

World Day of the Poor Activities



On November 18, World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis asks us to hear and respond to the cry of the poor. Here is one way you can help the poor in our Diocese: complete a Catholic Charities Service Project. Every day, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Arlington, serves thousands of people in need using the volunteer-led projects below. Each project is appropriate for schools, scouts, adult prayer groups, religious education classes, families, parties and more. For complete details about each project, including how to conduct it, project contents, educational and drop off information, please contact our office at volunteer@ccda.net.

- ❖ **Welcome Home Backpacks** – Fill backpacks with much needed items for those leaving incarceration. Catholic Charities provides the empty backpacks, you provide the contents. *We'll provide the list.*
- ❖ **Care Packages** – Collect and pack basic seasonal needs such as toiletries, hygiene, and laundry items. Packages are given to our Christ House clients, refugee families, Mother of Mercy Free Clinic patients, and distributed through our Mobile Response Center. *Check for our current list.*
- ❖ **Pack and Stack** – Food sorting, packing and unloading, for children aged 9+ with adult supervision. *Limited opportunity available on Sunday 11/18 in Manassas.*
- ❖ **Sponsor a Pantry Shelf** – conduct a specific food item drives based on current need (e.g. peanut butter). *Check with us for most needed items.*
- ❖ **Clean Your Closet** – Donate in-season clothing and small household items for the Christ House Thrift Shop. The Thrift Shop provides free clothing to the homeless.
- ❖ **Prayerful Gift Bags for Seniors** – Decorate and fill a bag for seniors with homemade crafts, prayers, letters, rosary, Bible, etc. *Check with us for directions.*
- ❖ **Faithful Affirmation Jars** – Pass along a little bit of kindness and brighten someone's day through a prayer or a heartfelt compliment in a jar provided to those we serve. *We'll provide instructions to create your jar available.*
- ❖ **Raise Awareness**—Print Out the message of his Holiness Pope Francis on the Second World Day of the Poor, read and share! **2018 [Second World Day of the Poor Message, Pope Francis](#)**
- ❖ **CHRISTMAS IS COMING!** Conduct an Advent Calendar Donation drive, hold a Christmas Card Drive for the incarcerated, make Christmas Stockings for our youngest clients.

