

***With your help...***  
**U.S. poverty-reduction aid to  
low-income nations can be  
doubled!**

In the past 30 years, hunger and poverty in developing nations have decreased by nearly one-fifth. But 800 million people in developing nations still suffer from chronic hunger and poverty.

Accordingly, the USCCB and Catholic Relief Services are partnering with Bread for the World and others in Bread for the World's 2003 legislative campaign, *Rise to the Challenge: End World Hunger*.

The campaign focuses on setting up a new U.S. program that would administer assistance in a different way than in the past, and pushes for funding that would effectively double U.S. poverty-focused development assistance for low-income countries. The new program would complement, not replace, existing programs of poverty-reduction aid.

Two key events set the stage for this campaign. First, in 2000, the United States joined 188 other nations in signing the Millennium Development Goals – a list of 8 achievable goals that intend to raise the standard of living for poor people. One of the goals is to cut hunger in half by 2015.

Second, in March 2002, President Bush proposed a dramatic increase in poverty-focused development assistance programs. The proposal would provide money for nutrition, health care, education, and clean drinking water in order to improve the lives of millions of people in developing countries; and it would help meet the United Nations goal of cutting hunger in half by 2015.

Opportunity and concern comes with this new proposal. For years Bread for the World members and partners have been pushing for more money and programs to address hunger and poverty; and the current proposal can make that a reality. The concern centers on how the new money would be used, and by what criteria it would be administered.

Because there are varying ideas in Washington about how this money should be used, we will work for bipartisan legislation that ensures the final plan stays focused on poverty reduction and uses the Millennium Development Goals as a framework for how the money should be allocated. Such a plan, if enacted into law, will ensure that the money is utilized to truly decrease poverty in the world, rather than for political purposes.

**Workshop Schedule**

- 9:00 Registration and Coffee
- 9:15 Welcome
- 9:20 Introductions
- 9:25 Opening Worship
- 9:50 *Rise to the Challenge: End World Hunger*
- 10:30 Break
- 10:40 Bread for the World:  
Who we are and how we work
- 10:55 Review of *Rise to the Challenge*  
Offering of Letters kit and  
planning tips
- 11:10 Offering of Letters
- 11:25 Parish Caucusing
- 11:40 Reporting in Plenary
- 11:55 Closing Remarks and Benediction

**Registration Form**

**By March 10<sup>th</sup>**, please clip and mail the registration form (or e-mail the requested information) to:

Tom Garlitz, Director  
Peace & Social Justice Ministry  
Catholic Diocese of Joliet  
St. Charles Pastoral Center  
402 S. Independence Boulevard  
Romeoville, IL 60446  
Email: [peace@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:peace@dioceseofjoliet.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parish, Organization, or Campus Name \_\_\_\_\_

**I will not be able to attend, but would like to:**

- Participate in a QuickLine (an urgent-action telephone tree or e-mail list serve)
- Submit an editorial to my local newspaper
- Ask my parish to become a covenant parish
- Organize an Offering of Letters

## **The Diocese of Joliet, in partnership with Bread for the World, is making a difference!**

For many years, the Diocese of Joliet has partnered with Bread for the World in lobbying our nation's decision makers about public policies that serve the needs of poor and hungry people. These public policies address the root causes of hunger and poverty throughout the world, as well as within the United States.

Each year, Bread for the World churches and partners participate in an Offering of Letters campaign. The term, "Offering of Letters," reminds us that our citizenship in this great country is one of the most valuable resources we enjoy, and that it can be offered in service of poor and hungry people – just as we offer our financial resources for this purpose.

This year, thousands of churches, campuses, and civic groups, will join with Bread for the World members nationwide, in writing letters to congress in an Offering of Letters campaign called, *Rise to the Challenge: End World Hunger*. Learn how your parish can do so too!

Bread for the World is a nonpartisan Christian citizen's movement of 47,000 members, including over 2,000 churches and hundreds of college campuses. To learn more about their work, as well as this campaign, please refer to their Web site, [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org)

### **How much does it cost?**

The workshop is free. Resources, including Bread for the World's 2003 Offering of Letters kit (\$7), will be available for purchase at the workshop.

### **How do I get there?**

**From I 55 or I 355:** Exit at Joliet Road and proceed south. Joliet Road turns into Route 53. Continue on Route 53 through Romeoville, past Romeoville High School on the right. At the next traffic light, turn right onto Airport Road. Immediately on the left is the Pastoral Center.

**From I 80:** Exit at Larkin Avenue North. Proceed north on Larkin Avenue (this eventually becomes Weber Road) until you reach Renwick Road. Turn right (east) onto Renwick Road. Turn left (north) on Rt. 53. The St. Charles Pastoral Center will be on your left, one light past Lewis University.

### **Other Questions?**

Please contact the Peace & Social Justice Ministry, Diocese of Joliet, at 815-834-4028, or send e-mail inquiries to: [peace@dioceseofjoliet.org](mailto:peace@dioceseofjoliet.org)

## **The Diocese of Joliet**

*Presents*

# **Rise to the Challenge: End World Hunger**



***Offering of Letters  
Workshop***  
**Saturday, March 15, 2003**  
**9:00 am – noon**

#### ***Guest Speakers:***

***Sister Florence Muia of Kenya,  
Edith Calvo of Bolivia,  
Deacon Roger Schmith***

*Advocacy Coordinator –Peace & Justice Ministry  
and*

***The Reverend Mariah Priggen***

*Regional Organizer  
Bread for the World, Chicago*

### **St. Charles Pastoral Center**

***Catholic Diocese of Joliet***

402 S. Independence Boulevard

**Romeoville, IL 60446**

Tel: (816) 834-4028