ACTIONS FOR PROMOTING PEACE, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND SOLIDARITY

- During the summer Congressional recess, **organize a parish delegation to meet with your member of Congress in his/her district office** to discuss the current policy stalemate on the war in Iraq. Prepare for the meeting by reviewing the statements of the Pope Benedict XV1, the U.S. Bishops and the Diocesan Social Action Office. Call your local Catholic Commission for a listing of district offices.

Senator George Voinovich
Federal Building, Room 2955
1240 E. Ninth St.
Cleveland, OH 44199-2001

Senator Sherrod Brown
600 E. Superior, Room 2450
Cleveland, OH 44114

- **Plan a prayer service for peace**. Consider making the service Ecumenical or Interfaith. Consider conducting the service in a public setting. **There is one enclosed**. The Diocesan Social Action Office can assist you with other resources for prayer services. Call 888-620-5280. Order our parish tool kit on issues of war and peace. There are also terrific prayer services on the U.S. Bishops' web site at www.usccb.org.

Become informed about peace initiatives of national Catholic organizations, like Network or Catholics for an End to the War in Iraq. Network has formulated a proposal entitled "The Way Forward-Network's Proposals for Peace in Iraq." For more information, visit www.networklobby.org. Catholics for an End to the War in Iraq have launched an online petition drive on the war. Their web site is www.catholicsforanend.org.

- **Plan to attend the Mass for Peace, Human Rights and Solidarity to be celebrated by Bishop Richard G. Lennon on October 4, 2007** (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi) at 12 Noon at St. John's Cathedral in Cleveland.

- **Take action to end the genocide in Darfur**. Support the online petition drive that urges President Bush and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon to take immediate steps to stop the killing in Darfur. Circulate the petition at your parish. For more information regarding this campaign and others related to Darfur, visit www.savedarfur.org or enough@enoughproject.org.

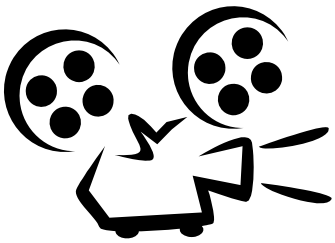
- **Generate a letter writing campaign to Senators George Voinovich and Sherrod Brown urging them to advance the Israeli-Palestinian peace process by passing Senate Resolution 224**. Thank Senator Voinovich for being a co-sponsor of the resolution.

Senate Resolution 224 affirms the two state solution with "the State of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security." The resolution renounces violence and terror, reaffirms an unwavering commitment to Israel's security, and calls on the Hamas-led Palestinian Authority to recognize Israel, renounce terrorism and accept past agreements. It calls on both Israel and Palestinian leaders to work for peace and to refrain from "any actions that would prejudice the outcome of final status negotiations."

Contact your Senators at Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. For more information on the position of our Church on the Middle East, visit www.usccb.org or www.crs.org, www.cnewa.org, or www.hcef.org. .

- **Join the Catholic Campaign for Immigration Reform, sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops**. The campaign's intention is to create the political will for comprehensive immigration reform. For detailed information and resources on the campaign, visit www.justiceforimmigrants.org.

The Diocesan Social Action Office highly recommends two excellent DVD's to educate parishioners on immigration reform.



- "Dying to Live: A Migrant's Journey" presents the human face of the migrant and a theological interpretation of migration. To obtain a copy, please visit www.dyingtolive.nd.edu, call 574-631-3233 or e-mail latino@nd.edu. Cost is a $25 donation.

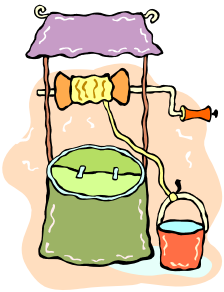
- "Strangers No Longer" helps parishioners understand the problems that exist with our current immigration system. It also outlines potential solutions and reminds us of our moral responsibility to "welcome the stranger." To order this DVD and to obtain a discussion guide, visit www.justiceforimmigrants.org/snldvd.html.

- **Pray daily** for the safety of our military personnel, a just end to the war in Iraq, a peaceful transition for the Iraqi people and a commitment by the international community to assist in the reconstruction of Iraq.

- **Make use of prayer services especially prepared by the Diocesan Social Action Office for all parish meetings** during these 40 days of prayer, fasting, and action. There are suggestions and an outline in this packet. Or, full planning packets can be ordered at 888-620-5280 or axcoplan@clevelandcatholiccharities.org.

- **Plan to attend "The Children Left Behind: AIDS Orphans Around the World" exhibit, sponsored by Catholic Relief Services**. It will be held at John Carroll University, Dolan Science Center, 20700 North Park Blvd, Room E135, University Heights, Ohio. This 1,200 square foot exhibit captures life through the eyes of orphans and other children left vulnerable by HIV/AIDS. Visitors "travel" to each country immersing themselves into the stories of the children. It is an opportunity to learn about

the global impact of AIDS. For more information, contact Deacon Rocky Ortiz @ 440-245-5043.



- **Take a collection to support the Diocesan Council on Global Solidarity's partnership with two Catholic schools in Tanzania**. "The Water for Life" Project will provide a water purification system to 1500 students, lay staff, priests and nuns, as well as, a church and infirmary in Narumu and Usari, Tanzania. Two villages along the pipeline will also be provided with safe drinking and cooking water. For a downloadable brochure, visit www.catholic-action.org or call Deacon Rocky Ortiz @ 440-245-5043. Donations are tax deductible and can be sent to Cleveland Catholic Relief Services, Narumu/Usari Schools Project, Trinity Center, 2500 Elyria Ave., Lorain, Ohio 44055.

- **Form a study group on the growing problem of Human Trafficking in the United States**. Human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery. Many victims are forced into prostitution or into exploitation in work situations, such as, sweatshops, restaurants, domestic servitude or migrant labor. The phone number for National Trafficking Resource Center is 888-373-7888.

Make plans to attend one of the presentations on Human Trafficking that are scheduled for August 23, September 20, October 18 or November 15 at HM Ministry Center, 20015 Detroit Rd, Rocky River, Ohio. All sessions run from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm. Topics include: domestic trafficking, global realities, health issues and services, and U.S. and pending Ohio law. For more information, call 440-356-5707.

- **Order a yard sign from the Catholic Commission** that states **"Pray for Peace and Nonviolence."** Cost of the sign is $5 and can be purchased by calling 330-535-2787.

Prepared by: The Cleveland Diocesan Social Action Office
Secretariat for Catholic Charities Health and Human Services