

FALL 2009  
VOLUME 52 • NUMBER 1



CATHOLIC  
**RURALLIFE**  
The magazine of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference

**Catholic Rural Life** (ISSN 1089-6570) is published by the National Catholic Rural Life Conference for its members. The National Catholic Rural Life Conference is a membership organization grounded in a spiritual tradition which brings together the Church, care for creation and care for community. As an educator in the faith, the NCRLC seeks to relate religion to the world; develops support services for rural pastoral ministries; serves as a prophetic voice and as a catalyst and convener for social justice.

**PRESIDENT**  
**NCRLC Board of Directors**  
Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane  
Bishop of Venice, Florida

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
James Ennis

**STAFF:**  
**COMMUNICATIONS & POLICY COORDINATOR**  
Robert Gronski

**SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION SPECIALIST**  
Tim Kautza

**BOOKKEEPER / FULFILLMENT CLERK**  
Darlene Limoges

**ART/DESIGN CONSULTANT**  
Heidi Fuchtmann

## CONTENTS

- James Ennis* 4 **Our Covenant With the Land, Our Hope**
- Archbishop Celestino Migliore* 6 **On the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pope John Paul II Visit to Iowa**
- Sr. Jude Fitzpatrick, CHM* 10 **We the Beloved, Called to Choose Life**
- Matt Liebman* 14 **Sustainable Agriculture: Balancing agricultural production with resource conservation, environmental quality, & compassion**
- Ron & Maria Rosmann* 14 **Conserve and Restore the Land**
- LaVon Griffieon* 16 **Generational Call to Stewardship**
- Rev. Robert L. Grant* 17 **Redistributive Suffering: Caring for God's Creation in the Environmental Age**
- Bishop Giampaolo Crepaldi* 18 **Ten Commandments for the Environment A Christian view of humankind and nature**
- Sr. Joan Brown, OSF* 19 **The Land is God's Gift**
- Bouyoucos Conference* 22 **An Urgent Appeal for Soil Stewardship**
- 23 **Books & Resources**

### SEND US YOUR COMMENTS

We invite you to send comments about our publication: what you liked and what you questioned. Please let us know what topics interest you and require our attention. Thank you for keeping us in touch.

**Catholic Rural Life** accepts unsolicited manuscripts and photographs. Only those accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope will be returned. Send to: Editor, Catholic Rural Life, 4625 Beaver Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50310 or [info@ncrlc.com](mailto:info@ncrlc.com).

CATHOLIC  
**RURALLIFE**  
Online

[www.ncrlc.com/magazine.html](http://www.ncrlc.com/magazine.html)

