



Office of the Archbishop
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February 14, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we begin the Lenten season, we are reminded of Jesus' call to serve the poor, the meek, and the hungry; "...whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25: 40).

To answer this call of service, on February 14, 2024, our Diocese will take up its annual **Ash Wednesday Collection for Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada**. For 83 years, Catholic Charities has served as a safety net for the most vulnerable of God's children and provided a living example of the Corporal Works of Mercy through their services:

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, thirsty and you gave me drink" (Matthew 25: 35).

- The Catholic Charities Meals on Wheels program serves more than 2,250 homebound seniors daily.
- On average, over 400 men, women, and children receive the free Community Meal every day of the year.
- The Hands of Hope Community Food Pantry provides supplemental groceries to nearly 4,000 disadvantaged individuals and families each month.

"For I was a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me" (Matthew 25: 36).

- Every night, the Catholic Charities Emergency Night Shelter provides approximately 400 homeless men with a place to sleep and access to hygiene items, shower facilities, and a housing assessment.
- The Renewing HOPE Program helps hundreds of men in our community transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency through job skills training and one-on-one case management.
- The St. Vincent Apartments provide 120 low-income housing units and access to wraparound services.

This Lenten season, remember that we practice the acts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving so that we may pattern our lives after the example that Jesus set through his Cross and Resurrection. As you reflect, please consider contributing to this collection. Your stewardship provides the support needed for this organization to continue its essential work and foster our call to live the Gospel.

May the Lord bless you and your families this Lent, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend George Leo Thomas, Ph.D.
Archbishop of Las Vegas

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