



Catholic Charities Social Concerns

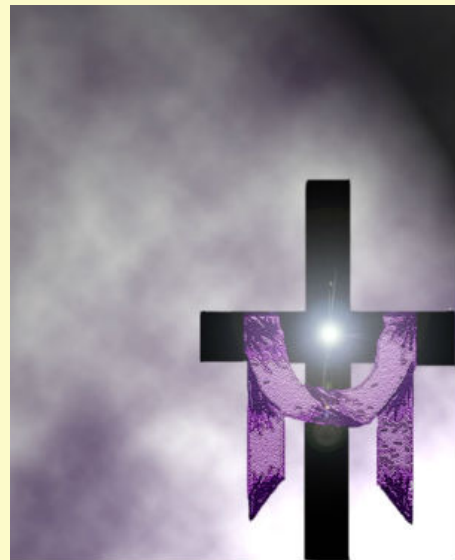
Dear Friend,

We have a saying in our home,

“God can write straight with our crooked lines”.

When March began, I can honestly say I did not anticipate all the changes we would have to make in just a few short weeks. This is certainly a strange time right now with new changes being asked of us every day. It feels like everything is moving extremely fast and extremely slow all at the same time.

As you scroll down, you will find prayers and information regarding online Masses and spiritual communions. You will also find information on which Catholic Charities services are still available.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who are First Responders—our firefighters, police officers, doctors, nurses and hospital workers. I would also like to thank those on the front lines that are putting themselves at risk to be able to meet the needs of others. Thank you to our priests, ministers, my Catholic Charities colleagues, social workers, grocery and gas station workers, pharmacists, and those who work in public service—postal workers and waste management.

Thank You! Our prayers are with all of you.

Who would have thought that “Social Distancing” would become so acceptable; and that by putting several feet between each person would be a way to show love for our neighbors. The irony has not escaped me that as I distance myself from others, I have never been more aware of the people around me.

Another irony not lost on me is that we are in the middle of Lent—a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. I have seen many social media posts from people who have commented that; “I never thought I would have been called to give up so much this Lent.” But as we hunker down in our homes, remember,

God can write straight with our crooked lines.

We can use this opportunity to examine our conscience with questions that offer a new perspective in our circumstances, such as how have I isolated myself from my neighbors and God before COVID-19. We have the opportunity to offer our prayers and fasting in ways we may not have envisioned before. And, please, don't forget about almsgiving during this time of great need. If possible, remember financially your parish, our Catholic

Charities agencies and other non-profit organizations that are on the front lines continuing to serve those in need.

My prayer for each of us during this time is that we remain safe and healthy. May this be a time of spiritual growth, as God uses our prayers and sacrifices in ways we cannot even imagine. Let us remember the words of our Lord:

***“I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous;
do not be frightened or dismayed;
for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”
(Joshua 1:9)***

Sincerely in Christ,

Theresa Chamblee

Catholic Charities - Director of Social Concerns

Visit our Website - Catholic Charities - Social Concerns

Online Mass and Adoration

Visit Archindy.org to watch Daily Mass from the Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral.

For a listing of additional online masses offered in English and Spanish
Visit [HERE](#)

To participate in Virtual Adoration
Visit [HERE](#)

Spiritual Communion

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Our Archbishop has also encouraged us to make a spiritual communion. What is a spiritual communion?

St. Thomas Aquinas described it as " an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the most holy sacrament and lovingly embrace him" at a time or in circumstances when we cannot receive him in sacramental Communion. Many saints who were masters of the spiritual life would incorporate making a spiritual communion as part of their daily lives especially when their desire for union with God was more than just once a week or if circumstances prohibited them

from receiving the Eucharist.

Here is a prayer that you can say to make a spiritual communion.

My Jesus,

I believe that You

are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment

receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Prayer for those affected by the Coronavirus

By Kerry Weber

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professional who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

Catholic Charities Services Available

Please check the Archindy.org and [Catholic Charities Agencies Webpages](#) for updates.

Catholic Charities Indianapolis

Holy Family Shelter - Open

For More Information: 317-635-7830

Crisis Office

For More Information: 317-236-1512

New Times of operation

(People must arrive at the times listed below and stand in line for the distribution of food.)

Arrivals times

Monday 1 pm and 5 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 10 am & 1 pm.

Counseling Services

Counseling services offered via teleconferencing.

For more information call 317-236-1500.

St. Elizabeth/ Coleman

For More Information on Services available - call 317-787-3412

St. Elizabeth - Catholic Charities, New Albany

For more information call - 812-949-7305

Open

- All 3 women/children's shelter programs
- Adoption services that have critical timing needs
- Our residential client services for our SLP clients (adults with developmental delays)

Modified

- Food pantry limited to staff delivering to residential programs
- School Counselors working through Principals via e-technology to support students/faculty

- Office staff all working remotely and available to be on-site when needed
- Closed**
- Marie's Community Distribution - basic needs, clothing, diapers, baby food/formula
-

Catholic Charities - Bloomington
for More Information, call - 812-332-1262

Counseling Services available via Telehealth
Please Note: Medicaid is covering Telehealth counseling.

Catholic Charities - Becky's Place
For More Information, call - 812-275-5773

Open

Catholic Charities - Tell City
For More Information, Call - 812-547-0903

All services continuing.
Table of Blessings - will be carry out only
Martin's Cloak Food Pantry - no one is to come into the building - boxes will be made up and taken to them at the door.

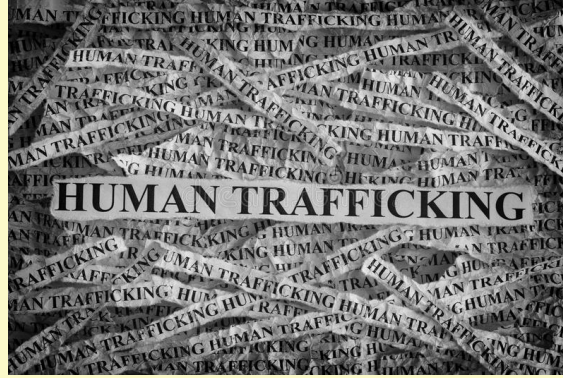
We are working closely with United Way and the Council on Aging to insure that all elderly residents are getting the food they need, as well as hygiene items. We are also working with the schools to insure that all children are being fed as needed.

We are continuing to assist with utilities, rent, prescriptions as needed. All attempts are made to do this remotely.

Catholic Charities - Terre Haute
For More Information on Services available - call 812-232-1447

**NEW Archindy
Anti-Trafficking Ministry**

The International Labour Office estimates that there are approximately 25 million men, women, and children subjected to labor or sex trafficking worldwide. It is important to understand how to prevent and recognize incidents of **human trafficking within our own communities.**



To learn more on how you and your parish can make a difference in preventing and combating human trafficking, **please attend one of our two Archindy Catholic Charities Anti-Trafficking Ministry Information Events.**

** As of the sending of the newsletter, the May Anti-Trafficking events are still set for May 9th and May 16th. If you are interested in attending either of these events, please RSVP (information below). If the event is rescheduled, you will be notified of the new dates.*

North Diocesan Event

May 9, 2020

9am - 12pm

Our Lady of the Greenwood

Madonna Hall

345 S. Meridian Street

Greenwood, IN 46143

South Diocesan Event

May 16, 2020

9am - 12pm

St. Augustine

Parish Hall

315 E. Chestnut St.

Jeffersonville, IN 47130



For More Information - Click [HERE](#)

Space is limited, so please RSVP to Theresa Chamblee at tchamblee@archindy.org or 317-236-1404



**St. Josephine Bakhita
Patron Saint of
Human Trafficking
Survivors,
Pray for Us**

Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl



Bring Lent to Life



Through CRS Rice Bowl, we journey with members of our human family around the world, and commit our Lenten prayers, fasting and almsgiving to deepening our faith and serving those in need.

Elementary students from Holy Spirit, St. Thomas Aquinas, and Ss. Francis and Clare Catholic Schools had a special treat this past February 25 - 26 as they had the opportunity to meet and listen to Olga Canelas. Olga, who works in Honduras on the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program, spoke with the students about how each of them are impacting other children their age in Honduras. The McGovern-

Dole program provides student meals and school materials, trains teachers and community members, and makes improvements to school infrastructure, as well as aims to improve the literacy of school-age children.



Pictured Above: Students at Holy Spirit Catholic School with Olga Canelas

Olga was able to share a little bit more about Maria Ana, who is from Honduras. We met Maria Ana in the CRS - Stories of Hope videos that show how through your generosity many girls and boys in Honduras are provided a more sustainable future.



Pictured: Maria Ana with her mother, father and siblings. Maria Ana's father is a farmer.



Pictured: Maria Ana with Olga Canelas. Maria Ana is holding her Graduation

Their home consists of two 8x10 buildings (pictured behind the family) where the family sleeps. Though they have no electricity or running water (water is a 15 minute walk one way), the family has been able to sustain themselves through farming and from your generosity through the CRS Rice Bowl.

Diploma from Primary School. Only 22 out of 100 Honduran children graduate from Primary School. What a wonderful accomplishment for Maria Ana! Her next steps - Maria Ana hopes to become a nurse where she can help provide medical care within her village.

[Learn More about CRS at CRSRiceBowl.org](http://CRSRiceBowl.org)

Catholic Social Teaching Sacraments and Social Mission



In *Deus Caritas Est* (God is Love), Pope Benedict XVI writes that "love for widows and orphans, prisoners, and the sick and needy of every kind, is an essential to [the Church] as the ministry of the sacraments and the preaching of the Gospel" (no.22). Proclaiming the Word of God, celebrating the sacraments, and exercising the ministry of charity, he says are "inseparable" (no.25). In other words, there is an essential connection between our faith and the way we put love into action in the world.

This guide is for priests and lay ministers, teachers and students, adults and young people, and those who are preparing for the sacraments. It is for all Catholics who seek to better understand the connections between the celebration of the sacraments and our social mission as followers of Jesus and the members of the Body of Christ.

Each of the Seven Sacraments is laid out in an easy to read, two page format with reflection questions for each sacrament.

Download the entire USCCB Document [HERE](#).

To download each Sacrament individually, click [HERE](#) and scroll down to the

Thank You to Our Lady of Lourdes School Children



Catholic Charities Indianapolis would like to offer a special THANK YOU to the students of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School who raised \$661.42 through a Penny War between the classrooms. The winning classroom - Pre-K!

Thank you Our Lady of Lourdes for your generosity and kindness!!

Reflection for February

USCCB President's Reflection and Prayer During Coronavirus

March 13, 2020

WASHINGTON- Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has issued the following regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19):

With the worldwide outbreak of the coronavirus, we are confronted once more with the fragility of our lives, and again we are reminded of our common humanity — that the peoples of this world are our brothers and sisters, that we are all one family under God.

God does not abandon us, he goes with us even now in this time of trial and testing. In this moment, it is important for us to anchor our hearts in the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. Now is the time to intensify our prayers and sacrifices for the love of God and the love of our neighbor. Let us draw closer to one another in our love for him, and rediscover the things that truly matter in our lives.

United with our Holy Father Pope Francis, let us pray in solidarity for our brothers and sisters here and around the world who are sick. Let us pray for

those who have lost loved ones to this virus. May God console them and grant them peace.

We pray also for doctors, nurses, and caregivers, for public health officials and all civic leaders. May God grant them courage and prudence as they seek to respond to this emergency with compassion and in service to the common good.

In this time of need, I invite all the faithful to seek together the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and I share this prayer with you:

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,
Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.
We fly to you today as your beloved children.
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,
as you did at the wedding in Cana.
Pray for us, loving Mother,
and gain for our nation and world,
and for all our families and loved ones,
the protection of your holy angels,
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.
For those already afflicted,
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.
In this time of trial and testing,
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.
We come to you with confidence,
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,
health of the sick and cause of our joy.
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,
keep us in the embrace of your arms,
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Ministries of Catholic Charities Social Concerns

What is Social Concerns?

Social Concerns encourages the Community to grow in a deeper understanding of Catholic Social Teaching by providing resources and strategies for effective action in parishes, schools and surrounding communities. Most importantly, it calls us to a deeper understanding in living out the Two Greatest Commandments, which is to Love God and to Love our Neighbors, both locally and globally."

Below are the Ministries that fall under Catholic Charities - Social Concerns.



CARE
Catholic Accompaniment
and Reflective Experience

**Archdiocesan -
Catholic Charities
Anti Trafficking
Ministry**

Catholic Charities - Social Concerns | Theresa Chamblee
317-236-1404 | fax 317-261-3375 | Tchamblee@archindy.org www.Archindy.org/socialconcerns



**ARCHDIOCESE
OF INDIANAPOLIS**
The Church in Central and Southern Indiana

Catholic Charities | CELEBRATING
Providing Help. Creating Hope. Serving All. **100 YEARS**