



Global Solidarity News

December 2016

Giving Hope to a World in Need **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)**

The Gift of Hope. Christmas is a time to give thanks to God for the love he showed in sending His only Son. As we navigate a world overtaken by consumerism, conflict and poverty, we can reconcile the joy of giving with our call to do good. We invite you to give the Gift of Hope through the **CRS Gift Catalog**. Doing so will brighten the faces of your loved ones, and also the lives of those most in need. Your gift can provide prenatal care and ensure a baby's safe delivery, or provide a village their first taste of clean water. You can give chickens to a hungry family or send a modified bicycle to a child with disabilities, enabling her to get to school. The many items in the catalog represent real goods and services delivered by CRS to more than 100 million people in 101 countries. When you give, CRS will send your loved one a customized note card, so they know the impact of your generosity. **Give a lifesaving gift today at gifts.crs.org.**

GLOBAL SOLIDARITY PRAYER

As Catholics, we recognize that prayer is of the utmost importance, an invaluable contribution to helping the poor overseas. It guides our actions, it binds us in solidarity to one another and connects us more deeply with the grace that flows from God.

We invite you to join us in praying the following prayers this month, so our hearts may be one and steadfast as we turn again to the work of the Lord: to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick and the captive. It is very important at this critical time in areas of tragedy and violence that U.S. Catholics stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world.

PRAYERS – THE GIFT OF HOPE:

DEAR LORD, THE GREAT HEALER,

I kneel before you,
since every perfect gift must come from you.

I pray,
give skill to my hands,
clear vision to my mind,
kindness and meekness to my heart.

Give me singleness of purpose,
strength to lift up a part of the burden of my suffering fellow men,
and a true realization of the privilege that is mine.

Take from my heart all guile and worldliness
that with the simple faith of a child,
I may rely on you.

Amen.

Adapted from: *Prayer Before Leaving for Apostolate, Missionaries of Charity*