



Follow-Up In Pew Appeal Weekend June 6 and 7

HOMILY SCRIPT

Introduction

This weekend, we will offer another opportunity to support Catholic Charities here in our Diocese. This is a follow-up to our February weekend, where you may not have attended Mass for any number of reasons that weekend. If I recall, we had a pretty terrible flu season this winter. At the Masses I shared the impact of the important work that we are supporting through the Appeal. All donations to the follow-up appeal will be invested in our Emergency Services programs. Emergency Services is a vital service provided in all eight counties of the Diocese that supports those in need of food, shelter, clothing, and financial support with rent and utilities, among other things.

All donations to this second appeal will directly help those struggling to meet their most basic needs.

- At a glance, in 2025 Catholic Charities was able to provide hot meals to 610 people every day. It supported nearly 2,000 families by providing access to groceries through our food pantries. 362 families were able to stay together and avoid being unhoused because of the financial support for evictions and utility shut-off prevention provided by Catholic Charities Emergency Services department.

This is a service where you get to be the hands with which He blesses all the world. Catholic Charities Emergency Services is pivotal in giving people a sense of humanity, pivotal in showing that all people are worthy of our help and respect. It is a service that is needed in all eight counties of the Diocese, and a service that if you ever need it, you want it to be available.

Today, I am asking you to work as the hands of Jesus and give generously to this cause. If you have already given, please consider giving again to support this needed program throughout the Diocese of Cleveland.

(Call on volunteers/ushers to pass out the envelopes.)

I now ask one member of each household to take a pledge envelope and together we will all complete the pledge form. This will only take a few minutes.

(Pause and make sure that everyone has received a pledge envelope and pencil. Pay special attention to people who are standing and in the cry room or choir loft. Once everyone has an envelope, continue with the script.)

Now, please open the flap and remove the pencil. Remember; do not place the pencil back into the envelope when you are finished.

(Pause and wait until about half of those participating are looking back at you.)

Please print your first name, last name, and if married, your spouse's name on the top line.

(Pause)

Next, please print your complete street address and indicate if this is a new address.

(Pause)

Please print your telephone number, indicating if it is a cell or home phone, and add your email.

(Pause)

Now, please print our parish name and city.

(Pause)

Please go to the right side of the envelope and indicate your pledge amount, knowing that you can make your payments in equal installments through Dec. 31st. If you wish to contribute an amount other than the ones indicated, please check the "Other" box and indicate the full amount of your pledge on the blank line.

(Pause)

Now, please look at the boxes under your pledge amount and indicate the total amount that you pledged in the first box.

In the second box, you can indicate that amount that you wish to enclose toward your pledge. There is no need to provide a down payment today unless you wish to do so. You will receive monthly reminder statements until your pledge is paid in full. Please note you can give via check or credit card.

(Pause)

If you wish to use your credit card, please go to the section at the bottom left of the pledge form and indicate if you want your total pledge amount to be charged in a single payment, if you want Catholic Charities to set up equal, automatic monthly charge payments and if you want this monthly charge to become a recurring monthly gift.

Complete the additional credit card information being sure to include the expiration date, the 3-digit security code, don't forget to sign your name.

(Pause)

Keeping the pencil separate, please tear off the pledge form, insert it into the envelope with your check, if applicable, and seal the envelope. Now, please place the envelopes and pencils in the basket as it comes to you.

On behalf of Bishop Malesic and myself, but most of all, on behalf of those who will benefit most from your support of children and adults with disabilities, thank you for your gift to the Catholic Charities 2026 Appeal.

May God bless you.



**Catholic
Charities**
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND

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