

For those living in Central and Eastern Europe, rebuilding in the wake of 70 years of Soviet rule is a constant struggle. Often, people face poverty, infrequent pastoral care, and lack of spaces for worship, presenting challenges as they try to live lives of faith. Your support of the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe (CCEE) helps provide grants for projects to restore the Church and build the future in these areas.

In Armenia, the recovery from a devastating earthquake in the late 1980s and the fall of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s has been difficult and slow. Many children in Armenia live on the street because of poor family situations or the need to earn their own money. The Sisters of the Immaculate Conception have

used a grant from CCEE to fund a summer camp for 850 children ages 8 to 15.

The camp is provided for children who are orphans, live in extreme poverty, or live in poor isolated villages. At camp, the children receive much-needed rest along with physical and spiritual support, all in a nurturing environment. Local and international volunteers help create an atmosphere of safety and trust while guiding and mentoring the children. Some of the camp activities include attending catechetical classes, going hiking and on field trips, and participating in sports and acting in theatrical presentations. While at camp, the children can experience the encouraging love and support of God and others.

In 2014, the Subcommittee on the Church in Central and Eastern Europe approved 290 grants for a total of \$7,853,306.

These grants represent scholarship and pastoral grants funded by your donations. In addition, 61 scholarship and evangelization grants were awarded, totaling \$850,552. The remainder of the collection was allocated to support construction, pastoral, social justice, and peace projects. All grants serve one purpose-to rebuild the pastoral capacity and form future leaders of the Catholic Church in Central and Eastern Europe.



Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

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POWER in the BLOOD

You can put the power of faith into action and help save a life.

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church

BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, October 23, 2016 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cafeteria

To schedule an appointment to donate, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: loflcca

WALK-INS ARE WELCOME!

- Every 2 seconds someone needs blood.
- Sickle cell disease affects 90,000 to 100,000 people. Frequent blood transfusions are needed throughout their lives.
- More than 1.68 million people are expected to be diagnosed with cancer in 2016. Many of them will need blood, sometimes daily, during their treatments.

American Red Cross

1-800-RED CROSS | redcrossblood.org

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Why is your race important as a blood donor?



You might be a special match for a patient in need!



When you donate blood and mark your race on the blood donor record, you are taking that extra step toward specifically helping individuals with sickle cell disease or rare blood types.

There are many rare blood types: The majority of blood types fall into one of the following type categories: A, B, AB, and O. But for a small part of the population, finding someone else with the same blood type can be as difficult as looking for a needle in a haystack.

Rare blood types can be specific to race: Red blood cells carry markers called antigens on their surface that determine one's blood type. There are more than 600 known antigens besides A and B. Certain blood types are unique to specific racial and ethnic groups.

The best blood match for patients often comes from donors of similar race or ethnicity:

When blood is closely matched between the donor and the patient, the patients are at a lower risk of developing complications from ongoing blood transfusions.

It is extremely important to increase the number of blood donors from all racial and ethnic groups. When you check your race, you help the Red Cross better search for rare blood types to best meet the needs of patients of all backgrounds.

SICKLE CELL ANEMIA BLOOD RECIPIENT

Aaron's Story Aaron was diagnosed with sickle cell anemia when he was two years old and endures the pain associated with this debilitating disease on a daily basis. A key component in his pain management is receiving 10 pints of blood every three weeks. He is able to live a relatively normal life through the generosity of strangers who voluntarily donate blood.

Make your donation count and **v** your race!





