

“The fundamental test of an economy is its ability to meet the essential human needs of this generation and future generations in an equitable fashion. Food, water, and energy are essential to life: their abundance in the U.S. has tended to make us complacent. But these goods—the foundation of God’s gift of life—are too crucial to be taken for granted. God reminded the people of Israel that “the land is mine; for you are strangers and guests with me.”

LV25:23, RSV

“Our Christian faith calls us to contemplate God’s creative and sustaining action and to measure our own collaboration with the Creator in using the earth’s resources to meet human needs. While Catholic social teaching on the care of the environment and the management of natural resources is still in the process of development, a Christian moral perspective clearly gives weight and urgency to their use in meeting human needs.”

Economic Justice for All 216

St. Martin Deanery Rural Life Conference

Members meet six times a year to prayerfully discern its direction, develop programs and advance actions that address rural issues. Meetings are held at St. Mary Parish, Arnheim, Ohio.

Please send me more information.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Parish _____

Mail to:

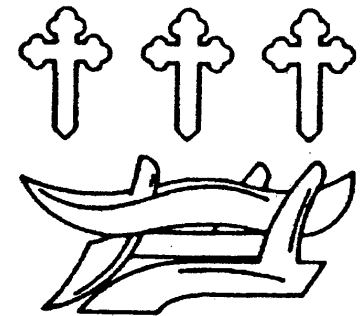
St. Mary, Arnheim
6647 Van Buren St.
Georgetown, OH 45121-9563

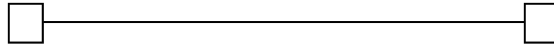
Or contact Marilyn Fryer 937.378.4583

Catholic Rural Life Conference

of St. Martin Deanery

Archdiocese of Cincinnati





The **Rural Life Conference** educates and assists parishes and parishioners in the St. Martin Deanery about rural life concerns by identifying needs, providing resources and advocating a moral perspective.

The Rural Life Conference is organizationally located within the St. Martin Deanery that consists of twenty-two parishes in Clinton, Highland, Clermont, Brown and Adams counties. We are supported by the Catholic Social Action Office of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

What we do

- Assist parishes in organizing “rural life masses” and other rural observances
- Monitor state and national legislation, advocate and prepare statements when appropriate. Provide legislators with resources on rural issues
- Work for credit and lending for farmers
- Monitor and influence land use and development plans
- Advise and update the Archbishop

Mission Statement

The mission of the Catholic Rural Life Conference of the St. Martin Deanery is:

- to encourage spiritual life in our rural area through prayer and worship,
- to work to maintain the quality of life in rural communities,
- to address issues of economic and social justice and economic opportunities,
- to bridge the gap between rural and urban people, and
- to support rural communities in times of transition.

Membership and Meetings

Membership includes all parishes of the St. Martin Deanery and any person sharing the concerns and goals of the conference. Representation may include pastors, pastoral staff and laity.

The Conference meets bi-monthly on the third Monday of the month beginning in February at St. Mary’s Arnheim 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. For more information contact: Marilyn Fryer at 937.378.4583.

“Our concern embraces...increased hunger in both urban and rural areas. Growing numbers of hungry people in poor countries abroad, persistent poverty on farms and in rural communities, the increased migration of poor rural people to the cities, increased concentration of ownership and control in food processing and marketing...massive Third World debt, misery and destitution among farmworkers in U.S., and environmental damage...”

Report of the Ad Hoc Task Force on Food, Agriculture, and Rural Concerns - NCCB, 11/15/88

The Rural Life Conference is dedicated to social justice in the rural community and stewardship of the earth’s resources. Catholic Social teaching, scripture and statements by the U.S. Bishops in particular, guide our work.

