

Special prayer intentions to keep in mind during the season of Lent:

The parishes of the Diocese of Green Bay will participate in the Collection for the World's Poor at Masses the weekend of March 1, 2, 2008. This annual second collection benefits three organizations, Peter's Pence, Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

Peter's Pence is the Holy Father's emergency relief fund. Since the end of the 8th century, Catholics throughout the world have been sending proceeds to the Holy Father for him to apply to emergency relief causes to benefit the world's poorest people. The Holy Father is particularly prone to apply these funds to natural disasters that strike the developing world.

Catholic Relief Services is the United States Catholic Church's international relief organization. It serves 99 of the poorest countries in the world by providing disaster relief and medical, educational, social, and agricultural programming to the developing world. Catholic Relief Services depends on partnerships with locally born to run most of their local programs, after they have been trained by CRS staff.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development is the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops domestic poverty fighting arm. It provides funding to organizations led by low income people that increase the political and social status of poor people and/or increase the economic development of such persons. It is also charged with helping to educate the non-poor on the state of poverty in the United States.

Person are invited to pray for these very important causes during Lent.

Peter's Pence Prayer

Loving God, open our hearts and minds to the needs of the poorest in our midst; it is in giving that we receive. Bless our Holy Father, that he may be a good steward of our gifts to the Peter's Pence collection. May our gifts help alleviate the discomfort experienced by our suffering brothers and sisters in every corner of the world. AMEN