

3rd Annual "Seeking To Serve" Convention Project

At the start of the new millennium, leaders from 191 nations, including the United States, agreed on a plan to cut extreme global poverty in half by 2015. Together, they created the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Development is about freedom from misery and suffering, hunger, illiteracy, disease, poor housing and insecurity.

Parishes of the diocese are invited to focus on one of the MDGs each year until 2015. By creatively working within our congregations and joining our offering together at Convention, we will serve our neighbors throughout the world.

This year our focus is MDG #1:

ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

In 2005, 1.4 billion people lived on US\$1.25 or less a day. 10 million die every year of hunger and hunger-related diseases. Rising food prices may push 100 million people deeper into poverty. But fewer children below five are undernourished - from 33% in 1990 to 26% in 2006. *Unicef statistics*

We invite each parish to create their own ways of gathering funds to address this need, then bring those funds for an ingathering at Convention. The Ingathering we receive at Convention will be designated for micro-loans. If your parish has already disbursed funds gathered for MDG #1, please bring a report of those funds and their disbursement for inclusion with the Convention ingathering.

The ingathering of the funds will be incorporated into the Saturday banquet program.

Note: There will also be the annual UTO ingathering during the Convention Eucharist.