

***What Can I Do?***  
***Solidarity***

*"... God blesses those who come to the aid of the poor."*  
*(Catechism of the Catholic Church: 2443)*

*"... the Church's social doctrine demands action to promote the good of all ... because we are all really responsible for all."*  
*(Catholic Social Doctrine, 449: 941)*

In the days following Hurricane Katrina, Americans were devastated by the scenes on TV -- men, women and children of all ages trapped in sweltering heat for days without basic necessities, such as food or water. Within hours, many of the poorest in our nation were left devastated. In the face of acute pain, we asked,  
**"What can I do?"**

Extraordinary people rallied. Americans continue to witness Christ's Word in action as the hungry are being fed. The lost are being found. The homeless are being housed, and funding is being arranged to assist the victims in rebuilding their lives over time. Our prayers remain with all those affected and those charged with their rescue and relief. In the face of such hope, we ask,  
**"What can we learn?"**

Katrina gave us a glimpse into the daily reality of the world's poorest people. Today, in Niger alone, the UN estimates that more than 3.8 million people, one-third of the nation, desperately need food. Among the suffering are 800,000 children, one-third of whom suffer malnutrition. The problem has been a lack of response," says the World Food Program. "We in Africa wonder: Can the world outside see the human beings behind the unrelenting despair?" (Desmond Tutu) **Find out more.**

Catholic Relief Services	<a href="http://www.catholicrelief.org/">www.catholicrelief.org/</a>
Red Cross	<a href="http://www.redcross.org/">www.redcross.org/</a>
CARE	<a href="http://www.care.org/">www.care.org/</a>
Doctors Without Borders	<a href="http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/">www.doctorswithoutborders.org/</a>
World Food Program	<a href="http://www.wfp.org/">www.wfp.org/</a>



The Peace & Social Justice Committee  
Nora Jackson, Director: 718-2158  
Next Meeting: 10/27/05; 7:00-9:30 pm  
Room 227, Ministry Center