

JOLIET DIOCESE PEACE DAY 2007

CONGRESS TO END EXTREME POVERTY



SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2007
8:30 AM–2:00 PM
ST. CHARLES PASTORAL CENTER

SPONSORED BY:
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES
COUNCIL FOR GLOBAL SOLIDARITY AND MISSIONS
PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

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ARTWORK, "WATER COLLECTION"
BY STELLA ATAL

Peace Day 2007: Congress to End Extreme Poverty

Key Initiative Workshops

Advocacy Workshop, Joliet Diocesan Legislative Network:

"Faithful citizenship calls Catholics to see civic and political responsibilities through the eyes of faith and to bring our moral convictions to public life." This workshop will give participants the needed tools to rise to this challenge. This workshop will provide advocates with the resources to find information on issues of interest and the steps to take to effectively advocate for these issues.

During this workshop participants will be introduced to Catholic social teachings' basis for justice work, the nuts and bolts of advocacy through letters, phone calls and visits with legislators, and ways to find out what the church is saying about today's important issues.

This workshop will give him/her the needed tools to become an effective advocate.

Catholic Relief Services: An Overview of the Church's work among the extreme poor.

Catholic Relief Services reaches out to people in more than 99 countries and territories around the world to alleviate human suffering and promote peace for poor and disadvantaged people. As the official relief and development agency of the Catholic Church, CRS works through an extensive network of partners around the globe, providing humanitarian relief and development assistance in the fields of health and HIV/AIDS, peace and justice, education, agriculture, microfinance and emergency response. This workshop will provide you the opportunity to hear first hand from workers in the field of this exciting and important work.

JUSTFaith

JustFaith is an intensive faith formation process that emphasizes the gospel message of peace and justice, Catholic Social Teaching and the intersection of spirituality and action. The aim of *JustFaith* is to enable participants to develop a passion for justice and to express this passion in concrete acts of social ministry. The diocesan committee's compelling presentation incorporates scripture, Catholic Social Teaching, videos, personal testimonials, and time for questions from attendees.

ONE Campaign:

The One Campaign is a coalition of anti-poverty groups and individuals working together to help reach the Millennium Development Goals. One of the ONE Campaign's main goals has been increasing U.S. poverty-focused international development assistance by 1% of the federal budget by 2010. Come and find out if we are on track as a nation in our contributions to meet the Millennium Development Goals. Learn the latest focus of the ONE Campaign and the strategies to achieve its goals. Most of all learn how you and your parish can become part of the solution to extreme poverty through participation in the user friendly programs of the ONE Campaign.

STEP: Steps Toward Eliminating Poverty:

STEP is a program developed by the Diocese of Joliet and Catholic Relief Services. STEP started in 2003 and more than a dozen parishes have participated in a STEP event. STEP is composed of 5 key components:

1. Prayer-to open our hearts to the poor,
2. Walk-in solidarity with those who walk everyday to meet their basic survival needs,
3. Education-raises our awareness of the level of need among the poorest of the poor,
4. Advocacy-provides an opportunity to take action for justice through writing a letter to representatives, join the diocese legislative advocacy network, learn about mission activities etc.
5. Cultural Station- by sharing food, art, music and customs of countries beyond our borders to grow in solidarity with our neighbor.

Learn how you can participate in a STEP program or start a STEP program in your parish.

Peace Day 2007: Main Speakers

Bill O'Keefe

Senior Director of Advocacy, Catholic Relief Services

Bill O'Keefe advances CRS' policy and advocacy positions on issues important to Catholic Relief Services, such as foreign aid reform, trade and humanitarian assistance, migration, and extractive industries. In particular, Bill oversees CRS' government relations and grassroots advocacy. He also develops and oversees CRS' overall approach to building relationships and influence with Congress and the Administration and communicating CRS' voice on issues of concern.

Bill has been with CRS since 1987, when he began as a Project Manager in Tanzania. After 3 years in the field, Bill joined CRS' headquarters staff as Desk Officer for East and Southern Africa. In 1993 he was appointed Director for Operation Rice Bowl, CRS' annual Lenten campaign, and in 1995 became CRS' Director of Church Outreach, responsible for expanding education and outreach to the American Catholic community. In 2001, Bill was named CRS' Director of Government Relations, from which he was promoted to his current position in 2003.

Bill has a B.S. from Yale University and an M.A. in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

Sr. Sheila Kinsey, OSF

Director, Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation—Wheaton Franciscans

Sr. Sheila Kinsey, OSF, is a Wheaton Franciscan, who has pioneered the Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) structure for the province. As the coordinator of the JPIC Office, Sr. Sheila promotes legislative advocacy on social justice issues on behalf of the province.

The JPIC Office of the Wheaton Franciscans, under Sr. Sheila's guidance, was instrumental in the formation of the DuPage Global AIDS Action Network (DGAAN), an advocacy group, as a result of the Heart of America Tour with Bono of U2.

Sr. Sheila's involvement with Franciscans International (FI) led her to membership on the coordinating committee of Non-Governmental Organizations at the United Nations, which focuses on issues related to HIV/AIDS worldwide. She was a member of the Franciscan delegation to the January, 2007 World Social Forum in Nairobi, Kenya. She participated in an FI training program for persons in Africa involved in HIV/AIDS programs and advocacy efforts.

Due to her advocacy efforts, she was invited to participate in an advocacy trip to Africa planned by Catholic Relief Services. This was a very informative, challenging and inspiring experience with congressional staff, national personnel from CRS and the USCCB, and personnel from grassroots efforts comprising the American delegation. She visited HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment programs, justice and peace initiatives, food securities and small businesses.

Sr. Sheila is a member of the Diocese of Joliet Advocacy Committee and the Council for Global Solidarity and Missions. She holds a Doctorate of Ministry Degree from the University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, IL