



The 2025 Spirit of St. Nicholas Ball welcomed more than 900 generous guests and sponsors, whose collective support raised over \$3.3 million for our neighbors in need. Every dollar given will provide direct assistance to individuals and families facing hardship. View photos from the event [here](#).

Dear Friends,

“And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.”

This passage reminds us that hope begins in reflection. Because of you, we celebrate joyful gifts for families, record-breaking events that strengthen our mission, and shared meals for those in need. These are more than impressive numbers. They are stories of impact and partnership. They show that choosing hope carries us forward — to pray, to serve, and to share one more flicker of light that can transform a life.

With gratitude,

John DeCostanza

Vice President, Faith & Mission

Partners in Giving

A blessing of gifts inspires Christmas joy





Thank you for donating toys, coats, clothes, household items, and so much more to help families who are struggling and to bring joy this Christmas season to children like Aaron, 4, pictured above with Santa at our gift warehouse in Lake County. Our Celebration of Giving program serves more than 14,000 individuals in Cook and Lake counties with gifts they could not otherwise afford. Read more about how your generosity has blessed these families [here](#).



Choosing hope

Our 2025 annual report in Spirit magazine details how we have served more than 270,000 adults and children by meeting immediate needs, strengthening mothers and families, and building community for seniors and veterans. With your partnership, the Catholic Charities community came together to raise more than \$30 million in critical funding to witness hope with our neighbors through prayer, service, and encounter. View the issue [here](#).



Nourishing families, together

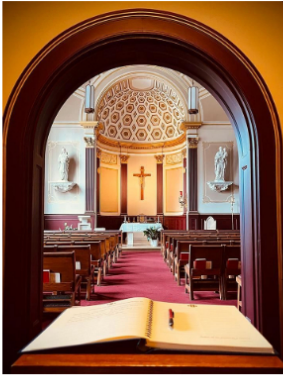
We are grateful for the dozens of parishes who donated food during the Archdiocese of Chicago's Harvest of Hope food drive last month. Catholic Charities' staff and volunteers sorted, distributed, and supplemented food donations that were delivered to 40 Catholic food pantries who support 24,500 households in both Cook and Lake counties. Read more about the initiative [here](#).

A flicker of hope

It's not too late to contribute to our year-end appeal! Here at Catholic Charities, we see how a simple act of kindness, just one flicker of hope, can make a difference. When it's multiplied, the impact is transformational. Be the light for someone in need. and [give today!](#)



Partners in Prayer



Linking our community and yours through prayer

Catholic Charities has many faithful partners deeply committed to accompanying you in prayer. Please send us your intentions. They will be written in the book of intentions in the St. Louise de Marillac Chapel and included in Masses and other services. All Mass requests, or if you know of someone in the Catholic Charities family who is sick, has died, or for any reason needs our prayers, please email your requests to prayer@catholiccharities.net.

Please pray for the following members of our Catholic Charities community: Allen Hawkins, Louisa Hummel, Margaret Rose Parker, William DeLeshe, Rev. Joseph Taylor, Jane Dietrich, Deacon Daniel Carroll, Noreen Campbell, Rita Bourjaily, Roxie Bueschel, and James Curry.

Partners in Mission

Thank you for sharing your time this season



Thank you to the more than 500 volunteers who made our annual Celebration of Giving a great success in both Cook and Lake counties. Pictured above, CIBC staff worked at St. Casimir on Chicago's South Side packaging gifts for Catholic Charities' case workers to distribute to the families we serve.

Let's connect again soon

d'Vine Affair

Sunday, February 1, 2026, 2 p.m.

Venue West Chicago

Join us for Chicago's premier wine tasting event and a sampling of over 200 wines from around the world.

LEARN MORE



First Look for Charity

Friday, February 6, 2026, 7 p.m.

McCormick Place

Be the first to see Chicago's 2026 Auto Show by attending First Look for Charity, a black-tie event featuring cars, cocktails, and delicacies from some of Chicago's finest restaurants — benefiting Catholic Charities and 17 other nonprofit agencies.

LEARN MORE



Virtual Investor Update

Thursday, March 5, 2026, 4 p.m.

Sally Blount, CEO, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago, will provide a year-in-review of our services, programs, impact on the people we serve, and financials for investors.



Partner Gathering

Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 6 p.m.

St. Christina Catholic Church, Chicago

Connect with other supporters and learn more about our work on Chicago's South Side from CEO Sally Blount.



Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago partners with mission-driven people and organizations across Cook and Lake counties to witness a message of mercy and hope to a world in need. We are called to accompany anyone in need, regardless of faith, gender, race, or ethnicity.

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