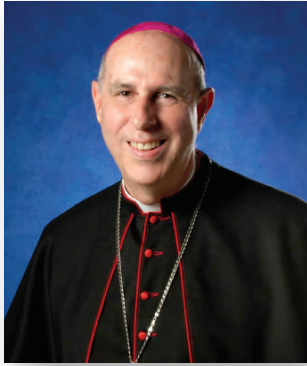




# CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII CATHOLIC CHARITIES SUNDAY



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Jesus was born homeless. It wasn't his foster father Joseph's fault. He just ran into a confluence of circumstances. A government-ordered census. An overbooked inn. A pregnancy come to term. Nightfall. Even the son of God was subject to natural and human-made situations. Amazing, no? You'd think the Father would have planned better. Jesus would later say, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

I can imagine Jesus and the Twelve hunkering down for the night on the side of the road to Galilee, or sleeping in their boats, as he was once recorded doing.

Our own homeless who inhabit our beaches and byways often find themselves in their predicament because of their own perfect storms. A mental illness. A lost job. A drug addiction. A debilitating injury. Exorbitant housing prices. A chronic disease. Simple bad luck.

You would hope that God could give them a break and show a little mercy. But that is where we come in. It is our duty to house them, our obligation. Because we are supposed to be vessels of God's mercy. Because housing is a basic human right.

It is difficult to see Jesus in the unwashed, mentally ill, drug-addicted street dweller, or the family living in their car, but that's him, he is there, as he said, in the least of our brothers and sisters.

The world exists for everybody, "Pope Francis says in his encyclical Fratelli Tutti, "because all of us were born with the same dignity ... As a community, we have the obligation to ensure that every person live with dignity.

St. Gregory the Great said, "When we provide the needy with their basic needs, we are giving them what belongs to them, not to us."

Living with dignity at the very least means having a decent, safe, affordable place to sleep, eat and keep clean. Not the street.

But homelessness is such a huge and complex problem, we can feel powerless to do anything about it. We cannot always literally put a roof over someone's head. Like the Good Samaritan, our charity is often limited to what we can do with our two hands and how much we have in our wallet. But the Good Samaritan was also a pragmatic Samaritan. He left the robbery victim with an innkeeper who could provide shelter and sustenance, promising to cover the costs.

Catholic Charities Hawaii is the innkeeper. With our donations, it houses people, feeds them, supports them, accompanies and dignifies them, and puts them on the road to recovery.

The homeless need our help. Catholic Charities will provide it. But Catholic Charities can only give what it receives.

This Catholic Charities Sunday, please be generous.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Larry Silva  
Bishop of Honolulu

Here are some highlights showing parishes, schools, lay groups and CCH working together.

### Providing Office Space:

- St. John Apostle & Evangelist - Mililani provides a room for our counseling group sessions
- St. Anthony of Padua – Kailua provides office space for program staff
- St. Anthony of Padua – Wailuku provides meeting space for Maui Leadership Council
- St. Theresa Parish - Kekaha provides meeting space for program staff
- Holy Cross – Kalaheo provides office space for Kaua'i Leadership Council new member commissioning

### Providing Program & Outreach Partnerships:

- Parish outreach groups on O'ahu, Maui, Kaua'i, and Hawai'i Island assist CCH with financial support for clients in need
- Christ the King - Kahului provided storage space for outreach materials
- Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa – provides parking for special activities at Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center and LMPSC has donated canned goods to their Food Pantry
- St. Anthony of Padua – Wailuku, and St. Theresa - Kihei provided CCH matching financial contributions for clients
- St. Anthony of Padua - Kailua provides a boutique for moms and babies to support the Mary Jane Program and helps expectant moms
- Hickam Catholic Women of the Chapel provides Mother's Day gift baskets and household supplies for the Mary Jane Program
- St. Damien – Moloka'i provides outreach and fax machine access to individuals who need to transmit CCH services forms/applications and receive program information on a timely basis
- St. John Vianney - Mililani provides Christmas gifts for Maili Land children
- St. John Vianney – Mililani provides information about the Case Management Dementia, Phone-A-Friend programs and other senior services to support seniors and their caregivers
- St. Jude – Makakilo provides outreach to the community in partnership with our Intake, Information and Referral program
- St. Pius X Church – provides food supplies for the Mary Jane Program pantry
- Sacred Heart- Wai'anae provides space and assistance for Hale Wai Vista Kupuna and Hawaii Food Bank Boxes
- Sacred Hearts, Lana'i provides space for Pūnāwai client meetings, conduct Kahua Waiwai classes and for staff to complete paperwork



**Special Events:** Community involvement, volunteer activities, and giving programs for occasions including Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day, and Thanksgiving were organized by the following parishes and groups:

- Annunciation, Waimea
- Chinese Catholic Club
- Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa, Kalihi
- Hickam Catholic Women of the Chapel
- Holy Family
- Holy Rosary, Pāhala
- Holy Trinity
- Immaculate Conception, Līhu'e
- Knights of Columbus
- Malia Puka O Kalani
- Mānoa Punahou Catholic Community
- Mary, Star of the Sea Parish & School
- Maryknoll Schools
- Notre Dame Club Hawai'i
- Our Lady of Lourdes, Honoka'a

- Our Lady of Sorrows, Wahiawa
- Resurrection of the Lord, Waipi'o
- St. Ann, Kane'ohe
- St. Anthony, Wailuku
- St. Anthony of Padua, Kailua
- St. Benedict, Captain Cook
- St. Catherine School & Parish
- St. John the Apostle and Evangelist, Mililani
- St. John the Baptist, Kalihi
- St. John Vianney, Kailua
- St. Joseph, Hilo
- St. Jude
- St. Michael the Archangel, Kailua-Kona
- St. Patrick
- St. Pius X
- St. Theresa Parish, Kihei
- St. Theresa, Mt. View
- Sacred Hearts Academy
- Sacred Heart, Hāwi
- Sacred Heart, Nā'ālehu
- Sacred Heart, Pāhoa

### SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Some schools conduct special fundraisers that support the many programs that CCH administers. This partnership provides youth with an opportunity to serve those in need and provides services that assist the schools. Some examples include:

- Maryknoll School students, teachers, and parents provided baskets and canned goods during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Students also participated in multiple projects at CCH's programs in the community
- Mary, Star of the Sea Early Learning Center – students participated in a holiday giving project and collected gift cards and donations for the Mary Jane Home
- Mary, Star of the Sea students collected goods and assembled Thanksgiving baskets and participated in an Angel Tree holiday giving project
- St. Catherine School – Līhu'e collected toys to distribute to children of low income clients during the holiday season
- St. Louis Grade School students collected canned and paper goods through their Thanksgiving "Basket of Blessings," drive for Housing Assistance Program seniors
- St. Theresa School students participated in the holiday gift-giving program
- The CCH 'Ohana shared face mask supplies with Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Michael, Star of the Sea and Maryknoll Schools

### PARISHES, SCHOOLS AND CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII WORKING TOGETHER

Catholic Charities Hawaii (CCH) welcomes and encourages our Catholic parishes and schools to be engaged in opportunities to help us carry out our mission. Through the years, the Catholic community in Hawai'i has supported the work of CCH in a variety of ways. From the annual Catholic Charities Sunday special collection to the many works of advocacy, partnership and volunteer efforts, the levels of engagement between CCH and the schools and parishes increase year after year.