly in your family, volunteering in your community, and participating in Catholic Relief Services' programs.

Advocate for Justice! Live as a faithful citizen by writing letters to your elected representatives in support of laws that promote justice at home and abroad.

Lead! YOU are called to be a Church leader. By sharing with your family, friends, classmates, and parish what the Catholic Church teaches about social justice and what Catholic Relief Services does, you help promote the Church's work of creating global solidarity.

Give! Accept the "invitation to help change the world" (USCCB) by caring for all and donating some of the gifts God has given.

Learn more about these action steps by visiting
<http://www.crs.org/2097>

PRAYER FOR SOLIDARITY:

God the Father, I give you thanks for all the marvels you have created. I praise you and I bless you for the inestimable grace of life that you give us. Transform me, make me a better Christian, a living testimony of your mercy and of your power. Strip me, Lord of all roots of bitterness, of false pride and haughtiness of heart. Make me meek and humble of heart as was our Lord Jesus Christ, and never let me wound with my words or actions the dignity of any person. Put in my heart the ardent desire to work earnestly for the poor and the needy. Show me the garment with which you clothed me the day that I received you as Lord and Savior of my life. May I wear those garments at the service of my neighbor and of this community. Use me Lord, for your work.

- **Prayer Without Borders: Celebrating Global Wisdom** is a work of Catholic Relief Services that gathers prayers from a diverse group of countries, cultures, and religions. To learn more about this resource visit www.crsprayer.org/