

World Food Day 2019

Canned Food Drive, October-December

Helping Our Neighbors in Need!



Attention Parish Priests, Parish Councils & all Parishioners

WORLD FOOD DAY, October 16th is sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organizations of the United States and was especially designed to heighten public awareness of food and hunger issues here and around the world.

The Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America is one of the sponsoring organizations for the International Committee for World Food Day. We now join **450** voluntary organizations throughout the United States and **150** countries around the world observing **WORLD FOOD DAY!**

For **36** years we have pledged our support to help our neighbors in need. We are asking each Parish to sponsor a **CANNED FOOD DRIVE**. Please ask your parishioners to bring canned goods to Church between **October 5th and December 29th**.

Last year **100 of our Parishes** reported participating in this much needed program. **58 parishes** participating **all year long and distributed 500,269 pounds of food within our communities.**

(Many Parishes have not reported their donations)

We are witnessing now more than ever a world of hunger, poverty, and homelessness in our own neighborhoods. **Hunger is one of the world's most pressing problems affecting over one billion people,** and next year it is projected that hunger will affect over six million people in the United States alone. Behind these grim statistics are children and families loved by God, who are deprived of their right to a full life because they do not have enough to eat.



Most Needed Food To Donate:

- Canned Soups (include a can opener)
- Pasta Meals & Canned Sauce
- Canned Meat
- Variety of Canned Fruits
- Fresh Produce
- Allergy Friendly Food Options
 - Gluten Free, Nut Free, Dairy Free
- Flour, Sugar, Cornmeal, Rice, Dry Beans, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Crackers
- Shelf Stable Milk, Cereals
- Pancake & Muffin Mix that Only Require Water
- Juice Boxes
- Baby Diapers & Wipes
- Socks & Underwear
- Household Cleaning Supplies & Paper Products
- Hygiene Products & Toiletries
(Men & Women)



NEW GRANT PROGRAM

Later this fall Food for Hungry People and Charitable Outreach will launch a new ***GRANT PROGRAM*** to assist Parishes in their local charitable work. Information about the program and how your Parish can apply, will be published in "***The WORD***" Magazine.

Please weigh your food. This can be done quite easily by totaling the amount of food weight listed on each can.

Each Parish will distribute the **Food to the Needy in their local community**. Through this activity, people everywhere will be expressing their faith and sharing their love.

Please inform us of all your charitable activities. What are you doing to help our brothers and sisters in need? What else can we do to help those in need? We want to share this information with the entire Archdiocese!

In the United States, one in seven people struggle with hunger, and many rely on food from local food banks to help feed their families. We're about to embark on the holiday season, which is an especially difficult time to live with food insecurity – that is, not knowing when you will get your next meal. You can help by supporting your local food pantry, food banks or shelters!

No one deserves to go to bed hungry!

"The merciful person is he who gives to others what he himself received from God, whether it be money, or food, or strength, a helpful word, a prayer, or anything else he has through which he can express his compassion for those in need." –
St. Peter of Damascus



Thanks to your generosity, we have been able to assist the hungry, the homeless, the afflicted and the oppressed for over four decades. Through your love and concern, you have allowed us to care for the needs of those less fortunate.



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