



*Please read and/or publish in conjunction with the
Second Collection for the Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada
On Ash Wednesday – March 2, 2022*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As the Lenten season commences, we are reminded of Jesus' call to serve the poor, the meek, and the hungry; "...whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25: 40).

To answer this call of Christian service, on March 2, 2022 our Diocese will take up its annual **Ash Wednesday Collection for Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada**. For more than 80 years, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada has provided compassionate care and support. They endeavor to preserve and extend the Corporal Works of Mercy to the most vulnerable people in our community.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, thirsty and you gave me drink" (Matthew 25: 35).

- The Catholic Charities Meals on Wheels program serves more than 2,400 homebound seniors daily.
- Approximately 300 men, women, and children receive the free Community Meal every day of the year.
- The Hands of Hope Community Food Pantry provides supplemental groceries to nearly 3,000 needy individuals and families each month.

"For I was a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me" (Matthew 25: 36).

- Every night, the Catholic Charities Emergency Night Shelter provides approximately 400 homeless men with a place to sleep and access to toiletries and shower facilities.
- The Renewing HOPE Program helps hundreds of men in our community transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency through job skills training and one-on-one case management.
- The St. Vincent Apartments provide 120 low-income housing units and access to wraparound services.

As you begin reflecting on God's gifts of Lenten discipleship – prayer, fasting, and almsgiving – please consider donating to this important collection. Your contributions provide the support needed for this organization to continue living out Christ's call to serve.

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

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend George Leo Thomas, Ph.D.
Bishop of the Diocese of Las Vegas