



Bread for the World Louisiana

The Twomey Center for Peace Through Justice
Loyola University New Orleans

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 9
JANUARY 2012

Prayer Is Necessary

In 2000, the nations of the world, including the United States, adopted 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for the alleviation of extreme poverty. Targets were set for each of these goals, and nations have made commitments for meeting these targets by 2015.

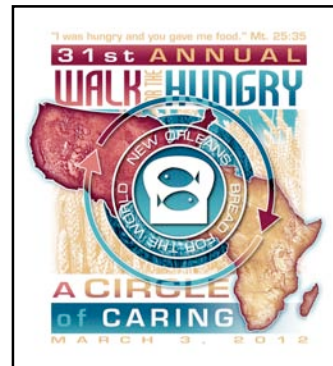
The MDGs are:

- 1) Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
- 2) Achieve universal primary education.
- 3) Promote gender equality and empower women.
- 4) Reduce child mortality.
- 5) Improve maternal health.
- 6) Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.
- 7) Ensure environmental sustainability.
- 8) Develop a global partnership for development.

Prayer needs to be an important part of our efforts to overcome extreme poverty. We pray for the MDGs because prayer:

- Brings our hearts closer to the heart of God, especially as it concerns the poor. God's grace inspires us to strive for justice when we pray.
- Helps us remember that real people are behind every staggering poverty statistic.
- Sustains us as we seek to overcome the injustice of global poverty.
- Empowers us to be 'powerful' agents of social change.

Two things you can do to about ending hunger: 1) join the millions who pray each day for the eradication of global poverty and hunger and 2) put your prayer into action by joining the 31st annual Walk for the Hungry.



A Circle of Caring - Walk for the Hungry 2012

Litany on the Millennium Development Goals

Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.

We pray for those who are poor, hungry, and neglected all over the world, that their cries for daily bread may inspire works of compassion and mercy among those to whom much has been given. Loving God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Achieve universal primary education.

We pray for schools and centers of learning throughout the world, for those who lack access to basic education, and for the light of knowledge to blossom and shine in the lives of all God's people.

Loving God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Promote gender equality and empower women.

We pray for an end to the divisions and inequalities that scar God’s creation, particularly the barriers to freedom faced by God’s children throughout the world because of gender; that all who have been formed in God’s image might have equality in pursuit of the blessings of creation. Loving God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Reduce child mortality/Improve maternal health.

We pray for the health of women, children and families around the world, especially for an end to maternal and child mortality, that in building healthy families, all God’s people may be empowered to strengthen their communities and repair the breaches which divide nations and peoples. Loving God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

We pray for an end to pandemic disease throughout the world, particularly the scourges of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis; that plagues of death may no longer fuel poverty, destabilize nations, and inhibit reconciliation and restoration throughout the world. Loving God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Ensure environmental sustainability.

We pray for an end to the waste and desecration of God’s creation, for access to the fruits of creation to be shared equally among all people, and for communities and nations to find sustenance in the fruits of the earth and the water God has given us. Loving God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Develop a global partnership for development.

We pray for all nations and people who already

enjoy the abundance of creation and the blessings of prosperity, that their hearts may be lifted up to the needs of the poor and afflicted, and partnerships between rich and poor for the reconciliation of the world may flourish and grow. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

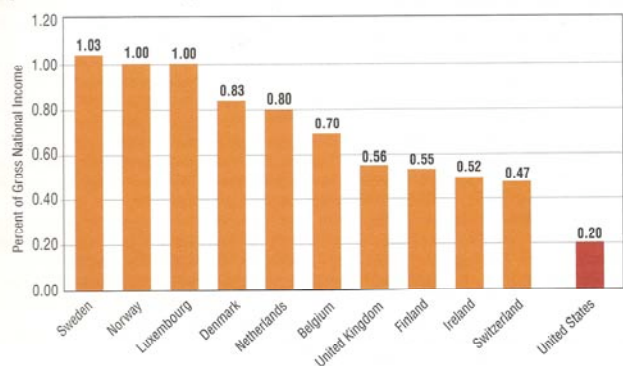
UNDERSTANDING MALNUTRITION AND RESPONDING EFFECTIVELY

Children under the age of 5 are most at risk of death from malnutrition. The odds of death from diarrhea, pneumonia, malaria, and measles are higher for children under 5 who are malnourished compared to those who are properly nourished.

Children who lack adequate energy and protein suffer from what is known as “protein-energy malnutrition.” Children suffering from chronic protein-energy malnutrition become “stunted,” shorter than they should be for their age. “Wasting” occurs when children suffer from acute food shortage (such as famine).

Severe malnutrition poses an immediate threat to a child’s life, but more children die every year

Top 10 Countries by Commitment to Development Assistance



Source: The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), 2010.

because of mild or moderate malnutrition. The MDGs treat hunger and poverty as interdependent problems. The first MDG – dramatically reducing hunger and poverty – measures progress against hunger by gauging how many children remain chronically undernourished.

1,000 DAYS

From pregnancy to age 2 is the “window of opportunity” to prevent malnutrition from causing largely irreversible damage.

The most critical period in human development is the first 1,000 days of life, starting at pregnancy and lasting through a child’s second year. Healthy development particularly brain development, depends on getting the right foods at this critical time of life. Hunger during this time is catastrophic because the resulting physical and cognitive damage is lifelong and largely irreversible. Early hunger and malnutrition is associated with later problems such as chronic illness and poor school attendance and learning. As adults, the survivors have lower productivity and lifetime incomes, which costs developing countries an estimated 2% to 3% of the economic output.

0.6% of the U.S. federal budget is spent on poverty focused development assistance.

The U.S. food aid programs and agricultural development assistance are increasingly focused on pregnancy and lactating women and children and children younger than 2. A third of all child deaths are attributed to malnutrition, while survivors face lifelong physical and/or cognitive disabilities.

There are roughly 500 million smallholder farmers in the world; in sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia, they produce 80% of food.

Climate change poses a serious threat to food production in sub-Saharan Africa. The region experiences the highest risk of drought of anywhere in the world.



TWO THINGS YOU NEED TO TELL YOUR U.S. SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN

The U.S. needs to strengthen its traditional role as the largest provider of food aid, while also moving quickly to improve its nutritional quality.

The U.S. needs to strengthen its commitment to Feed the Future, the innovative Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative that is critical to sustainable progress against hunger and malnutrition.

No One Should Suffer from Hunger

No person should go hungry. We can help end hunger by placing a **Circle of Caring** around programs that provide food for poor and hungry people whether they live in the United States or in developing countries.

Put your prayers for poor and hungry people into action and join the **Circle of Caring** by participating in the 31st annual Walk for the Hungry on Saturday, March 3, 2012.

The 4-mile Walk begins at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church yard, 4640 Canal St. and proceeds up Canal St. to Claiborne Ave. The Walk turns on Claiborne Ave. and continues down Canal St. returning to St. Anthony of Padua Church yard.

Walk schedule
Registration – 8:00 am
Prayer – 9:00 am
Walk – 9:30 am
Walk ends – 11:30 am

Registration fee includes your t-shirt

Adult - \$15

Student - \$10

Child - \$7 (7 and under).

Walkers are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for the Second Harvest Food Bank.

To register ahead or for information contact

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Published eleven times a year by

*Bread for the World Louisiana
Founded in 1982*

Bread for the World New Orleans



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