



*Please read and or publish in conjunction with the Ash Wednesday Collection for Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada on February 18, 2026.*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we begin the season of Lent, I invite you to reflect on Jesus' words: "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). This call to serve the poor and the hungry is central to our faith. In response, our Archdiocese will take up its annual Ash Wednesday Collection for Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada on February 18, 2026.

For 85 years, Catholic Charities has offered programs that support our most vulnerable neighbors, including:

- Meals on Wheels, delivering to an average of 1,800 homebound seniors, ensuring our cherished elderly have access to a nutritious daily meal at home.
- The free Community Meal at the St. Vincent Lied Dining Facility, serving an average of 450 individuals in need each day.
- The Hands of Hope Community Food Pantry, which provides groceries to nearly 4,000 individuals and families each month, many of whom are seniors or the working poor.
- The Emergency Night Shelter, giving 400 homeless men a warm bed and access to showers and case managers.
- The Renewing HOPE Program, helping men transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency through job training and individualized support to achieve their goals.
- The St. Vincent Apartments, operating 120 affordable housing units with convenient access to other Catholic Charities services.

As we practice prayer, fasting, and almsgiving this Lent, may we reflect on how our generosity can help us live out Christ's teachings and bring His love to life in our community.

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

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

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