



## One Death Every Ten Minutes

A Disaster of  
“Horrible  
Proportions”



### From Catholic Relief Services...

“The poorest country in the Middle East is devastated by war, hunger and a cholera crisis. Now heavy fighting has broken out in Hodeida—one of the main ports of entry for humanitarian supplies —, displacing families and cutting off access to clean water.

Conflict and a lack of aid has triggered a humanitarian disaster, leaving 70 percent of the population in need of assistance and children facing acute malnutrition. Hunger is on the rise, and basic services like education, water, health and sanitation have deteriorated...

When you donate to Yemen relief, CRS will assist with the humanitarian response in Yemen. In Hodeida, where fighting is heaviest, CRS local partners are providing critical food and living supplies to families.

Your gifts will provide medication and treatment, improvements to hygiene and sanitation, and lifesaving nutrition for children.

Click to donate  
[support.crs.org/donate/yemen-crisis](http://support.crs.org/donate/yemen-crisis)

Most Americans couldn't find **Yemen** on a map. Yet our foreign policy is contributing to what David Beasley, executive director of the World Food Program, calls "**the world's worst humanitarian disaster in 100 years.**" Reflect on those words for a moment. The last century has witnessed genocide and famine on mass scale. It is hard to conceive of what “worst” would entail.

In this small middle eastern country, beset by nearly four years of civil war, it means that a child dies every ten minutes. According to UNICEF, more than 400,000 children in Yemen are starving and another 1.5 million are acutely malnourished. Since June of this year, 500,000 people have fled their homes. A cholera outbreak has affected well over one million people.

This conflict has pitted a rebel group called the Houthi movement against the Yemeni government backed by Saudi Arabia and other Persian Gulf states. Until last month, the U.S. was refueling Saudi planes used in bombing raids in Yemen. Our government continues to sell billions of dollars of weapons to the Saudis. U.S. bombs and intelligence have enabled Saudi-led airstrikes that have killed thousands of civilians.

The humanitarian crisis has worsened this year with the Saudi-backed Yemeni government's attack on the crucial port city of Hodeida. Food has been blocked from entering the country. Saudi Arabia has dictated Yemeni government policies that have led to dramatic price inflation and desperation. The Houthis, too, have contributed to the suffering by seizing food aid and interfering with humanitarian assistance efforts.

It is no wonder that Kevin Hartigan of Catholic Relief Services has declared, "**The humanitarian disaster in Yemen is of horrible proportions.**"

## What Can We Do to Save Lives in Yemen?

The situation in Yemen seems overwhelming. But we are called to do *something* in the face of this suffering.

1. **Call** both your Senators TODAY asking them to **support Senate Joint Resolution 54** which “directs the president to withdraw all U.S. armed forces from coordinating and participating in the movement of Saudi-led coalition forces engaged in hostilities in (and over) Yemen.”

[The Yemen Peace Project](#) is directing advocates to ask Senators to

- **vote in favor of S.J.Res. 54**
- **vote against any procedural hurdles** thrown in its path
- **support a *clean vote*** -- no amendments, no confusion, just a straightforward congressional repudiation of U.S. complicity in Yemen’s conflict.

It seems the vote on this resolution will likely happen on **Monday December 10** so please call today.

**Congressional switchboard: (202) 224-3121**

2. **Donate** to Catholic Relief Services’ efforts (see front page)
3. **Pray** for the peace negotiations between the warring sides happening right now in Sweden



CRS partnering with Islamic Relief to provide health and nutrition services in villages across Yemen. *Photo courtesy of Islamic Relief*

“Given its ties to Saudi Arabia, now is the time for the United States to exercise its influence and leadership in the region to help bring warring factions together to resolve this crisis and to provide robust humanitarian assistance to Yemen.”

*-Bishop Timothy P. Broglio, Chair  
Committee on Intl Justice and Peace,  
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops*

## SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE PROPOSED ANTI-IMMIGRANT “PUBLIC CHARGE” CHANGES

If you haven’t yet, please [submit a comment](#) to Dept. of Homeland Security to express your opposition to the proposed changes to the criteria for immigrants applying for permanent residency (“green card”). If these proposed changes are enacted, people could be denied green cards if they have received, or even applied for, certain government assistance such as SNAP (Food Stamps) or Medicaid.

Moreover they could be denied if Homeland Security determines that it’s likely the person would receive such government benefits *in the future*.

Join the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Charities USA in opposing these changes which discriminate against low income immigrants and are scaring families into not applying for the benefits for which they are eligible that keep them adequately fed and housed.

Comments are due by **MONDAY December 10, 2018**. **Learn more [here](#), then ACT.**

**Now is the time to STAND UP TO THESE HURTFUL ANTI-IMMIGRANT POLICIES!**

### Justice & Peace Ministry Staff of Catholic Charities:

**Monroe:** Ruth Marchetti 585-267-9583; [rmarchetti@cfrochester.org](mailto:rmarchetti@cfrochester.org)

**Chemung/Schuylers/Tioga:** Kathy Dubel 607-734-9784 ext. 2135; [kathy.dubel@dor.org](mailto:kathy.dubel@dor.org)

**Cayuga/Ontario/Seneca/Yates/Wayne:** Jean-Paul Kandolo (315) 789-2686; [jean.paul.kandalo@dor.org](mailto:jean.paul.kandalo@dor.org)

**Livingston:** Tabitha Brewster 585-658-4466 ext. 13; [tabitha.brewster@dor.org](mailto:tabitha.brewster@dor.org)

**Steuben:** Tess McKinley 607-776-8085 ext. 2211; [tess.mckinley@dor.org](mailto:tess.mckinley@dor.org)

**Tompkins:** Laurie Konwinski 607-272-5062 ext. 12; [laurie.konwinski@dor.org](mailto:laurie.konwinski@dor.org)

**Diocesan Life Issues Coordinator:** Suzanne Stack 585-328-3210 ext. 1304; [suzanne.stack@dor.org](mailto:suzanne.stack@dor.org)