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## JustFaith Catholic

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### Partner Profiles (2)—Poverty at Home and Abroad

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As noted in Phase 1, JustFaith Ministries works in close collaboration with the following organizations. These brief profiles provide additional information on each of them.

#### **Bread for the World**

On the eve of the new millennium, Pope John Paul II said, “Our world is entering the new millennium burdened by the contradictions of an economic, cultural and technological progress which offers immense possibilities to a fortunate few, while leaving millions of others not only on the margins of progress but in living conditions far below the minimum demanded by human dignity. How can it be that even today there are still people dying of hunger?” (*Novo Millennio Ineunte*, 50)

Catholic social teaching tells us that food is a basic and fundamental right of all human beings. Yet, 836 million people in poor countries live on less than \$1.25 a day. Every year, undernutrition kills 3.1 million children. In the United States, more than 48 million Americans live in households that struggle to put food on the table. More than one in six American children is at risk of hunger.

Research bears out that we can end hunger in our lifetime. But everyone, including our federal government, must do their part. The U.S. government can have a huge impact around the world if our leaders make ending hunger a priority. It is up to us to let them know this is important to us as Catholics. Are we compassionate enough to act? Learn more at [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org).

#### **Maryknoll**

Because of the pervasive presence of poverty and the lack of work options and resources for so many people in the world, Maryknoll missionaries recognize that economic development as a vital part of their ministry.

In Zimbabwe, the Maryknoll sisters help people engage in sustainable agriculture and develop self-reliance. In other parts of Africa, they have initiated a cottage industry where young women (orphans whose parents died of AIDS) learn to be self-reliant. The young women make sweaters, school uniforms, vestments, cards, necklaces, and other goods and also learn how to apply for small loans to set up small businesses to support their families.

One way Maryknoll addresses economic justice is through the work of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns, which focuses on globalization and its impact; trade and investment, especially multilateral trade agreements and their impact; and the debt crisis, including illegitimate debt, the impact of macroeconomic reforms as a condition for debt relief, proposals for debt arbitration, the impact of corruption on debt cancellation and possible solutions.



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Maryknoll asks ... Did You Know?

- Repeated debt crises in the 1980s and 1990s gave creditors, including the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, a handle to reshape the economies of over 100 countries.
- Maryknoll works closely with the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR), which uses shareholder resolutions and other forms of pressure to try to bring about positive changes in corporate policies.
- Millions of people work without regular income or benefits.

Learn more at:

[www.maryknoll.org](http://www.maryknoll.org) • [www.maryknollaffiliates.org](http://www.maryknollaffiliates.org)

[www.friendsacrossborders.org](http://www.friendsacrossborders.org) • [www.maryknollogc.org](http://www.maryknollogc.org)