



The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
Archdiocese of Indianapolis

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Each year during the season of Lent Catholics are called to consider the needs of our vulnerable brothers and sisters who are affected by war, natural disasters, and exploitation. Globally, millions of individuals are exploited through forced labor, domestic servitude, or the commercial sex industry. Poverty, isolation from the support of family and friends, and cultural or language barriers are among the factors that place women and children especially at risk of trafficking.

Your support of **The Catholic Relief Services Collection this March 14-15, 2026**, provides funds to the office of Migration and Refugee Services (MRS) of the United States Conference of Bishops to combat human trafficking by training leaders to recognize the signs in their own communities and establish networks to respond to the needs of the victims.

This is just one example how your generosity supports 6 Catholic agencies to help people overcome obstacles that prevent them from supporting and feeding their families. Catholic Relief Services is well-known for helping people to become self-sufficient through training in agricultural and animal husbandry methods. Victims of natural disasters receive immediate assistance to put their lives back together after devastating monsoons, earthquakes, and wars.

One agency funded by this collection is Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. which assists immigrants with the complex paperwork and expensive process to apply for residency or asylum in the United States. This work is done by training volunteer advocates and recruiting attorneys to offer pro-bono services.

The Catholic Relief Services Collection is an effective response to Jesus' call to recognize him in the faces of our most vulnerable and suffering brothers and sisters. I am moved by and grateful for your generous support of The Catholic Relief Services Collection.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Charles C. Thompson

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