

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Special Collection

March 18-19, 2023

Reveal Christ's Love

Helping Jesus in Disguise

The Catholic Relief Services Collection is your opportunity to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people around the world and here in the United States. Your support funds organizations that aid travelers, people affected by war and natural disasters, others whose work or unique cultural circumstances require special pastoral support, and migrants and refugees displaced by conflict, persecution, or political instability. Most Reverend Michael Olson has asked that Catholics in the Diocese of Fort Worth join him in responding to these needs through a **special collection for Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in all parishes on March 18-19.**

The Catholic Relief Services Collection values families. It works to provide for their basic humanitarian needs, protect vulnerable children, reunite families, and encourage legislation that reflects the importance of family in society. The reach of this Collection spans the globe, helping families on every continent from an array of ethnicities and backgrounds, addressing a myriad of needs.

The Collection supports six Catholic agencies that prioritize the family and protect the life and dignity of each person through international relief and development, refugee resettlement, immigration legal services, advocacy, emergency relief and evangelization and ministry. To learn more about the work of Catholic Relief Services and the people who benefit, please visit <https://www.usccb.org/national-collection/catholic-relief-services-collection>.

In addition to the Sunday collection during weekend Masses on March 18-19 donations can also be made through your parish online giving portal or <https://bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections> (case sensitive).

General Information for Parish Business Managers

Collection Date	March 18-19, 2023
Date Funds Due to Diocese	April 24, 2023
Intacct Account Number	214000
Intacct Fund Number	28008
Give Online	https://bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections (case sensitive)



Promotional Information

Four practical ways you can support The Catholic Relief Services Collection are to mention it at Mass, tell this story, use the parish appeal or bulletin announcements inside, and use the additional resources, including web ads and a social media tool kit, available at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief/collection



Please use your bulletin, pulpit announcements, website and social media to promote this special collection. You may use the English and Spanish ads provided or use the following suggested promotional copy:

ENGLISH

The Weekend Before the Collection (March 11-12)

Next week our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need at Mass, through our parish online giving, or at <https://bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections> (case sensitive).

The Weekend of the Collection (March 18-19)

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to reveal Christ's love to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection., especially during this time of Lenten almsgiving. Please contribute generously today! Give today or online at at <https://bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections> (case sensitive).

The Weekend After the Collection (March 25-26)

Thank you for your generous support of The Catholic Relief Services Collection and for revealing Christ's love to those who are poor and marginalized around the world. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Simply note "CRS" on your check or envelope and add it to the collection by April 22 or give online at <https://bit.ly/DioceseSpecialCollections> (case sensitive)

General Intercessions

For The Catholic Relief Services collection, that our generosity clothes the naked, feeds the hungry, and welcomes the stranger in our country and throughout the world, we pray to the Lord:

For the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, and those who are poor and marginalized, that we reveal Christ's love to them through our support of the Catholic Relief Services collection, we pray to the Lord:

For those deprived of their human needs, and their human rights: that they may be given the dignity which God confers on all his people; We pray to the Lord:

For all who are lonely or afraid, for teenagers on the street, old people in nursing homes, prisoners with no one to visit them, and all whom the world has forgotten: that Christ might lead us to them; We pray to the Lord:

For all who are forgotten or thrown away, and especially for the poor, the sick and the aged: that God might change our hearts and move us to reveal Christ's love to them; We pray to the Lord:

Pulpit Announcement for Week of Appeal

Today we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Your support for this collection aids victims of persecution and natural disasters, provides legal services to poor immigrants, and advocates for the powerless. Through your generosity, six Catholic agencies reveal Christ's love to the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, and those who are poor and marginalized. Please prayerfully consider contributing to The Catholic Relief Services Collection today.

If you have any questions about this special collection, please contact Rachel Martinez, CFRE, Director of Annual Giving and Grants of the Advancement Foundation,
at 817-382-4939 or
rmartinez@adv-fdn.org