

## 2020 APPEAL: "WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?"

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And, the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*

These words of Jesus remind us to love and support our neighbors in their time of need. Now more than ever our neighbors need our love and support! Due to COVID-19 the number of those in need is rapidly increasing and it is critical that the House of Charity has the ability to support them. Some may wonder how we can ask for funds at this time, and yet we realize that we must ask, as the ministries below and many more need our help! For those that are capable, we ask that you consider supporting the House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal, together we can continue to help our neighbors.

### **SOCIAL, COMMUNITY AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

Your generosity provides services through Catholic Charities offices in each county of South Jersey. In addition, the Hospital Chaplaincy Program of VITALity Healthcare Services provides spiritual and emotional support to hospitalized patients, their families and the staff of the hospitals served in South Jersey. There are many more that have found themselves so suddenly in need that can use our help.

### **EVANGELIZATION AND FAITH FORMATION**

Lay leadership training, intercultural ministries, ministry with the deaf and persons with disabilities, marriage enrichment, adult faith formation, liturgical catechesis and other evangelization efforts, along with your gifts, kindle the fire of faith into a bright beacon for all to see. This is critical because mankind is thirstier for spiritual guidance in these trying times.

### **YOUTH, YOUNG ADULT AND CAMPUS MINISTRIES**

Your donation enables programs like Summer in the City, Catholic Scouting, Theology on Tap, college campus ministries and Newman Centers, and support for a growing number of parish-based Youth Ministry programs and many more activities to build community and prepare our youth and young adults for the mission that God has chosen for them. It is important that our youth and young adults are able to continue to grow in their faith in these trying times.

### **VOCATIONS, SEMINARIAN & PERMANENT DIACONATE FORMATION, CARE OF PRIESTS**

Your support ensures that pastors and clergy continue to bring the light of Jesus into the world. Through prayers and support, we currently have 16 seminarians studying for the priesthood in the Diocese of Camden.

### **CATHOLIC EDUCATION – "FORMING MINDS AND HEARTS IN GRACE"**

Catholic schools are an integral part of the teaching mission of the Church. Catholic schools build faith, develop leadership ability and provide academic excellence in a safe environment.

Your gift will help provide children with an education that supports Catholic values, develops character and provides academic excellence.

*Lord Jesus, you heal the sick. We pray that the coronavirus that has affected so many in our world can be contained, controlled, and cured. We lift up to your mercy all those affected, all those working hard to study and cure this illness, and all health care professionals and emergency management teams that are working day and night to keep us safe. Help us, Lord, to trust in your merciful care. Our Blessed Mother, pray for us, Saint Joseph, pray for us, Lord Jesus, hear our prayer. Amen.*

*Written by a diocesan priest.*

