

[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

[View Author Profile](#)

[**Join the Conversation**](#)

Send your thoughts to *Letters to the Editor*. [Learn more](#)

June 5, 2019

[Share on Bluesky](#)[Share on Facebook](#)[Share on Twitter](#)[Email to a friend](#)[Print](#)



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, [Abundant Grace Coastside Worker](#), a Catholic Worker community, oversees the Full-Circle Food Justice program which employs the homeless and others down on their luck to grow food â?? about 20,000 pounds annually â?? which is [distributed to low-income families](#).

Meanwhile, about 30 miles away, members of San Francisco's [St. Dominic Parish](#) for the past two years have been encouraged to abstain from all beverages except water during Lent and [donate the savings](#) toward providing clean, running water for impoverished Americans through [Dig Deep](#). 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 [Disability](#)

[Inclusion Ministry](#) of Tacoma, Washington's [St. Patrick Parish](#). 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 [organization founded in Ireland in 2009](#) to encourage grandparents to nurture their grandchildren's faith lives now has chapters in the U.S., United Kingdom and Philippines. [On May 4](#), a group of parishioners of the Diocese of Charleston, South Carolina, met at [St. Philip Neri Parish](#) in Fort Mill to learn more about the [Catholic Grandparents Association](#). 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 [National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception](#).



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 [shares insights](#) 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 [St. Joseph Parish](#) in Jefferson City, Missouri, [has been honored](#) 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 [Knights of Columbus Bishop McAuliffe Council 12992 Ladies Auxiliary](#).

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

Editor's note: *We can send you an email alert every time The Field Hospital is posted. Go to this page and follow directions: [Email alert sign-up](#).*

Advertisement

This story appears in the **The Field Hospital** feature series. [View the full series](#).