

The Collection Basket

MAY 2022

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IDEAS FOR LIVING BETTER FROM THE FAMILY LIFE OFFICE

Family Ritual

THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO CRS RICE BOWL!

159 million people in 100 countries. That's how many people you have supported this Lenten season through your prayers, fasting and almsgiving. Your **#CRSRiceBowl** support CRS' humanitarian programs around the world through agriculture projects that help farmers improve harvests, projects that bring clean water to communities, mother and child services and so much more.

From all of us at CRS, thank you for living out our call to support the "least of these," and thank you for sharing your bounty with our sisters and brothers around the world. We look forward to sharing the stories of new faces and places with you next year, but don't hesitate to come back and use our crsricebowl.org resources all year.

In Christ, Andre McCarville
Director, Family Life Office
Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown



On this Memorial Day Grant peace to the souls of all those soldiers who died in war and thank all those who have served and those who serving. Amen

A Mother's Love

There are times when only a mother's love
Can understand our tears,
Can soothe our disappoints
And calm all of our fears.
There are times when only a mother's love
Can share the joy we feel
When something we've dreamed about
Quite suddenly is real.
There are times when only a mother's faith
Can help us on life's way
And inspire in us the confidence
We need from day to day.
For a mother's heart and a mother's faith
And a mother's steadfast love
Were fashioned by the angels
And sent from God above.

- Author Unknown



Families and the Gospel

May 1, 2022: Third Sunday of Easter (JN 21: 1-19) Jesus invited the disciples to “Come and have breakfast.” At this beach breakfast and the Last Supper Jesus teaches us meals should be more than eating. Family meals are opportunities to share prayer, listen to each other’s stories, understand and support one another.

May 8, 2022: Fourth Sunday of Easter (JN 10:27-30) Today’s gospel reminds us to be shepherds for our children who depend on us to be their guides and role models. Where are we leading them? When they “hear our voice” what message do they hear?

May 15, 2022: Fifth Sunday of Easter (JN 13:31-33a, 34-35) In today’s gospel Jesus tells us: “Love one another.” Love holds a family together. It is not what a family does which makes it outstanding, rather it is what it has, love for one another.

May 22, 2022: Sixth Sunday of Easter (JN 14:23-29) Jesus gives this advice: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.” Worry and anxiety can consume our lives preventing us from seeing the love which surrounds us and binds us to one another. Don’t miss the forest for the trees. We are living today what we worried about yesterday.

May 26, 2022: Ascension (LK 24:46-53) Jesus tells us today, “you are my witnesses” and guarantees the “promise of the Father” to “clothe us with the power to accomplish this mission. It is not worldly power which dominates and manipulates. It is the power of the Kingdom of God to live in peace, forgiveness, compassion, service to others, love of enemies and care for the poor and defenseless.

May 29, 2022: Seventh Sunday of Easter (JN 17:20-26) Jesus tells us today, “you are my witnesses” and guarantees the “promise of the Father” to “clothe us with the power to accomplish this mission. It is not worldly power which dominates and manipulates. It is the power of the Kingdom of God to live in peace, forgiveness, compassion, service to others, love of enemies and care for the poor and defenseless.

May 30, 2022 (JN 15:26 -16:4A)

On **Memorial Day** we remember those who have died. Will you be remembered as someone who was aware of God’s presence and shared this insight with others? In families our greatest possessions are the beliefs we share from one generation to the next.

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

Ukraine Relief—it bears repeating



CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS) our connection to Ukraine

In Ukraine and the surrounding countries there are currently over 3.3 million people in need of immediate assistance. **CRS** and our partners on the ground are providing things like safe shelter, hot meals, cash for travel, transportation, counseling support and much more.

There is great risk of additional suffering both within Ukraine and for those who are fleeing to neighboring countries for safety. **CRS** and our partners need immediate support to meet both ongoing needs as the situation intensifies.

Years of conflict along the eastern border have already displaced 1.3 million people from their homes and claimed 14,000 lives and now 2.3 million people have fled Ukraine. Almost ninety percent of the refugees are women and children. Throughout this time, **Caritas Ukraine**, with support from **CRS**, has been providing emergency relief and recovery.

All collections made in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown will go to **CRS** towards their assistance to Ukraine.

Please contact the Missions Office of the Diocese, if you have any questions. (814) 317-2643

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Thank you!

The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown is well on the way to over \$100,000 collected for CRS for Ukraine 2022.

