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Catholic Leader and Global Charity Founder to Speak at Women of Christ Conference



*Mary's Meals founder, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow
Presents for the First Time in Wisconsin*

Bloomfield, N.J. – October 25, 2022 – Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, Catholic founder and CEO of the international school feeding charity, [Mary's Meals](#), will be a featured speaker during the 14th annual Women of Christ Conference in Wisconsin.

The [conference](#) takes place at the Washington County Fair Park & Conference [Center](#) in West Bend, Wisconsin on Saturday, November 5th beginning at 8:45am. This will be the first appearance in Wisconsin for MacFarlane-Barrow who will join four celebrated speakers for a day of connecting, worship and fellowship.

"It is a privilege to be invited to speak at the Women of Christ Conference in Wisconsin and to share the Mary's Meals story," MacFarlane-Barrow said. He added, "I look forward to a faith-filled day and hearing the other incredible speakers who will add to this meaningful gathering."

This will be the second US Catholic conference in which MacFarlane-Barrow has been a featured speaker. In September, he spoke at the Christ Our Life Catholic Conference in Iowa.

"In a world where so much seems to be going wrong, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow is bringing light and hope. By offering meals in a place of education, Mary's Meals is helping to draw children into a place of learning. We cannot wait to hear his heart-warming story of love and faith in action," said Elizabeth Meier, President of the Women of Christ Conference.

In 2002, [Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow](#) founded, Mary's Meals. Named after Mary, the mother of Jesus, Magnus was inspired by his faith and the words of a hungry little boy who only wanted to have enough to eat and to go to school.

Its simple mission of feeding children where they learn enables the education that can bring an end to chronic poverty – the root cause of hunger.

“We are meeting their immediate need for food, but we are tackling the underlying causes of poverty by getting them into the classroom,” explains MacFarlane-Barrow.

Two decades later, Mary’s Meals now serves meals to 2,279,941 million children every school day in [20 countries](#) such as Ethiopia, South Sudan, Haiti, and Yemen. This global movement invites people everywhere to share their prayers, time, talent, and resources to help end hunger.

MacFarlane-Barrow will present a talk based on the 20 years that Mary’s Meals has been serving meals to children where they learn and discuss how that work continues in this global hunger crisis.

He will join [Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC](#) of Ohio; [Sonja Corbitt](#) of Tennessee; [Sr. Tracey Matthia Dugas](#) of Chicago; and the [Very Reverend Luke N. Strand](#) of Wisconsin.

The Women of Christ Conference brings together five renowned speakers across the Catholic faith for a day that includes Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, the Rosary, a Eucharistic procession, Mass, and a vendor market.

A unique facet of this conference is the accessibility to confession and Mass for Deaf attendees to be provided by [Fr. Christopher Klusman](#). Klusman is the Director of the Deaf Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and one of the few Deaf priests in the US. He provides Mass and confession in American Sign Language and will make this conference accessible to an even wider audience of women.

“This conference is a place where women can grow in their Catholic Faith, regardless of where they are on their faith journey. God changes hearts at this event. Many attendees depart with a greater love for Christ and a desire to share the hope, love, and peace they have experienced throughout the day,” added Meier.

Tickets for the Women of Christ Conference are just \$47 dollars and include lunch.

More information on the conference can be found at: www.womenofchrist.net

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Interviews

Interviews with Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, Founder and CEO of Mary’s Meals, and Elizabeth Meier, President of the Women of Christ Conference can be scheduled.

Photos and videos assets are available.

About Women of Christ

The Women of Christ team is a group of faith-filled, hard-working, humble women who depend on the Holy Spirit to guide our efforts. Our greatest desire is that souls grow in love for Our Lord.

For more information about Women of Christ, visit womenofchrist.net, or follow Women of Christ on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

About Mary’s Meals

[Mary’s Meals](#) is a global movement that sets up school feeding projects in some of the world’s poorest communities, where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education. Mary’s Meals works with in-country volunteers to provide one daily meal in a place of learning to attract chronically poor children into the classroom, where they receive an education that can be their ladder out of poverty. Mary’s Meals began by feeding just 200 children in Malawi in 2002.

Today, the organization feeds 2,279,941 hungry children every school day across five continents, in the following countries: Benin, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Myanmar, Niger, Romania, South Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Mary’s Meals collaborates with the U.N. World Food Program and is part of the global School Meals Coalition, an emerging initiative of governments and partners to drive actions that can urgently re-establish, improve, and scale up food and education systems.

For more information about Mary's Meals visit marysmealsusa.org or follow Mary's Meals on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

Facts

- It costs just \$21 to feed a child for an entire year.
- Mary's Meals is commemorating 20 years of service and now serves children in 20 countries.
- The words of a child lead to the mission of feeding children in their places of education.
- Mary's Meals collaborates with local communities to source, prepare, cook, and serve meals.
- Globally, people can support this critical mission through prayer, donations, and sharing of talents and the Mary's Meals story.
- Mary's Meals feeds 2,279,941 children every school day.
- This global movement invites people everywhere to participate in the mission through prayer, giving (\$21 feeds a child for a year), talent (events, fundraising, and free school lessons), and sharing the Mary's Meals story.

Current Global Hunger Crisis Facts

- World Food Program says [345 million people](#) worldwide are facing acute food insecurity.
- UNESCO figures estimate [66+ million children](#) are out of school due to food-related issues.
- UNICEF says that one child every 60 seconds is pushed **into** [severe malnutrition](#).
- Crisis attributed **to 4 Cs**: conflict, climate shocks, costs and COVID.
- Mary's Meals has school feeding [programs in 7](#) of [15 crisis-hit](#) countries.
- Mary's Meals serves in Niger in the [Sahel](#) region and in 8 of the [18 East African](#) countries.