

# Partnership Newsletter

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



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## SHARE THE JOURNEY

CRS has been working diligently on the “**Be Unafraid to Share the Journey**” sub-campaign which speaks to the US audience and proposes that transformation of the heart is possible when an authentic “encounter” occurs. In addition to the photo and video shoot with celebrity photographer Jeremy Cowart, CRS promoted a successful three-city media truck tour. During these events, where we brought refugees and anti-migrant citizens together to discuss their fears around migration, we witnessed (and recorded) a number of moments of transformation of heart and change of mind.

Two weeks ago, Catholic Relief Services, the Be Unafraid Project, and the power of encounter were showcased on **Amanpour and Company** which aired on CNN International and PBS stations throughout the US.



In the segment, Bnyad Sharef and Maggie Anderson (in the photo to the right) described meeting at the CRS sponsored photo shoot and how they had overcome their biases because of their friendship. Pope Francis’ call to promote ‘a culture of encounter’ through the Share the Journey campaign was promoted on a major media market!

<https://www.pbs.org/wnet/amanpour-and-company/video/bnyad-sharef-maggie-anderson-on-being-unlikely-friends/>

## Share the Journey Pilgrimage Walk

Bring the new year to life in your parish by organizing a Solidarity **Pilgrimage Walk**. [Read more](#) and [use the toolkit](#) to get started. It’s easy. And it may be the most profound thing you do all year. Please join us.

## Share an Encounter Dinner

**Share the Journey Encounter Dinners** are a new way parishes all over the world are following the Lord’s example. They are welcoming immigrant brothers and sisters with the hospitality of a simple, friendly meal. [Read more and download the tool kit](#) and start planning a dinner with your newest neighbors. A welcoming embrace upon arrival, and a humble shared meal, in a new country can change everything for a recently arrived neighbor.

## CRS Fact Sheet

- **Changing the Way We Care** - How CRS is working to deinstitutionalize orphans and other vulnerable children

## In This Issue

- Share the Journey-Kristin Witte, CRS
- A New Year with New Opportunities - Rebekah Lemke
- 2019 CRS Collection will be taken up on March 30-31-Colleen Hutchison

## News from CRS Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Region

- 2019 Mid-Atlantic Congress (MAC) Details-Mary Beth Iduh

## News from CRS Midwest Region

- CRS 75th Anniversary Videos featuring Cardinal Blase J. Cupich - Beth Knobbe, CRS

## News from CRS West Region

- CRS Seminary Initiative Partners at Mt. Angel Build Share the Journey Awareness-Jesus Huerta, CRS

## Advocacy

- Thank You for Your Advocacy in 2018-Jennifer Maez, CRS

## CRS Programs & Resources Unit

- Lent 2019 is almost here and the CRS Rice Bowl team has Prepared exciting new content-Analese Snyder, CRS

## New Resources for your Ministry

- CRS Ministry Resource Center
- Check out all the New CRS Videos, Stories and Much More

## CRS WEST REGION NEWS

### CRS Seminary Initiative Partners at Mt. Angel Seminary in St. Benedict, Oregon

Mount Angel Seminary students help build awareness of the Share the Journey initiative during a seminarian-diocesan soccer match. Students and local priests offered prayers for immigrants and refugees in a ceremony before the game and wore shirts with the Share the Journey logo.



## CRS NORTHEAST/MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL OFFICE NEWS



**The 2019 Mid-Atlantic Congress (MAC)** will take place February 14-16, 2019 at the Hilton Baltimore. The theme is **"Prophetic Discipleship: Home. Parish. World."** -- something we definitely could use more of right about now!! To register, book your hotel room and to find out more info, please click [here](#). CRS has been a key sponsor of this conference for the past several years. We would love to have you join us this year! Questions? Please contact Mary Beth Iduh at [MaryBeth.Iduh@crs.org](mailto:MaryBeth.Iduh@crs.org) or Jeff Wallace at [Jeffrey.Wallace@crs.org](mailto:Jeffrey.Wallace@crs.org).

2019 keynotes include: His Eminence Sean Cardinal O'Malley (Boston); Deacon Larry Oney (New Orleans); Sister Miriam Heidland, SOLT; Father Mike Schmitz (Duluth), the Most Reverend Oscar A. Solis, D.D. (Salt Lake City) and Javier Bustamante (Washington, D.C.). In addition to other opportunities throughout the conference, we are sponsoring two breakout sessions in English and three in Spanish. **For full details on these sessions please click here.**

## 2019 Catholic Relief Services Collection - March 30-31

The 2019 Catholic Relief Services Collection will be taken up in parishes March 30-31. This collection supports CRS and **five other Catholic agencies** that prioritize the family and protect the life and dignity of each person. By supporting the CRS Collection, you can help these organizations build richer lives for the faithful around the world. **Please share these promotion resources** with the parishes in your diocese, and encourage them to promote this important collection. [usccb.org/crscollection](http://usccb.org/crscollection)





## CRS MIDWEST REGION NEWS

### CRS 75th Anniversary Videos

As Catholic Relief Services wrapped up our 75th Anniversary celebration in 2018, we received a special word of congratulations from Cardinal Blase J. Cupich and our partners in the Archdiocese of Chicago. The videos messages were created by the Archdiocesan communication staff, and they are available in both English and Spanish. We hope you will watch and celebrate with us.

#### English:

<https://youtu.be/kxhPTKacAdc>

#### Spanish:

<https://youtu.be/qJ3bsjK-all>

A special thanks to Ryan Lents, CRS Diocesan Director and Jenna Rummelhart, Senior Communications Coordinator for spearheading the video production. We are lucky to have such talented partners, and we look forward to more opportunities to share the stories of CRS from around the world. What a great way to end our 75th year!



Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, Archdiocese of Chicago.  
Photo courtesy of Archdiocese of Chicago

### A New Year with New Opportunities

A new year brings with it fresh opportunities to reflect on the past and recommit to the future. That is particularly true as we continue to think about last year's journey through CRS history in celebration of our **75th anniversary**. **Take a tour** of what we have been able to accomplish together.

We would like to share some reflections from CRS President and CEO Sean Callahan. In this final installment of the Behind the Story podcast series, Sean answers questions about his history with CRS. He shares his bold new vision for the future—and about being at the precipice for creating transformational change for the world's poorest people.

Thank you for all you do to help the most vulnerable members of our global human family.

*A healthy and happy 2019 to you!*

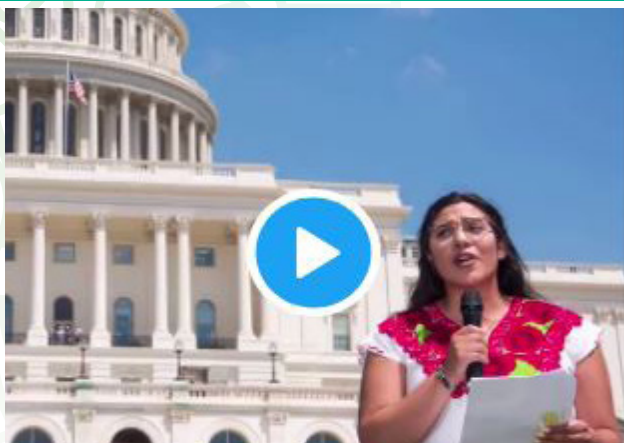


Photo by Laura Elizabeth Puhl for CRS



**Share the  
Journey** ✿  
#sharejourney





## Thank You for Your Advocacy in 2018!

Advocacy matters & it works. Our collective voices made an incredible impact last year! **Watch this video** to see everything we accomplished together with the 115th Congress to confront global poverty. **We look forward to continuing to work together in the new Congress!**

## See You at the 2019 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering!

2019 Theme: "Let Justice Flow (cf. Am. 5:24): A Call to Restore and Reconcile"

The Catholic Social Ministry Gathering will take place February 2nd - 5th, 2019 in Washington D.C. CRS will be hosting it's annual Diocesan Director/Partner meeting on Saturday, February 2, 2019 @ 8 AM. We will also be exhibiting and showcasing handcrafts through an Ethical Trade Sale from Saturday afternoon through Monday evening. We look forward to seeing you!




## CRS PROGRAM AND RESOURCES NEWS





### CRS Rice Bowl

**Lent 2019 is almost here and the CRS Rice Bowl team has been busy preparing...**

 CRS Rice Bowl orders shipped on **January 14th!** Be on the lookout for your Lent 2019 CRS Rice Bowl materials. Don't forget more materials can be ordered throughout Lent at [www.crsricebowl.org/order](http://www.crsricebowl.org/order).

 This year, CRS Rice Bowl is excited to offer exclusive content in the CRS Rice Bowl app! Look for the phone icon in the Lenten calendar to reflect each day during Lent and find additional content from our Stories of Hope. **Learn more about what's new in the CRS Rice Bowl app here!**

 Want real time updates and reminders during Lent? Follow us @**CRSRiceBowl** to find daily Lenten content and join the conversation.

 Join our [CRS Rice Bowl Facebook group](#) to engage with other communities and learn how they are practicing Lent with CRS Rice Bowl.



**Share the Journey** ☀️  
#sharejourney



## CRS Ministry Resource Center

**Visit the CRS Ministry Resource Center** to find ministry tools for prayer, formation and action with a global perspective.

## Catholic Relief Services' Current Prayer of the Month of January



As Catholics, CRS 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 January is *One Day in Time - A Prayer of Epiphany*.

## CRS Resources, Stories, Videos and More

### Stories/Resources

- **3 Must-Know Facts About Ash Wednesday** by Rebekah Kates Lemke
- **Human Trafficking Awareness Day** by CRS Staff
- **Stand Against Human Trafficking** by Genevieve Jordan Laskey

**Wibbitz Videos** (Wibbitz videos have no audio and are great to use for storytelling during CRS presentations to audiences)

- **Help Communities Face Any Disaster**
- **Help fight malaria**
- **Give the gift of education**
- World Youth Day Prayer in **English** and **Spanish**
- The Largest Crisis in Latin America (Venezuela) in **Spanish** and **English**
- Find a complete list of videos **here**.

### YouTube Videos

- **Help Communities Face Any Disaster**
- **Catalizadores del cambio: Jóvenes en Centroamérica** (Catalysts of Change: Youth in Central America)
- **Jóvenes Constructores en El Salvador** (Young Builders in El Salvador)
- **Help Fight Malaria**
- **Give the Gift of an Education**
- Find more videos on our **YouTube channel**



## Contact Us | **CRS Regional offices**

Email: [resources@crs.org](mailto: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. 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](mailto:resources@crs.org).

