



## CLERGY RESOURCE

“I see God in every human being.”

-Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

### **Celebrating the Canonization of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta**

In September the Church will canonize Blessed Teresa of Calcutta. Catholic Relief Services assisted Mother Teresa before her work was well known and has been a friend of the Missionaries of Charity, the religious order she founded, which has devoted “wholehearted and free service to the poorest of the poor,” for nearly 50 years.

Her canonization presents a wonderful opportunity to lift up her life and witness as a model of discipleship and service to the poor. [The following resources](#) can help parish communities learn about her story and celebrate her legacy.



## Ministry Resources

As you plan for the fall, check out these [ministry resources for the pastoral year](#) and:

- Kick off the year with [an intergenerational gathering](#) to help parishioners learn about **Blessed Teresa of Calcutta** and how she inspires us to follow Christ today.
- Culminate the **Jubilee Year of Mercy** with a [3-week faith-sharing series](#) about how to live mercy in our daily lives.
- Encourage individuals in **sacramental preparation programs** to reflect on how the [sacrament they are preparing to receive](#) commissions them for discipleship in the world.

## CRS on the Ground

[What will you be doing in 17 years?](#) For refugees, 17 years marks the average amount of time they live displaced from their homes.

We continue working on behalf of Catholics in the United States to support millions of refugees around the globe. In the Middle East, where the biggest exodus since World War II has unfolded as a result of the Syrian civil war, we partner with the local Church to assist more than 1 million refugees, providing emergency living supplies and food, and longer-term help like education and vocational training.

You can [help your faith community](#) learn about the plight of refugees and pray for them.

## TAKE ACTION

Pope Francis has asked the Church around the world to pray for and welcome refugees. He has modeled caring for them by housing three Syrian refugee families in the Vatican. Although we may not all be able to host a family, we can advocate on behalf of Syrian refugees with lawmakers. Invite people to [share their concern](#) with their congressional representatives about the hundreds of thousands of families fleeing civil war and persecution by ISIS in Syria and Iraq. Post [a link to this sample email](#) to members of Congress on your parish website or Facebook page. And use our [legislative advocacy toolkit](#) to invite your faith community to visit legislators.



2014 Operating Expenses



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