

NEWS RELEASE



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Omahan recognized for service to the poor

CCHD cites her for international, national and local service

November 11, 2009 (OMAHA, NE) – Raquel “Kelly” Orbik, a member of Sacred Heart Parish in Omaha, was a finalist for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development’s (CCHD) 2009 Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award.

The award is conferred annually on a young Catholic between the ages of 18-30 who has demonstrated leadership in mitigating poverty and injustice in the United States. Orbik will receive a letter and certificate of appreciation for being one of the four finalists for the award.

Orbik is the assistant director of the Creighton University Center for Service and Justice. She coordinates and joins service trips to South America for the center. She is also involved in Pixan Ixim, a local community of Guatemalan Mayan immigrants, where students assist in driver’s education, English as a second language classes, GED classwork, computer training and other skills-building activities.

The CCHD also recognized Orbik for her work as a facilitator of Alternative Violence workshops in local prisons. She founded and resides in a faith-based, simple-living community in one of Omaha’s poorest neighborhoods.

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Founded as a diocese in 1885, the Archdiocese of Omaha serves spiritual and human needs in a 23-county area of Northeast Nebraska. Through its 148 parishes and missions, the archdiocese reaches out to more than 221,000 Nebraska Catholics. With two Catholic universities, 58 elementary schools, 18 high schools and a parish-based religious education program within its boundaries, Catholic education enriches the lives of some 44,000 young people. The Archdiocese of Omaha is one of the largest private social service providers in the region. Catholic Charities and the Office of Family Life lead a network that ministers to the broadest and most fundamental needs of our community. Generous support to the Annual Appeal is symbolic of the collective faith that allows the Archdiocese of Omaha to continue the mission of Jesus Christ. www.archomaha.org