Global Emergency Response

Archdiocese of Indianapolis parishes and schools, who participate in the Global Solidarity Ambassador (GSA) Program, are called to also participate in the Global Emergency Response. Global Emergency Response is a way for parishes/schools to respond to a natural or manmade disaster that occurs and calls for our immediate attention. We can respond through prayers, educating others, or taking actions (e.g., holding a 2nd collection or fundraising events to assist those who are affected by the disaster and those providing aid to them). Examples of a global emergency could include natural disasters such as hurricanes or earthquakes, or manmade disasters such as health crises or mass displacement of people due to war.

When a global emergency takes place, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis will notify all Global Solidarity Ambassadors of the situation and our recommended call to action. The GSA would then be responsible to help engage their parish/school in three areas: Prayer, Learning and Acting/Giving.

Below are some suggestions:

Pray

* In the liturgy, include prayer petitions in the Prayers of the Faithful.
* Offer Eucharistic Adoration and invite people to specifically pray for the Global Emergency Response disaster.
* Organize a specific time for people to gather in the church to pray the rosary, with the intention of the Global Emergency Response disaster.
* Invite teachers to lead their classes in prayer for both, those affected by the disaster, and for those providing response.

Learn

* Gather up-to-date information regarding the global emergency and CRS’ response.
* Place bulletin or school newsletter announcements regarding the disaster and the emergency response.
* Place links on parish/school websites with information regarding the disaster and CRS’ response.

Act/Give

* Hold a 2nd collection.
* Build an emergency transitional shelter on parish/school property to raise awareness of the emergency.
* Hold an educational night. Host a speaker who understands the disaster and the response needed.
* Have parish/school fundraisers to help raise awareness.
* For schools, hold out-of-uniform days to raise funds to benefit those affected by the emergency.
* For schools, host a faculty/student basketball or volleyball game where admission is charged and proceeds go towards emergency response.
* For schools, challenge another school to a fundraising contest.