The Opus Prize is one of the world’s largest faith-based awards for social entrepreneurship, including one award of $1 million and two $100,000 prizes recognizing individuals who are addressing persistent and pressing social problems. From improving education in Afghanistan to supporting the families of incarcerated women in New York City, Opus Prize laureates are motivated by remarkable faith to create new opportunities for transformation and impact.

The awarding of the Opus Prize is done through a year-long partnership with a Catholic university, providing unique opportunities for engagement that aim to inspire students, faculty, the campus, and the university’s community. These partnerships provide the mutual benefits of supporting the work of faith-based, social entrepreneurs around the world while seeking to inspire the next generation of leaders to pursue lives of service.

**NOTABLE PAST RECIPIENTS**

**2016**  
**SARA LANCE**  
- SARI BARI  
  Kolkata, India  
Lance founded Sari Bari to offer freedom to women trapped in the sex trade or vulnerable to being trafficked. The women are paid a living wage and given health-care benefits, a pension, tuition assistance for children, and a chance to advance.

**2014**  
**SR. TESA FITZGERALD**  
- HOUR CHILDREN  
  Long Island City, N.Y.  
Fitzgerald, a Sister of St. Joseph for 50 years, leads Hour Children, which helps incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and their children successfully rejoin the community, reunify with their families, and build healthy, independent lives.

**2013**  
**SAKENA YACOOBI**  
- AFGHAN INSTITUTE OF LEARNING  
  Herat, Afghanistan  
Yacoobi’s institute empowers women and girls through education, health services, and teacher training. She believes that improved education and health for women is the most effective response to terrorism and violence.

**THE 2020 OPUS PRIZE**

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**CORE VALUES**

**SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP**  
Have the clear vision and ethical commitment necessary to drive change.

**TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP**  
Lead in a way which results in the transformation of their community as a whole.

**SUSTAINABLE CHANGE**  
Honor individuals who are successfully addressing the root of social problems in ways that drive locally owned, short- and long-term change.

**FAITH**  
Demonstrate faith through their principles, actions, and belief that human life at every stage is sacred.

**UNSUNG HEROES**  
Act as a catalyst, without broad recognition and financial support, to bring support to the individual’s organization, inviting attention and investment.

**LIFE OF SERVICE**  
Demonstrate through actions their belief in the value of each person, and that a person’s faith is evidenced by his or her commitment to justice and compassion for others.

**LEARN MORE**  
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