

CATHOLIC RURAL LIFE

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Icon by Karen J. Spiering, after the work of Laurence Pierson-Bonenberger

Catholic Rural Life gratefully acknowledges all who have shared of their resources to promote Catholic Life in rural America.

Those noted here have given financial support between January 1 and December 31, 2020.

GRATITUDE

In the midst of what has been a most memorable year, we say “Thank you!”.

Unprecedented storms, fires, hurricanes, riots and a global pandemic have been the headlines for many months now. However, our everyday lives speak ever more loudly of courage, fortitude, hope, rebuilding and of God’s mercy in each of our lives.

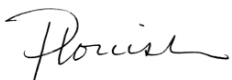
Catholic Rural Life is committed to promoting Catholic life in rural America and our work has never been more focused.

This year we were able to advance our *Thriving in Rural Ministry* program. Since its inception in late 2019, 42 priests (representing 91 parishes and over 5,000 parishioners) have participated in three in-person retreats. Each retreat offered spiritual refreshment and a renewed vision for rural ministry; a new network of brother priests; fresh ideas and best practices for rural ministry; an increased awareness and encouragement of key leadership attributes and an exposure to integral ecology and its potential impact in parish life.

Another significant focus has been on local CRL Chapters across the country. Although many dioceses and rural parishes are actively engaged in edifying and celebrating rural Catholic culture, CRL has brought together 24 local groups who are a part of a family of CRL Chapters across the country who regularly inspire and encourage one another. In turn CRL has stepped up its commitment to support these Chapters with increased practical resources and additional staff. We are also committed to growing this vibrant group of leaders and we will be announcing additional CRL Chapters in the near future.

Thank you for your support of our work this year. Your generosity has been an example to us of God’s goodness and mercy during these trying times. We are firm in our resolve to move forward and faithfully advance our mission, coming nearer to our vision of flourishing Catholic life in rural America—thriving families, farms and parishes—centered on faith, community and care of creation.

Thank you and warmest wishes for a blessed 2021!



Peg Louiselle
Director of Development

Note: Catholic Rural Life was audited by Mahoney, Ulbrich, Christiansen and Russ, P.A., Saint Paul MN, according to the highest standards of accountability and transparency.

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*denotes Lifetime Membership Society

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Union of Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Fargo ND)

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St. Francis Xavier; St. John; Sacred Heart (Dubuque IA)
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St. Thomas Catholic Community (Albany NY)
St. William-Guardian Angel Catholic Community (Helena MT)
Sts. Peter and Paul Church (Fargo ND)

THANK YOU!

Please forgive any inadvertent errors or omissions and notify Peg Louiselle at Peg@CatholicRuralLife.org or 651-962-5955. This report is also available at www.CatholicRuralLife.org