

JRS DAY

show your support.
walk with refugees.



HOW TO ORGANIZE YOUR SCHOOL

For the last **40 years**, Jesuit Refugee Service has walked with those who are forcibly displaced — working for a world where refugees and forcibly displaced people attain protection, opportunity and participation.

But, the need has grown over the last 40 years, and there are now more than **79 million people** who are forcibly displaced, half of whom are children.

Walk with us.

Why JRS?

The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is an international Catholic organization with a mission to accompany, serve, and advocate on behalf of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons.

JRS works in **56 countries** worldwide. **150 active JRS projects** serve refugees and displaced persons from diverse cultures, nationalities and religions.

Education and **livelihood** training are **core JRS activities**. These life-saving interventions in 42 countries foster agency and promote the full development and freedom of displaced people.

As the global pandemic continues to impact our entire world, you can play an important role in supporting refugees.

What is JRS Day?

JRS was founded on November 14, 1980 by Fr. Pedro Arrupe, SJ, who was then Superior General of the Society of Jesus, in response to the plight of Vietnamese refugees fleeing their war-ravaged homeland.

Superior General Fr. Arturo Sosa, SJ invited the global Jesuit community to participate in JRS Day on November 14, 2020, JRS's 40th Anniversary. The day is meant to "celebrate the women and men whose lives have been changed through JRS, and the generous service of so many lay colleagues, religious and Jesuits over the past 40 years."

“ One proposal I support is to recognize **14 November 2020 as JRS Day** throughout the Jesuit world, inviting all our ministries to acknowledge appropriately JRS's history of accompaniment and service. ”

- Arturo Sosa, S.J., Superior General



What can my parish community do to support JRS on this day?

Your parish community can help commemorate this day in a number of creative ways. Below we provide some suggestions:

1. ORGANIZE A TEAM

If your university has a JRS Action Team, make JRS Day the focal point of your fall activities. If not, gather a team of fellow students who will lead your university's JRS Day actions.

2. REVIEW YOUR OPTIONS

JRS/USA is suggesting three ways to get involved on JRS Day: *Pray in Solidarity*, *Share the Story*, *Support the Mission*.

For parishes, we recommend:

Pray in Solidarity – Join JRS/USA in praying our JRS Mission Prayer or visit our **Spiritual Resources Page** for more options to include in prayer services, liturgies, or team meetings.

Share the Story – Include a story from JRS in your parish bulletin to educate others in your parish on JRS and who we serve. Visit www.jrsusa.org/our-work/jrsusa-updates/ for stories.

Support the Mission – Make a gift of \$40 on behalf of Jesuit Refugee Service to help raise much-needed resources for those JRS serves.

You can also join us in the lead up to JRS Day by signing up for [#40Miles4Refugees](https://www.jrsusa.org/our-work/jrsusa-updates/#40Miles4Refugees) and track the miles you walk or run to raise awareness of the journey to find refuge taken by people who are forcibly displaced. The 40 miles will take place the 40 days prior to JRS Day. Register by October 6, 2020!

3. CHOOSE AN ACTION (OR TWO! OR THREE!)

Determine what will work best for your school during this time.

4. NOTIFY YOUR SCHOOL'S ADMINISTRATION

Be sure to inform your school's leaders on how you plan to commemorate JRS Day to guarantee their support and assistance with promotion.

5. REACH OUT TO JRS

Please let us know what you have planned to commemorate JRS Day! And if you need any resources, support, or have questions, please let us know by emailing Josh Utter at joshua.utter@jrsusa.org

BE SURE TO VISIT WWW.JRSUSA.ORG/JRSDAY FOR MORE IDEAS AND RESOURCES!