



Partnership Newsletter

You Matter to CRS | U.S. Church Engagement Division

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CRS Global Emergency Update for November/December 2018



Through CRS cash-for-work activities, refugees and host community members have built shelters, and water and sanitation systems. Photo by CRS staff

Catholic Relief Services' work is possible thanks to the generous support of private and public donors, the dedication of local partners, and the unwavering presence of Caritas and the local Catholic Church. Please read the latest CRS Global Emergency Update [report](#) on Catholic Relief Services' ongoing emergency response and recovery activities around the world. The report is also available in [Spanish](#).

75th Anniversary: Actively Waiting

It's often said that hindsight is 20/20. Failures are amplified and successes taken for granted. But during Advent—the season of waiting and of expectation—we have a chance to look with fresh eyes upon God's tireless, and at times, seemingly slow work in our world as it unfolds in real-time.



The lesson of our 75 years isn't simply to reflect on our past, but to look with purpose at our future—recognizing the results we seek are rarely instantaneous. Often, we are called to live out the active waiting of Advent, to work patiently, lovingly and ever mindful that “we are prophets of a future not our own.”*

Who better to illustrate this reality than two long-time CRS staffers? Whether **you're 37-year CRS veteran Michael Wiest** or **our current CEO, Sean Callahan**, the lesson is the same—life-changing solutions take time, and good things happen to those who wait.

But waiting isn't a passive activity, as our history shows. It demands hard work and innovation. Perseverance, not just patience. As we near the end of our 75th year, we invite you to walk through our past once more. And reflect with these final [two videos](#) that envision the kind of future we all wait, and work, patiently for—one free of poverty, hunger and injustice.

*From a homily written by Fr. Ken Untener, 1979

CRS Fact Sheet

- **CRS Landmine Project**-Teaches children about the risks of landmines and what to do when they find one.

In This Issue

- **CRS 75th: Actively Waiting**-Rebeka Lemke, CRS
- **CRS Global Emergency Update**-Carolyn Brennan, CRS

News from CRS Southwest Region

- *CRS Southwest Staff Member receives NFYCM Award*

Partnership, Training and Engagement

- CSMG 2019 Registration

CRS Programs & Resources Unit

- *Put Ethically Produced Gifts on Your List*-Erin Mackey, CRS

CRS University News

Human Trafficking Educational Modules from CRS University-Danielle Roberts, CRS

Learn about CRS Student ambassadors' Advocacy & Leadership-Danielle Roberts, CRS

New Resources for your Ministry

- CRS Ministry Resource Center
- CRS/NCCW Water for Life video
- CRS Current Prayer of the Month
- Collection of more CRS Stories and Resources

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Dear CRS Partners and Friends. Thank you for being a light to those we serve around the world



CRS SOUTHWEST REGION NEWS

CRS SW STAFF MEMBER RECEIVES NFCYM AWARD

Marcos Martinez in the CRS Southwest Regional office recently received the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) Gospel Values of Justice and Peace Award at their December conference in Tampa, FL. NFCYM presents multiple categories of awards biennially that recognizes women and men who have made significant contributions to the field of Catholic youth ministry.

The Gospel Values of Justice and Peace award goes to a person who has provided models and programs to educate the church community in fulfilling its responsibility to educate youth for justice and to call young people to action on behalf of others. [Read more.](#)



NEWS FROM CRS PROGRAM AND RESOURCES NEWS

ETHICAL TRADE



Put ethically produced gifts on your list.

With every purchase, a donation goes to CRS - for twice the impact!

Put Christmas back in your shopping, with ethically produced gifts that uplift a world of people. Every partner is vetted for fair wages, safer working conditions and environmentally sustainable practices.

[Shop the Ethical Trade Holiday Gift Guide](#)



Human Trafficking Educational Modules from CRS University

Interested in the complexities of human trafficking? CRS University encourages you to [explore 7 modules of curated Human Trafficking resources](#) hosted on the CRS Faculty Learning Commons platform. Content explores the complex root causes, current manifestations, and effective responses to the issue that Pope Francis calls “a crime against humanity.” Modules are interdisciplinary, free to access, and are meant to be shared in order to form educated global citizens and advocates for the common good. Material was curated and developed as a collaboration between Christine Cervenak, JD, of the Center for Human and Civil Rights at the University of Notre Dame and Lucy Steinitz, PhD, CRS Senior Technical Advisor for Protection. Questions? [Contact Danielle Roberts: Danielle.roberts@crs.org](mailto:Danielle.roberts@crs.org)

Learn about CRS Student Ambassadors' Advocacy & Leadership

The CRS Student Ambassador program seeks to create a movement of college students who understand and champion CRS' work in support of the global common good and are equipped to mobilize their campus communities to take action. Check out our [new promo video](#) to learn more and see the program in action on Capitol Hill this past summer! You can also visit our [website](#) or email Danielle.roberts@crs.org with questions.



Register Now for the 2019 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering!

2019 Theme: “Let Justice Flow (cf. Am. 5:24): A Call to Restore and Reconcile”
February 2-5, 2019 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC
To register or for more information visit www.CatholicSocialMinistryGathering.org.

If your organization would like to promote the 2019 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering, materials are available for collaborating organizations. Please [click here](#) to view the materials CSMG is asking collaborating organizations to use or adapt when promoting the Gathering.



Share the
Journey ✨
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CRS Ministry Resource Center

[Visit the CRS Ministry Resource Center](#) to find ministry tools for prayer, formation and action with a global perspective.



CRS/NCCW Water for Life Video is Now Available on CRS YouTube

The [Water for Life video](#) illustrates the work of Catholic Relief Services in partnership with the National Council of Catholic Women (www.nccw.org) in responding to the critical need for water projects in developing countries. [Learn more](#) about all the CRS/NCCW Works of Peace and Reconciliation programs.

Catholic Relief Services' Current Prayer of the Month



As Catholics, Catholic Relief Services recognizes that prayer is of the utmost importance. In our mission to act with the Church to help the poor overseas, we begin with prayer. We first seek God's grace and guidance, and then we work, animated by the Spirit that connects us. Each month, CRS publishes a new prayer that we ask the Church to join us in praying. The current prayer of the month for December is [Song of Our Lady of the Highways](#)

More Stories and Resources

[Emergency E-Voucher Assistance in Gaza](#) by CRS Staff

[Emergency Food & Non-Food Assistance in Gaza](#) by CRS Staff

[West Africans Feel Pressured to Migrate](#) by Michael Stulman

[Migration Reality Ends in Opportunity at Home](#) by Michael Stulman



Contact Us | CRS REGIONAL OFFICES

Email: resources@crs.org | U.S. Church Engagement Call Center: 1-866-608-5978

Jacklyn Ireland, Communications Specialist for the Partnership, Training and Engagement Unit, prepares the bi-monthly Partnership Newsletter. The U.S. Church Engagement's Partnership, Training and Engagement Unit is responsible for managing national partnerships in the United States for CRS. If you would like others in your organization to receive this newsletter or if you have questions please contact the U.S. Church Engagement Call Center at 1-866-608-5978 or email: resources@crs.org.



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