

Red Shirt Day to Support Parish Appeal

The Parish Appeal Second Collection was taken up at churches throughout the Archdiocese of New Orleans at Masses the weekend of February 16 and 17. To kick-start their parish's giving, students at Mary Queen of Peace in Mandeville participated in "Show Your Heart Day." The students wore Catholic Charities red and paid \$1 each for the privilege of being out of uniform. The amount raised by the students went into their parish's collection.



While the totals are not yet in, we deeply thank all of those throughout the Archdiocese who gave to the second collection. Your prayerful support enables us to do God's work among the poor and vulnerable in our Archdiocese.



www.ccano.org



notes from the Heart

News from Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans

March 2013

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Catholic Charities Archdiocese
of New Orleans provides
life-giving services through
39 programs and 2 affiliated
ministries.

We are the hands, the feet, the eyes of Jesus!

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans,

As we continue into this Lenten season, we are reminded that this season begins with the message, "Return to me with your whole heart... Change now... Change from the inside out!" With these words of scripture, God invites us to look at what we say and do during these chosen 40 days - *in what we say and what we do!* Jesus hides himself in others who need us. In serving not our own needs but the needs of others, we will experience the change from within. Let us ask ourselves, "What can I do today to be more alert to respond to those in need?" This is the mission of Catholic Charities - to serve those in need. In her prayer, St. Theresa of Avila gives clear direction on how we give totally of ourselves in serving the needs of others:

*Christ has no body now but yours
No hands, no feet on earth but yours
Yours are the eyes through which He looks
Compassion on this world
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good
Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world
Yours are the hands, the feet, the eyes
You are His body
Christ has no body now on earth but yours!*

In and through the many programs and services of Catholic Charities, we fully participate in embracing Jesus' call to love and service. We remember we are called to fast, pray and give alms in the Lenten season. In our fasting, in our praying and in our giving of alms, we become extensions of Jesus' loving care. This is seen through the dedication of our numerous staff members and volunteers who live this mission daily. As we ready ourselves for Jesus' glorious resurrection, we are thankful for all that we have individually received and mindful of how we might best use all this to build up others that may have greater need. Let us assist one another by being the hands, the feet and the eyes of Jesus as we strive to live for others as He did.

God Bless You!

Sr. Marjorie Hebert, M.S.C.

Sr. Marjorie Hebert, M.S.C., Interim President/CEO



Volunteer Superstars!

*Where one alone may be overcome,
two together can resist. A three-ply cord
is not easily broken. Ecclesiastes 4:12*

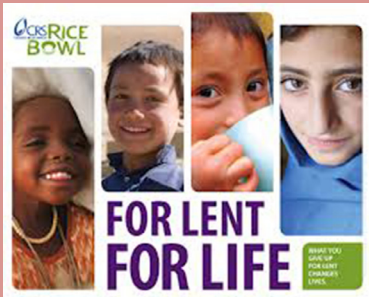
This is the bible's way of saying there is strength in numbers. The strong numbers of Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans volunteers mean significant money for our agency. During the six month period from

July 1, 2012 through the end of the year, our volunteer count was **5,685** people who gave their time to serve in our programs. Those who helped out at Head Start, PACE, Isaiah 43 and other programs delivered **71,814** hours of service. That translates into a savings of **\$793,962.63** for Catholic Charities! We send our heartfelt thanks and God's blessings to our wonderful volunteers. Pictured above are volunteers from Quincy University of Illinois helping to tend the Café Hope Gardens.



You Did It!

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers and donors, the 2012 Archbishop Hannan Community Appeal reached its goal! \$1.851 million was raised to fund the 39 programs and 2 affiliated ministries of Catholic Charities. Your generosity enables us to serve those most in need. Our thanks to AHCA chairs Byron and Shannon Adams for their hard work to make this campaign a success.



CRS Rice Bowl

This Lent, many parishes and schools throughout our Archdiocese are once again participating in the Catholic Relief Services' Rice Bowl Campaign to end global hunger. The 2013 CRS Rice Bowl offers tools, reflections and simple Lenten recipes to deepen the Lenten experience by enhancing the traditional practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The familiar little cardboard collection boxes help remind us that even the smallest amount of pocket change can contribute to global change! The CCANO Office of Justice and Peace helps coordinate this effort throughout our Archdiocese. There's still time to get your free CRS Rice Bowl collection box. Visit www.crsricebowl.org to find out to get involved!



Top (from left to right): ACCESS Brunch Co-Chair Jean Rice, ACCESS Co-President Lisa Baynham and ACCESS Brunch Co-Chair Louise Jardell. Bottom (from left to right): Gayle Gaubert, Sr. Marjorie Hebert, Janice and Richard Faust.

ACCESS Jazz Brunch & Auction

The annual ACCESS Jazz Brunch and Auction on March 10 was a great success! Guests gathered at the Audubon Tea Room to support the work of ACCESS Pregnancy and Referral Centers. This year, proceeds helped support the creation of a Mobile Pregnancy Unit that will reach women in under-served areas of the community and also serve as a mobile pro-life educational tool.

ACCESS Pregnancy & Referral Centers provide pro-life pregnancy support services to women in our community. Last year, ACCESS served more than 1,300 abortion-vulnerable women in three locations. Free and confidential services include pregnancy testing, ultrasound, material support and case management services. For more information, visit the newly designed ACCESS website at www.accesspregnancy.com.

State of the Homeless in New Orleans

Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me. Matthew 25:40

You may not see them, but they are there - the homeless. Some fulfill the stereotype, many do not. Catholic Charities staff members joined UNITY of Greater New Orleans for their annual Point In Time count. It's an effort to go out and survey as many homeless citizens as possible over several nights to

A UNITY volunteer meets with New Orleans homeless for the Point In Time count. Photo by Robert Pulster, U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness.

gather information to help us understand the nature and extent of homelessness in the Greater New Orleans Area. Better understanding the needs of the homeless allows resources to be targeted more effectively with the ultimate goal of housing our most vulnerable neighbors.

Hats off to Martin Gutierrez, Tom Costanza, Nicole Dillard, Katie Goldrath, Stephanie Cipolla and Maria Bellantoni who walked the streets during the overnight hours to help assemble this critical information. The results of the survey are still being tallied. We'll let you know the findings.



Celebrating Service

On March 4, CCANO gathered to celebrate the dedication of fellow staff members at the annual Staff Appreciation Day. The event was held at Café Hope. Staff members who were celebrating 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and even 40 years of service were recognized. Motivational speaker and long-time friend of Catholic Charities, Steve Morgan, was the guest speaker of the day. He reminded staff how much of a positive difference they choose to make each day. The many staff members who were celebrating milestones this year is a testament to the genuine, caring spirit of our many employees.

Thanks to the committee members who made this day special: Dorothy Daigre, Judith Bright, Kristin Callahan, Nick Albares, Patricia Jones, Samantha Pichon, Sharon Pierson, Steve Lenahan and Orville Duggan.

We send special congratulations to Sr. Judith Bright for celebrating 40 years of service with CCANO! Sr. Judith has been a Daughter of Charity for 53 years. She began working with CCANO ministries at St. Elizabeth's Home on Napoleon Avenue on June 1, 1972. Sr. Judith has shared her talents working with CCANO in children's services, as a pastoral counselor, at community centers, and most recently in the Human Resources Department. Thanks for the many years and counting!

Pictured above is Sr. Judith with Sr. Marjorie at Staff Appreciation Day.



Catholic Charities
Archdiocese of New Orleans

Westbank BBQ Cook-Off to Benefit Café Hope

Join us March 16, 11 AM - 5 PM at Café Hope for a finger-lickin' good time! Enjoy great food and live

music while BBQ teams compete for best barbecued grub. Featured live music includes performances by Andre Bouvier and the Royal Bohemians, Gal Holiday and the Honky Tonk Review and Los Po-boy-citos.

BBQ teams will be cooking up chicken, ribs, pork butt, brisket and more! Festival entrance fee is \$10 per person. Food and drink additional. The Westbank BBQ Cook-off is an official International BBQ Cookers Association (IBCA) event. Over 25 BBQ teams from across the southern region will be competing. This year's BBQ Champions will go on to the national IBCA competition. Cash prizes will be presented to the best meat, non-meat and pork butt entries. There is also a sustainable products award for supporting local products. For more information visit www.cafehope.org.

Café Hope trains at-risk young adults for careers in the restaurant and hospitality industry. It is also a full-service restaurant featuring fresh, local products in New American, Cajun/Creole cooking.

Café Hope has new hours and introducing Friday Night Suppers!

Join us for lunch Tuesday – Friday 11 AM - 2 PM. Join us for Friday Night Suppers from 6:30 PM-9 PM. The supper menu changes weekly and features a 4-course, \$35 prix-fixe menu with option to BYOB! Kids under 12 eat free! Seating is limited. Reservations recommended. Call 756-HOPE. Chef Melissa and her team will be serving up great options for Fridays in Lent!