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Catholic Rural Life is a 95-year-old non-profit organization. We apply the teachings of Jesus Christ for the social, economic, and spiritual development of rural America, strengthening and sustaining the Church in the countryside by educating and inspiring leaders and advocating on their behalf. 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 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

We often hear stories about the large numbers of rural youth who are leaving their families, towns and farms to go elsewhere for different opportunities. In this issue, we were interested in learning about the youth who choose to stay.

In pursuing this question, we found young agrarians who stayed, who returned after having moved away, or who have followed a calling to rural life after growing up urban. We found strong, creative young people who are passionate about the land and tradition.

The stories in this issue are full of hope and inspiration. My eyes were opened in the process of editing this issue, and I found myself surprised by my new hope for the future.

Enjoy!



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Contributors

Max Becher

Max and his family live in Maine, where he works as a Director of Parish Social Ministry.

Most Rev. Brendan J. Cahill

Bishop Cahill is the bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, Texas.

Heather Kuhnau

Heather lives and dairy farms in Wisconsin.

Catherine Putzier

Catherine is a student at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota and a former CRL intern.

Joseph Reilly

Joseph lives and works on Bethlehem Farm in West Virginia.

Original Photography

Carrie Gillaspie, Pg. 5

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