Catholic Rural Life is a 95-year-old non-profit organization. We work to revitalize Catholic culture in rural America. We believe that it is an important, God-given call to live a rural life: one centered on faith, community and care for creation. Our work—in ethical agriculture, rural ministry & outreach, and care of creation—supports and builds the Church by educating priests, religious and laity through various programs and resources. Become a part of our mission by becoming a part of our member community.

Catholic Rural Life Magazine is a resource produced by CRL on a quarterly basis. We strive to educate and inspire through informative articles and telling of stories about people and their real-life experiences.

FROM THE EDITOR

As I get older, I am increasingly amazed at the seemingly growing amount of natural disasters affecting, not only the United States, but the whole world. As farmers and other rural dwellers depend upon the land, natural disasters have a devastating and life-altering effect.

In this issue, we gathered stories from around the country to answer the question: "What happens when disaster strikes rural communities?" How do rural communities "weather the weather"?

The extraordinary faith, hope and perseverance of rural people is evident, especially during times of trial: time and time again we see examples of how communities come together to help each other through these trying times. Read on to hear some of these remarkable stories.

Enjoy!
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Contributors

Darel Boston

Darel is a retired minister, living in rural Kansas.

Jane Crady

Jane is the Coordinator of Disaster Preparedness and Response for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Dr. John A. Cuddeback, PhD

John Cuddeback is the chairman of the Philosophy Department at Christendom College.

Deacon Dan Freeman

Dcn. Freeman and his wife Judy live on a small acreage in Iowa, where he serves as deacon in a rural parish in the Diocese of Davenport.

Fr. Erik Pohlmeier

Fr. Pohlmeier is the Diocesan Director of Faith Formation for the Diocese of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Morgan Smith

Morgan lives in Tennessee, where she works as the Managing Editor of CRL Magazine.

Most Rev. Gerald L. Vincke

Bishop Vincke is the Bishop of the Diocese of Salina, Kansas.

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