Spring 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

These are unprecedented times. Yet we know deep in our hearts that we are not alone or forsaken, and that God is with us. We know that his love for us—and the love and care we show each other—always triumphs over fear and darkness.

This is the time of year we usually ask for your support of the annual Catholic Charities Mother’s Day Collection. This year we had planned to celebrate the faith and strength of Mary as she stared down her own doubt and fear to bring the ultimate light into our world. She remains a fitting role model for the faith and service that are called for in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We can’t begin to know the full ramifications of this virus. What we do know is that since it began to impact our community, Catholic Charities staff and volunteers have been in the field providing services. We know that the need for social service support will grow exponentially in the next several months to help people deal with lost wages, lost jobs, and industry contraction. We know that those families who were only just getting by have lost whatever small cushion they had. We know that people are facing extraordinary challenges. And we know that we need your help.

Catholic Charities continues to help those least able to navigate these treacherous waters. Catholic Charities will serve the growing needs we are only just beginning to understand. And Catholic Charities will be here long after this chapter is past but its effects linger.

As the social service arm of the church, the work of Catholic Charities is a most fitting expression of our faith, and of our love for one another. This year, I ask that you consider as generous a gift as is feasible to Catholic Charities. You have my sincere gratitude for your past support of the Mother’s Day Collection, and my most urgent plea to give again. Contributions can be made at www.catholiccharities.net/donate, or mail your gift to Catholic Charities, 721 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60654.

During this time of crisis, let us find comfort in Mary who faced uncertainty with unyielding faith and courage, and unite together to bring the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to those who need us most.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago