

# Prayer of the Month

**July 2007**

Heavenly father, our lives are truly full and we thank you for the abundance you have provided. Our tables and pantries are especially rich. Help us to not only recognize that we are blessed with quality food and able to provide sustenance for our families, but push us to act on behalf of those who cannot scrape together a handful of meal for bread or a pitcher of milk for their children. Help us to unselfishly become advocates and voices for those who are without life's basic necessity – food. We want to mirror the actions of your Son, our savior, Jesus Christ and help those who need us most, both in our own community and in the world. Guide us with your wisdom and love, in your name. AMEN

## Did you know?

- The number one Millennium Development Goal set forth by the United Nations is to halve the number of people in the world who suffer from hunger and live on earnings of less than \$1 a day.
- At the midway point between the adoption of these international goals in 2000 and the 2015 target date for achieving them, sub-Saharan Africa has not been able to make progress in reducing extreme poverty. In fact, the current pace will have to be doubled to achieve the development goal on time. Progress has been especially slow for children.
- Every year, 15 million children die of hunger. That amounts to 16,000 children each day, or one child every five seconds.
- Hunger and malnourishment is not limited to Third World countries. In 1994, the Urban Institute in Washington, DC, estimated that one in six elderly people in this country has an inadequate diet.
- Approximately 854 million people worldwide are hungry right now.

## Resources

<http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals>

<http://library.thinkquest.org/C002291/high/present/stats.htm>

<http://www.bread.org/>

<http://www.care.org/campaigns/world-hunger/index.asp>

If you have suggestions for parish prayer – whether it be a theme or a specific cause – please contact Susan Hawryluk at [sewsoo@aol.com](mailto:sewsoo@aol.com), or (401) 728-4382.