News



Eric DeBode, executive director of Abundant Grace Coastside Worker, a Catholic Worker house in Half Moon Bay, California, reports that the community's Full Circle Food Justice program harvests about 20,000 pounds of produce a year, most of which reaches the tables of families working in the agricultural and service industries. (Nicholas Wolfram Smith/Catholic San Francisco)



by Dan Morris-Young

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San Francisco St. Dominic parishioner Elizabeth Skelton, Dig Deep founder George McGraw and St. Dominic pastor Dominican Fr. Michael Hurley are pictured after a March 29 presentation on a parish initiative to bring fresh water to residents in the Southwest. (Christina Gray/Catholic San Francisco)

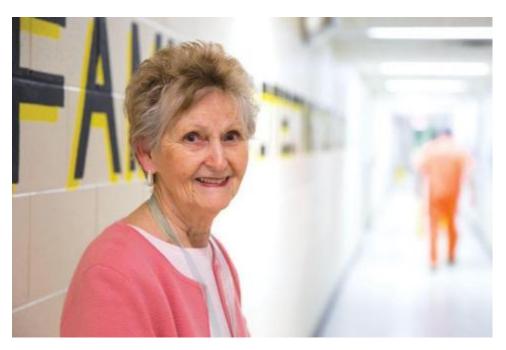
In Half Moon Bay, California, <u>Abundant Grace Coastside Worker</u>, a Catholic Worker community, oversees the Full-Circle Food Justice program which employs the homeless and others down on their luck to grow food — about 20,000 pounds annually — which is <u>distributed to low-income families</u>.

Meanwhile, about 30 miles away, members of San Francisco's <u>St. Dominic Parish</u> for the past two years have been encouraged to abstain from all beverages except water during Lent and <u>donate the savings</u> toward providing clean, running water for impoverished Americans through <u>Dig Deep</u>. The non-profit demands access to fresh water as a basic human right.

"People with disabilities make up about 20 percent of the population. Yet, 90 percent of individuals with long-term limitations don't go to church," points out the <u>Disability</u>

<u>Inclusion Ministry</u> of Tacoma, Washington's <u>St. Patrick Parish</u>. The group adds, "Those who do, often feel invisible. Individuals with disabilities don't want pity. They need to be respected just as they are."

An <u>organization founded in Ireland in 2009</u> to encourage grandparents to nurture their grandchildren's faith lives now has chapters in the U.S., United Kingdom and Philippines. <u>On May 4</u>, a group of parishioners of the Diocsese of Charleston, South Carolina, met at <u>St. Philip Neri Parish</u> in Fort Mill to learn more about the <u>Catholic</u> <u>Grandparents Association</u>. If you are in the nation's capital at 10:30 a.m., July 13, you can attend the USA Catholic Grandparents Association Ministry Mass at the <u>National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception</u>.



Carol Ann Wilkinson has volunteered in prison ministry for 27 years in the Diocese of Lansing, Michigan. (Jim Luning/FAITH Catholic Lansing)

Diocese of Lansing, Michigan, parishioner Carol Ann Wilkinson <u>shares insights</u> from her 27 years of prison ministry in a FAITH Lansing magazine feature. Prisoners often "think of me as a favorite mom, aunt or grandma," Wilkinson said. "That alone is healing for them. It is a great pleasure to share God and Jesus very personally with them through my ministry."

Speaking of inspirational giving of self for those in need: Carol Hartman of Cathedral of <u>St. Joseph Parish</u> in Jefferson City, Missouri, <u>has been honored</u> for her gifts of time and self to many ministries — such as food pantry work, vocations promotion,

funeral service meal preparation and support of a Guatemala mission. The widow is also a member of <u>Knights of Columbus Bishop McAuliffe Council 12992 Ladies</u> <u>Auxiliary</u>.

[Dan Morris-Young is NCR West Coast correspondent.]

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