



Social Justice Newsletter

February 2021

A Committee of St. Cecilia's Catholic Church

2900 Hoover Avenue, Ames, Iowa 50010

(515) 233-3092 www.stceciliaparish.org

Volume 11

Issue 1

February 2021

Editor: Lynn Franco

Page 1



CRS Rice Bowl

A History and an Invitation

CRS (Catholic Relief Services) is the international humanitarian agency of the Catholic Church in the United States. Founded in 1943 by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the agency provides assistance to 130 million people in more than 110 countries around the world.

Initially the agency was known as the War Relief Services and its original purpose was to aid the refugees of war-torn Europe. It has undergone several transformations since then. After a period of prayer and reflection, CRS embraced a vision of global solidarity and incorporated a justice-centered focus into all of its programming, using Catholic social teaching as a guide.

The rice bowl portion of CRS was established in 1977, emphasizing prayer, fasting, learning and giving. The bowl itself is a symbol of both hunger and hope. Seventy-five percent of the funds raised support development programs in Africa, Asia, and Latin America such as providing food, water, medical assistance and educational opportunities to communities. The remaining twenty-five percent stays in the diocese for local poverty and hunger alleviation projects.

You are invited to participate in the 2021 CRS Lenten program. Rice bowls and calendars are available in the Narthex. Pick one up at your convenience. Through our participation in the program we will embrace Jesus as well as our neighbors around the world. For additional information, please go to <https://www.crsricebowl.org/>

Social Justice Contacts

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET -
1-800-842-2243 - **STC Contact:**
Cynthia Shriver 515-451-4606

AMOS - STC Contact: open position

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE
AMERICAS - STC Contact:
Rose Tondra 232-4598

CLIMATE ACTION TEAM -
STC Contact: John Wilson 232-1087

DAYS FOR GIRLS - STC Contact:
Mary Ross 232-5080

EMERGENCY RESIDENCE
PROJECT - STC Contact:
Ben Kellen 515-460-2844

FOOD AT FIRST - 611 Clark Ave.,
Ames - 515-344-4357 - STC Contact:
Julie Haas 232-7138

GOOD NEIGHBOR EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE, INC. - 613 Clark
Ave., Ames - 515-296-1449
STC Contact: Charlie Weber
515-460-3335

HOME FOR AWHILE -
STC Contact Mary Ross 232-5080

CRS RICE BOWL - STC Contact:
Cynthia Shriver 515-451-4606

PRISON MINISTRY - STC Contact:
Barb Moore 515-337-1551

SAINT CECILIA SOCIAL JUSTICE
COMMITTEE - Contact:
Doreen Berg 515-956-3414

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE -
STC Contact:
Garland Dahlke 515-460-0403

STORY COUNTY HUNGER
COLLABORATION - Contact:
Doreen Berg 515-956-3414

The Social Justice Committee meets on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Louis Room. Everyone is welcome to attend.
CONSIDER BECOMING A MEMBER



AMOS is made up of 35 member congregations and advocacy organizations across central Iowa. It is a Non-partisan, local organization that works at making democracy work. **St. Cecilia Parish is a member.** AMOS is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation, the nation's largest and oldest organizing network. There are over 60 IAF affiliate organizations across the United States.

AMOS regularly organizes research action teams to find concrete, specific, and winnable solutions to the problems plaguing families in our community. These volunteer, citizen-led issues teams are formed out of the small group house meeting process AMOS organizes every two to three years. Issues grow out of this bottom-up, grass-roots process of listening and telling our stories. Over our twenty year history, AMOS has amassed an impressive track record of finding solutions to otherwise divisive, complex public problems through an intensive, win-win, non-partisan approach to politics.

Samples of recent AMOS/Ames accomplishments are:

- **Helped** raise over \$179,000 in emergency funds for **Story County immigrants.**
- **Pushed** Story County Board of Health to create a plan to provide medical care for persons experiencing **homelessness who contract COVID-19.**
- **Supported** additional federal funding to ensure the county's homeless shelter **The Bridge Home** (AMOS member) could continue to operate at full capacity.

THE
BRIDGE
HOME

"If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.