

From the Christian Service Commission

*As we continue to highlight the far-reaching effects of your generous Sunday envelope contributions, today's **CSC** article will focus on two important organizations, one which works to solve human problems on an international level, and the other working both internationally and domestically. Thank you letters from these two groups reveal how important the support from SSPP parishioners is to their missions. Thank you for your generous efforts on their behalf.*

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1. CNEWA:

The Catholic Near East Welfare Association is an agency of the Vatican, headquartered in the New York Archdiocese, under a direct Papal charter. Its mission is to assist and expand pastoral care in the churches of the Middle East, Northeast Africa, India, and Eastern Europe. It assists parishes, seminaries, hospital clinics, orphanages and catechetical programs as well as the huge number of displaced refugees in these areas of turmoil. If possible, the CNEWA works through the religious dioceses, and institutions already established in the above locations, and is very proud of being fiscally efficient as 85% of donations collected are directly helping to alleviate the great needs in those Eastern countries. Of particular note recently is their work in India where religious persecution has seen some nine Catholic churches burned by arson in the last several months. The CNEWA has also supported educational, health, and refugee programs in Beirut, Lebanon, Amman, Jordan, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and in Eritrea bordering Ethiopia, amidst the continuing turmoil in those areas.

The need to support the CNEWA has never been more important, and SSPP will hopefully continue to aid the CNEWA through financial allocations from the Christian Service Commission's budget.

2. Women at Risk Inc: Many Naperville shoppers have seen a store at Washington and Jefferson streets named the WAR Boutique. This local facility and many like it elsewhere help to support a not-for-profit organization called **WAR Inc, Women at Risk**. Headquartered in Michigan, but with facilities in over 40 countries, this organization brings safe and caring help to women and children who are the victims of domestic abuse and/or human trafficking. With safe houses in countries such as Nicaragua, Guatemala, Thailand and in the US as well, the staff of WAR, Inc. are there to help and counsel those who need a safe environment away from dangerous and abusive situations. Naperville's local store has assisted several clients who are entrapped in local situations of abuse and sexual slavery. This is not just an international problem, but one that has filtered down even to the local level in the western suburbs. SSPP's support of WAR, Inc., has been most appreciated by their local staff. Your generous contributions will continue to allow SSPP to be a part of bringing needed safe environments for many suffering people both domestically and internationally.