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Catholic Rural Life is a 96-year-old non-profit organization. We promote Catholic life in rural communities 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

In these uncertain times of pandemic and social distancing we face isolation and physical, emotional and economic strife. What is the remedy for such ills? Christ present in us and in our communities. I was interested in learning about how people are growing and changing in these times, and I was inspired by the stories that we found.

In this issue, we hear stories of hope from all over the country, as well as meditations and tips for how to live deeply and intensely in this time of isolation. We also discover ways in which Catholic Rural Life Chapters help to unite and strengthen rural communities—and hear from chapter leaders around the country.

It is moving to know that we are striving for togetherness as a Church in such an intense way.

Enjoy!



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Contributors

Arthur Befort

Arthur is a farmer in rural Kansas, where he is also the president of the Salina CRL Chapter and the County Commissioner in Smith County, Kansas.

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Matt is the Director of the Office of Life, Justice & Peace for the Archdiocese of Portland, Oregon.

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Fr. Dumais is the pastor of St. Rose in Jay, Maine and St. Joseph in Farmington, Maine, where they have an active local CRL Chapter.

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