

Bulletin Insert Week of May 6-12

Next weekend – please make a gift to Catholic Charities Dallas Time for Giving!

For over 127 years, the doors to Catholic Charities Dallas have been open to the innocent, the hungry, the homeless, the disadvantaged and the suffering. Through your support and generosity last year, CCD served over 35,000 individuals right here in our community.

Please pray for the good work of Catholic Charities Dallas and help support the mission by making a contribution. Your generosity will transform the lives of others, to offer dignity, possibilities & hope for a better life. We appreciate your donation and will take special care to use it wisely to provide essential programs & services to people in need throughout all 9 counties of the Diocese of Dallas. For more information and client testimonials, we invite you to view ccdallas.org/timeforgiving. On behalf of all those we serve, thank you!

Bulletin Insert Week of May 6-12

Next weekend – please make a gift to Catholic Charities Dallas Time for Giving!

Please take the opportunity to create hope in the life of someone in need!

Your donation helps us:

- Provide food for the hungry \$25 feeds a family of four for 2 weeks
- Educate the disadvantaged \$50 covers textbooks and supplies for English Language classes for an adult student for one year
- House the Homeless \$100 provides bedding supplies for 3 residents
- Care for the elderly \$250 provides 10 weeks of daily bus passes for seniors
- Protect the innocent \$500 provides 1 month of prenatal case management and classes for an expectant mother

Bulletin Insert Week of May 12 – 19

This weekend please take the opportunity to generously support Catholic Charities Dallas.

Help us to carry out the mission that Jesus entrusted to us: "I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25: 35-40

Time for Giving represents the chance for all Catholics to unite and make a significant contribution to support our collective mission of serving the "least among us". Please respond generously to help change the lives of the 35,000 who are served each year in north Texas. Please pray for the success of Time for Giving which provides the resources for essential programs and services in need throughout all nine counties of the Diocese of Dallas. On behalf of all those we serve, thank you! We invite you to view the stories of hope and more information at www.ccdallas.org/timeforgiving. Thank you for your generous support!

Suggested Bulletin Insert or Email



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Suggestions for Pastor & Priests

Pastor Appeal

As your pastor, I want to personally thank you for your past generous support for the mission of the Church through Catholic Charities Dallas Time for Giving. For more than 100 years, Catholic Charities Dallas has provided help and created hope for those who are most vulnerable and most in need.

As missionary disciples, we walk with others on their journey – no matter their struggles, no matter how different they are from us, no matter their beliefs. As we walk together, we can make a real difference in the life of someone who is struggling in poverty, facing homelessness, or living in isolation. Together with God's grace, we can walk people from despair to dignity.

Time for Giving is an invitation for every Catholic in the Diocese of Dallas to unite and respond with joy and gratitude for the gifts God has given, and to reach out in love to those who are less fortunate. Today, I am asking you to open your hands and hearts to embrace the poor, just as Jesus did. Please prayerfully consider making a generous contribution to Catholic Charities Dallas. Thank you for your support and commitment to helping those less fortunate.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Prayers of the Faithful: Week of May 6 – 12

That through the faces of those who are suffering & living in poverty and striving for a brighter future, we may see the face of Christ and respond to Catholic Charities Dallas Time for Giving in a way that speaks to their dignity. We pray to the Lord...

That the church might continue to grow in holiness through merciful mission to those who are most in need of God's love; We pray to the Lord...

That our Pope Francis, our Bishop Burns & Auxiliary Bishop Kelly and all bishops will recognize God's call to mission on behalf of all people neglected by society; We pray to the Lord...

That we might embrace our poor and our suffering sisters and brothers as Christ embraces and loves the outcast of society; We pray to the Lord...

Prayers of the Faithful: Week of May 12 - 19

That the success of our Time for Giving Catholic Charities Dallas appeal might shower with mercy those who are hurting: our homeless, our hungry, our lonely and our disadvantaged; We pray to the Lord...

That all those served by Catholic Charities Dallas might find in our parish community respect, dignity and Christian love; We pray to the Lord...

That the love of God might be seen in the love that we show to the least of our brothers and sisters through our support of Catholic Charities Dallas Time for Giving; We pray to the Lord...

That God's voice calling us and empowering us for mission in His name might stir our hearts to mercy, compassion and love for all humanity; We pray to the Lord...



Reflection

Readings:

First Reading – Acts 14:21 – 27 Responsorial Psalm – Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 Second Reading – Rev 21:1-5A Gospel – John 13:31-33A, 34-35

Angela and her children moved 1300 miles leaving her job and immediate family to escape a violent marriage. New to the Dallas area, nervous and embarrassed that she was in need, Angela found it difficult to ask for help. Encountering and understanding volunteers with a warm smile and open acceptance made it easier for Angela to take help. Because of the food she receives twice a month from the Jan Pruitt Community Pantry her children will not go to bed hungry.

Vertie, who has a special needs child, struggled; battling to defeat a dependency. She lost everything; her family, home, job, and dignity. Forced to move out of her home she was left with nothing, living out of her car. Chronically homeless, she was offered permanent housing at St Jude Center. With that support today Vertie has a job and regained her dignity.

Angela and Vertie have been touched not only by the help of others but by the love Jesus asks us to give. Jesus tells us "I give you a <u>new</u> commandment: love one another as <u>I have loved you</u>, so you also should love one another."(Jn 13:35) Is the message of love given by Jesus in today's Gospel really a new one?

If we look back to the Old Testament in Chapter 19 of Leviticus we hear in v. 18 "... You shall love your neighbor as yourself..." and later in v. 34 "... You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the natives born among you..." So this commandment is not so new going back to the early books of the Bible and the Torah, but Jesus gives it a new meaning and fulfillment.

What is <u>new</u> about Jesus' call to love, is that we are asked to love as <u>Jesus has</u> loved; by way of service and sacrifice. Jesus' example of love can be best understood in the context of his words at this point in John's Gospel story. Earlier in this Chapter we have the story of Jesus washing of the disciples' feet, God humbly taking on the task of a lowly servant. This story is followed by the announcement, one of those disciples who Jesus was close to, Judas, one who Jesus many times tried to explain who he was and God's plan, would betray him. Peter then follows saying he will lay down his life for Jesus but goes on to deny him. All this is shared in anticipation of

his pending sacrifice, suffering, and death. Despite showing deep love, Jesus must have been bitterly disappointed by the rejection of his disciples and the suffering he was yet to endure.

So what does all this mean to us when we are asked to love? What does Jesus call us to do? Our definition of love in our English language is inadequate, especially the understanding in today's culture. Our common definition misses the message Jesus envelopes; love means service, self-giving, sacrifice, salvation, and hope.

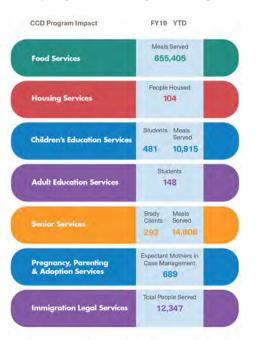
What else do Angela and Vertie have in common? They both have been helped by Catholic Charities Dallas and experienced the love Jesus is talking about and received a sense of hope. The mission of Catholic Charities Dallas is to serve, advocate for, and empower all people in need. In this way we, the local Church, through Catholic Charities, reaches out to more than 35,000 people - like Angela and Vertie; showing love to those who find themselves in desperate situations through the self-giving and sacrifice of donors as well as service of staff and volunteers. Perhaps, considering our own blessings, we too can give a sense of hope to those struggling and in need and fulfill Jesus' new commandment to love one another as I have loved you by supporting the mission of Catholic Charities.



The power to make a real impact.



Today, CCD helps over 35,000 individuals achieve stability and self-sufficiency through adult and children education, employment services, financial literacy, food programs, immigration legal services, refugee resettlement,



pregnancy counseling, adoption services, disaster preparedness, and homelessness.

Since 2000, the number of people in poverty in the city of Dallas has increased approximately 39%, while the city's total population increased by only 7.6%*

*Mayor's Task Force on Poverty Update-May 7, 2018

We Need Your Help

Help us meet the need for an estimated 17% of Texans living in poverty. Your gift can change someone's life. Visit **ccdallas.org** to make a donation or to sign up for volunteer opportunities.

We serve over 4 million people in 9 North Texas counties including: *Dallas*, *Collin*, *Rockwall*, *Kaufman*, *Ellis*, *Fannin*, *Grayson*, *Hunt* & *Navarro*.

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

Help Meet The Need

www.ccdallas.org/donate

"Being able to shop at the Jan Pruitt Community Pantry in Lancaster is a blessing. It alleviates so much stress on me and my husband as we struggle monthly to juggle bills and household repairs."

Cathy, 62, CCD client and active senior citizen

"I was so excited when I found out I passed my citizenship exam and even more excited to attend the Oath Ceremony and become a U.S. Citizen. Thank you CCD!"

Jose, 37, CCD ILS client and new U.S. Citizen

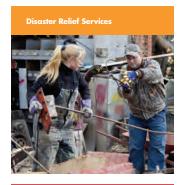
Every day, Catholic Charities helps our community's most vulnerable by taking on the effects of poverty and helping all those in crisis move toward a better life. If we can't help, we know who can. Pass it on.

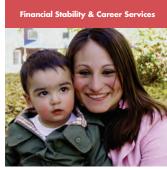






Food Services





Your donation will never work harder.

Charities Dallas has been a leader in social services in our community. Today, we help more than 35,000 individuals a year on their path to stability and self-sufficiency.

For more than 127 years, Catholic

Every day, we help our community's most vulnerable by taking on the effects of poverty and helping all those in crisis move toward a better life. If we can't help, we know who can. Pass it on.



A one-time donation of \$25 will be added to your mobile phone bill. Message&DataRates MayApply

Thank you!







