



Get
into
STEP!

Steps
Toward
Eliminating
Poverty

A "pilgrimage" of Prayer, Education,
Charity and Justice
from the Diocese of Joliet
and
Catholic Relief Services

Why STEP? . . . How are poor and hungry people helped by STEP?

STEP forms us, through *Prayer* and *Education*, to walk more surely with the "two feet" of *Charity* (direct service to those in need) and *Justice* (social action on behalf of those in need).

Prayer leads toward "conversion of heart" and ongoing commitment to work against hunger & poverty

Education helps participants understand causes of hunger/poverty, what we can do about these issues, and our ties to those who suffer from them

Charity funds are raised through sponsorship of "walkers" and other means, and distributed as follows:

- 25% to local needs
- 75% to global needs through Catholic Relief Services projects (or interfaith organizations for non-Catholic participants who may prefer)

Justice keeps the struggle going . . . through writing letters to legislators, and other forms of advocacy for/with the poor and hungry

Please contact me about how I can get involved with STEP:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone (day) _____ (evening) _____

E-mail _____

Parish, Congregation, or Other Organization _____

Please return to: Peace and Social Justice Ministry, Diocese of Joliet, 402 S. Independence Blvd., Romeoville, IL 60446
Or call: 815-834-4028

Steps Toward Eliminating Poverty



Prayer ... seeking to grow in compassion for God's poor ones, and a spirituality which leads us to true solidarity with them

Education ... understanding

more deeply the scope, causes, and faces of poverty, hunger and related issues



Charity ... reaching beyond ourselves and providing relief for those who suffer from injustice

Justice ... advocating for and with those who suffer, to change the structures which burden them



What is STEP?

STEP is more than "a walk for a cause." It's a type of pilgrimage in which people move from church to church or "stations" ... which engage them in prayer, education & advocacy about hunger, poverty or whatever justice issue is the focus. Funds raised through pledges and other means are distributed both locally and globally.

Who can participate?

Anyone of any age or faith can take part. Persons not able to walk to all stations can visit one or more by car. There are ways to participate without having to travel at all!

When and where are STEP events held?

STEP events are sponsored by Catholic parishes in their local areas, usually in partnership with other parishes and ideally, with other faith congregations as well.

How can I take part in STEP or hold an event?

Discuss this brochure with your parish leadership and encourage them to consider sponsoring a STEP event. If your church isn't ready for STEP at this time, contact the Peace & Social Justice Ministry (info on back), and we'll try to connect with you with other interested churches or people in your area.

