



going global with youth

Family Rosary Procession School Wide Event

Global Topic Addressed: Determined by School Leadership

Brief Summary of Goals for the Event:

A school community gathers to invoke our Blessed Mother's intercession for the many graces needed to overcome injustice for our brothers and sisters around the world. The goals of the Rosary Procession are to pray for the poor and vulnerable overseas, come together as a Catholic community of faith, and to raise awareness of a global justice issue addressed by the work of Catholic Relief Services.

Logistics: (Determine Date, Location, Supplies, Food Order, etc.)

Before the walk begins, students should be prepared to discuss why this global issue is important to them, and present information about the topic (Ex. show videos they made to explain the issue or display posters they created about the issue). Following a brief presentation by students regarding the global issue, participants will walk and pray the rosary. Each decade will be recited with the community standing together followed by a walk to the next site. At the end of the event, all participants will be presented with additional information regarding the global issue and how they can continue to respond.

Organize a committee and/or a group of volunteers

- A. This is an integral part of organizing a large procession, thus it is important to have a dedicated and dependable committee established at least 2 months in advance.
- B. Consider committee representation from a variety of communities connected to the school: administrators, faculty, parents, students, alumni, community members
- C. Decide which leadership roles are needed and delegate these roles to committee members or volunteers.
- D. Include a team to research the global issue selected, prepare the presentation and handouts, and determine how to integrate CRS resources

Select the global issue that the program will be focusing on

Search CRS.org and education.crs.org for information regarding the global issue selected and how the Church is responding through CRS.

Set Guidelines for the Event

- A. Decide on the approximate or ideal number of participants. Know the limit that can process safely and be vigilant about it.
- B. Determine if people must pre-register.
- C. Establish the duration of time that the Rosary procession will be held.
- D. Identify the stopping points where each decade will be prayed ahead of time. Determine if a marker will be placed there the day of the event.
- E. Make sure to have food either by donation or have people bring snacks for a table for socializing after the Rosary is complete.
- F. Invite five families who will serve as “Decade Leaders” when each designated prayer site is reached.
- G. Consider having the school’s choral groups provide meditative walking music for the participants to sing along that maintains the prayerful environment while in transition.
- H. Make sure everything included is indicated on program information about what to bring, what time to assemble, inclement weather plans, and a summary of the social justice issue that is being brought to the Blessed Mother.

Set a Date

Make sure that the chosen date does not conflict with other popular events in the community or events already on the school calendar.

Select a Location

Depending on numbers, the procession could occur on an outdoor track/field.
Obtain the necessary permits if applicable and you are walking on streets.
Inform area police that you may need traffic assistance if you are crossing streets.

Supplies and Giveaway Items

- A. Supplies: Rosaries, “How to pray the rosary” instructions, handout regarding global issue, (if at night) Candles, Crosses
- B. Borrow, rent or ask people to donate the necessary equipment needed for the event (a megaphone, tables, a tent, speakers etc.)

Advertising/Publicity

- A. Identify the school’s internal communications systems to publicize the event (announcements, homeroom discussions, Facebook page, etc.)
- B. If you have room for additional participants, create a flier to send to other Catholic schools and area parishes (esp. the youth ministry programs)

Make use of social media: advertise in local newspapers and radio stations, create a Facebook event, use Twitter, and send out the flier via email. Create a FB event that invites friends and family to attend with the global issue prominently displayed.

- C. Contact crs.org and/or your CRS Regional Relationship Manager to inform them about your event

Procedure:

Day-of event

- A. Arrive well in advance with necessary volunteers and officials at the venue before the start of the event.
- B. With the help of the volunteers, set up registration table where participants can check a box to receive more information about the issue and how the Church is responding through CRS, make sure the presentation being done by the students is ready set up food and drink tables, visit each of the prayer sites.
- C. Use social media to tell the story of your event,
- D. Any necessary medical personnel present.

Post-event

- A. Ask volunteers to help clean up and break-down the event.
- B. Gather statistics: how many participants (Make sure you send to CRS, your (Arch) diocese, and your CRS Regional Office), forward participant contact information to regional office so they can receive updated information from CRS about global issues.
- C. Send Thank-you notes to volunteers, participants and celebrate!
- D. Send CRS photos and an event summary so we can celebrate!

At home... Families are invited to participate in the Rosary Procession, volunteer for set-up or clean up, or attend the Rosary Procession as participants with their student.

The USCCB has a brief synopsis regarding “How to pray the Rosary” here:

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/rosaries/how-to-pray-the-rosary.cfm>