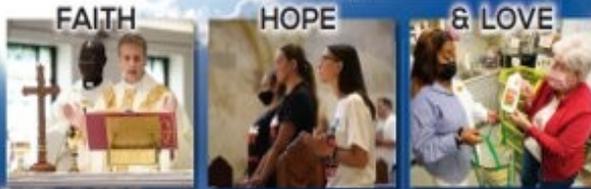


20 Catholic Ministries Appeal 22 DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

"God's love calls us to move beyond fear. We ask God for the courage to put on faith, hope and love as we go out into the world and become the Word in body as well as spirit."
- Pope Francis

One Family in Mission - Building a Community of



"The fight against poverty and hunger must be fought constantly and on many fronts, especially in its causes."

-Pope Francis

The Truth of Hunger on Long Island

What is Food Insecurity? The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food insecurity as a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life. Unemployment, underemployment and the high cost of housing are some of the reasons that cause food insecurity in our community. According to Feeding America, on Long Island 1 in 4 adults face food insecurity; 36% who are food insecure are not eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits; approximately 79,000 people who are food insecure are children. Our local parish outreach programs are a major resource families turn to in order to put food on the table.

During the last quarter of 2021, food banks around Long Island were starting to see a decline in the need for emergency food assistance. Unfortunately, with the rising inflation rate – close to 8% on Long Island, there has been an increase in need for emergency food. The forecast is for a rising need for assistance, food and spiritual support for our neighbors.

"There are many families working in our community and they do not qualify for SNAP benefits -- they are struggling to purchase the basic necessities. They are the new clients of our parish outreach." Paula Malloy, Director of PSM, Catholic Charities of Long Island.

Because of your **donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal**, Catholic Charities' pastoral programs bring care and love to those in need. Catholic Charities Parish Social Ministry provides support and resources to local parish social ministry efforts on Long Island through several programs.

Our Parish Outreach programs bring care, love, and the face of Jesus to those in need.

"We try to meet the needs of whoever comes through the door every day -- whether it is food or financial need. We welcome people with a friendly attitude, which is



especially important in this ministry. The mission of following the gospel of Jesus is for all of us to be doers of the Word. That's what we are here to do--to follow in Jesus' footsteps."

- Barbara Powell, Director Social Ministry, St. Martha

"It takes a lot to ask for help; I was embarrassed to seek help and

did not want anyone to know that I was really struggling to pay rent and feed my son. As soon as I came to St Martha, I felt comfortable and accepted – I was more than a name or a face – but a person. I received more than food; I received comfort and spiritual guidance." "Now I am on the other side doing God's work. To do His work, you need to know how to receive and how to give back. Part of my calling now is to reach out and help others." - Colleen

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW A VIDEO OF COLLEEN'S STORY](#)



HAPPENING IN THE DIOCESE

ASK THE EXPERT

Do you have a question about your estate plan or leaving a legacy to your Parish or other diocesan ministry? Send us an email at:

plannedgiving@drvc.org
and we will have our expert confidentially answer your questions.

WISHING YOU A BLESSED AND HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

**On this special day,
Mother's Day, we ask you,
Lord, to bless and protect
all mothers.**

**We ask you to encourage,
guide and strengthen**



all mothers.
Whether they be pregnant,
have young children or
even be grandmothers,
Whether they be
godmothers or motherly
guardians,
Bless them all their days.
Thank you, Lord, for the
gift of Motherhood and for
the blessing it bestows on
us all.
Through the intercession
of St. Ann, mother of

Mary,
And through the intercession of the Blessed Mother, mother of
our Lord and us all, Bless and protect all mothers
on this special day. Amen.

DONATE NOW

Diocese of Rockville Centre | PO Box 4000, catholicministriesappeal.org, Rockville Centre, NY
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