



ARCHDIOCESE *of* KINGSTON

August 30th, 2024

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I am writing to share with you an update on the 2024 Lenten Collection. To date, we have received a total of \$88,176.18 from our parishes to be allocated to agencies serving our vulnerable populations. I want to thank you for your continued generosity. Truly our parishioners embody the righteous of Psalm 112: "They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever..." (Ps 112: 9). Our finance department has rounded the total to \$88,000 to make distribution easier. The remaining funds and any additional donations will be rolled over to the 2025 collection.

I also want to extend my thanks to the Lenten Committee, comprised of young parishioners from across the Archdiocese. They too have given generously, of their time and talents, in order to assist me with the distribution of the funds. The committee reconvened over the summer months to discuss current issues facing our local communities. Under the patronage of St. Martin de Porres and the promptings of the Holy Spirit, the committee discerned that food insecurity was the largest pressing need in the Archdiocese, as the rising cost of living continues to impact nearly everyone in our province. While fund distribution was heavily weighted towards this concern, pregnant mothers, disadvantaged youth, the unhoused, and victims of violence also weighed heavily on the hearts of the committee members. These additional community issues are represented by the agencies selected as recipients for donations in 2024.

When considering the great need of our communities, I'm reminded of Jesus' words: "for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." (Matt 25: 35-36). I invite all the faithful to view each Lenten Collection as a renewed opportunity to grow in awareness of the needs of our most vulnerable neighbours, to act with compassion towards their plight, and to give generously in order to better support the work of making our communities more welcoming to the oppressed, the stranger, the orphan, and the widow (Ex 22: 21-22, Is 1: 17).

Please see the attached document for the list of agencies selected for the 2024 collection.

Yours in Christ,

+Michael Mulhall
Archbishop of Kingston

Appendix A
Funds Breakdown Lenten Collection 2024

Lenten Collection Total 2024: \$88,176.18
Rounded Funds for Allocation: \$88,000

Agency	Deanery	Donation Amount
Elgin Food Bank, Elgin A volunteer run, community-based foodbank.	Northern	\$2,000
Portland Food Bank, Portland The Portland Food Bank is non-political, sustained solely by private donations, and is a community-based subsidiary organization under the umbrella of Portland United Church.	Northern	\$2,000
Holy Cross Knights of Columbus Council 5333 Food Bank, Kemptville Based out of Holy Cross Parish, the food bank provides emergency grocery supports to anyone who requires assistance.	Eastern	\$2,000
South Grenville Food Bank, Prescott, Cardinal, Spencerville, & Maitland A community-based, non-profit organization that provides food to those in need. The food bank relies mainly on volunteers, donors, grants, and the community for its continued operation.	Eastern	\$2,000
St. Mary's Drop-In Centre, Kingston Based out of the Cathedral, St. Mary's Drop-In Centre provides hospitality to Kingston's most vulnerable population through nourishing meals, laundry and shower services, and clothing.	Central	\$2,000
Community Development Council of Quinte: Good Food Box & Good Baby Box programs, Belleville CDC Quinte's two-pronged approach focuses on program delivery and social planning. The root of this work is dedicated to supporting Food Security through a Food First approach.	Western	\$2,000
Stirling and Area Christian Community Care – Community Cupboard, Stirling The Community Cupboard provides Stirling residents with fresh produce as well as boxed and canned goods monthly.	Western	\$2,000

The Hastings and Prince Edward Learning Foundation – School Nutrition Programs Provides funding for school nutrition programs in 56 schools across three Catholic school boards within the Archdiocese.	Northern, Eastern, Central, and Western	\$28,000 (56 schools x \$500)
Upper Canada Leger Centre for Education and Training – School Nutrition Programs Provides funding for school nutrition programs in 15 schools across two Catholic school boards within the Archdiocese.	Northern, Eastern, Central	\$7,500 (15 schools x \$500)
Birthright, Belleville and Kingston Birthright is a pregnancy care centre providing free and non-judgemental support and practical assistance to all women facing unplanned pregnancies.	Western and Central	\$4,000 (\$2,000 each)
Anchor of Hope, Madoc Christian charitable organization aiding anyone facing an unexpected pregnancy or challenges due to pregnancy or abortion.	Western	\$2,000
Pregnancy and Family Care of Quinte West, Trenton The agency exists to serve any pregnant mother (and father) regardless of age, race, creed, or marital status. Staff answer questions, present options and offer support through the decision-making process and beyond.	Western	\$2,000
Grace Inn Shelter, Belleville Grace Inn is a 21-bed emergency shelter for adults in Belleville and surrounding areas, with a special focus on dignity, community, and mentorship.	Western	\$6,000
RNJ Youth Services, Brockville and Smith Falls The agency provides programs and supports to youth to divert them from the criminal justice system. The focus is on prevention and early intervention services, as well as helping overcome challenges such as addictions, mental health, and involvement in the justice system.	Northern and Eastern	\$4,750
Youth Diversion, Kingston Youth Diversion helps youth overcome challenges by providing prevention, intervention and educational services that divert youth from risk and support their ability to thrive.	Central	\$4,750
Victim Services – Mobile Tracking Systems (MTS) program, Lanark County/ Leeds & Grenville/	Northern, Eastern, Central, and Western	\$8,000 (\$2,000 each)

Hastings, Prince Edward, Lennox and Addington/ Kingston & Frontenac Community-based program that aids and supports persons affected by crime, tragedy and/or disaster. The MTS program is designed as an intervention strategy to enhance the safety of individuals at risk of domestic violence, sexual violence, stalking and/or criminal harassment and elder abuse.		
The Natural Family Planning Association – Ontario The agency provides free natural family planning services and education based on the Billings Ovulation Method to anyone residing within the Archdiocese of Kingston.	Northern, Eastern, Central, and Western	\$1,000
Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph, Peru, Mexico, and Dominican Republic Helping the affirmed with their medical needs. Despite the limited facilities, the clinic in Dominican Republic can receive up to 200 out-patients a day. The Education Centre teaches skills such as sewing, carpentry, and cooking to the impoverished young people. They provide care for the elderly in St. Anthony's Home for the destitute aged.	Abroad	\$6,000 (\$2,000 per site)
Total		\$88,000