



## DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE - SOUTH BEND

915 South Clinton Street • Post Office Box 390  
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May 5, 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In one of his weekly audiences in St. Peter's Square, Pope Francis spoke movingly about the motherly love of the Church: "[L]ooking to Mary, we find the most beautiful and tender face of the Church; looking to the Church, we recognize the sublime features of Mary...this is the Church that we all love, the Church that I love. A mother who has at heart the welfare of their children, that has the capacity to give life to her children." This motherly love of the Church takes many forms, but it shines forth in a special way through the works of mercy which are the hallmark of Catholic Charities.

Next weekend, May 11 & 12, we will have an opportunity to share in the motherly love of the Church by supporting the traditional Mothers' Day collection for Catholic Charities. The money received in this collection will be used to help those who are in need right here in our own diocese. Through their food pantry, job training and housing assistance for refugees, mentoring programs for at-risk teens, mental health counseling, support for those experiencing an unexpected pregnancy, assistance for those who wish to build their family through adoption, and help for older men and women in finding enriching volunteer work or employment, Catholic Charities strives to serve the welfare of our brothers and sisters in need.

In the name of Mary, Mother of the Church, who always has at heart the welfare of her children, I ask you to be as generous as you can with this collection.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*+ Kevin C. Rhoades*

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades  
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

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