



Office of the Archbishop

# Archdiocese of Mobile

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January 10, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

Catholic Charities has inspired a spirit of giving throughout our archdiocese for eighty-eight years. Founded in 1931, the Catholic Charities Appeal benefits more than 30 ministries in the 28 counties that make up the Archdiocese of Mobile. Because of the sacrificial generosity shown by more than 9,000 donors in 2018, we exceeded our financial goal and were able to meet the physical, mental and spiritual needs of thousands of individuals. The ministries supported by the Catholic Charities Appeal give love, support, and hope to those in need.

St. Matthew's gospel reminds us that the doors of Heaven will be opened to those who love and serve the needs of others. The 2019 Catholic Charities Appeal theme is taken from this passage in St. Matthew's Gospel:

"Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, '**Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.**'"- Matthew 25:37-40.

I ask that we answer this call to give and serve the needs of others through our generosity to the Catholic Charities Appeal. The goal for this year's Catholic Charities Appeal is 4.5 million dollars. All funds raised will be used in the Archdiocese of Mobile to provide assistance to those in physical, mental or spiritual need. The basic pledge is \$48 a month for twelve months or \$576 for the year; that is only \$11 per week. No gift is too small or too large. I ask that you prayerfully make a pledge according to your means. Please, join me in supporting the needs of others with a gift to the 2019 Catholic Charities Appeal.

With your generosity, we can continue to help the tens of thousands of people served by the ministries and programs highlighted in the enclosed brochure. These ministries provide aid to the poor, food for the hungry, a loving home for a child through adoption, hope for an expectant mother, spiritual enlightenment for our youth, outreach to the imprisoned and much needed services to the aging and those with disabilities.

I am confident that we will take the words from St. Matthew's gospel to heart by giving to those in need through our generosity to this year's appeal. Your pledge envelope is also enclosed, giving you time to make a prayerful pledge before returning your envelope to your parish.

May God bless you and your loved ones abundantly in the New Year and always.

Sincerely in the Lord,

*+ Thomas J. Rodi*

Most Reverend Thomas J. Rodi  
Archbishop of Mobile

Enclosures