

“For I was hungry, and you gave me food.” Matthew 25:35

Dec 2021

Greetings,

I am writing today to seek your support in our parish’s Advent/Lent Service Project.

As our mission states, the parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church (OLPH) acknowledge that our Pastoral Mission is to proclaim Christ and teach the “Good News”, to worship and bear witness in the community, to love and serve as Jesus commanded and to preserve and share our rich heritage.

In the spirit of our mission, vision, and core values, as our Advent/Lenten Service Project, we are sponsoring a “Global Meals for the Hungry” event. With natural disasters, such as earthquakes and hurricanes, increasing in number and frequency, there are hundreds of thousands of people, especially children, in dire need of food and shelter. A meal packing event brings together volunteers between the ages of 10 and above to pack nutritious meals to send abroad, all while coming together in the stewardship of giving.

Our Catholic Social Justice teaches us that we are part of a global society; we are in solidarity with one another. When Jesus tells us to love our neighbor, he is not just talking about our neighbor down the street or in our country. Instead, He is asking us to take care of each other in the world as best we can. World hunger may seem like an insurmountable task, but as Servant or God Sister Thea Bowman says, “I think the difference between me, and some people is that I’m content to do my little bit. Sometimes people think they must do big things in order to make change. But if each one would light a candle, we’d have a tremendous light.”

Our goal is to pack at least 35,000 meals to be delivered to the people, especially children, of Haiti or Puerto Rico. However, to achieve this goal, we must raise at least \$13,150. This will purchase all the materials needed and the shipping costs. We have secured the assistance of “No Child Hungry,” a 501©3 organization to help us coordinate the event.

There are 3 ways you can help:

- Make a tax-deductible donation (make checks payable to OLPH)
- Solicit tax-deductible donations from family, friends, co-workers and organizations or businesses you support (we will provide you with the sponsorship letter)
- Become a volunteer to help pack the meals on March 26, 2022

If you would like to volunteer, or have question about volunteering please reach out to the following Core Team Members:

Cheryl Holley queenholley@comcast.net
Nicky Wilkinson fishingnicky@verizon.net

Thanking you in advance for your continued generosity, as we lift up the people of God’s Kingdom. Remember, if not me, then who? If not now, then when? Let us come together to do our part in feeding God’s children!

Very Reverend Michael L. Thompson, SSJ
Pastor, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Washington, DC
In partnership with “No Child Hungry” <https://www.nochildhungry.net/>