

2023 CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL
AUDIO MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

Please play at all masses the weekend of January 29, 2023
(Approximately 3 minutes long)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

This is Thomas Rodi and as your archbishop I consider it a privilege to be able to share a special message with you on this 92nd Catholic Charities Appeal Sunday.

The biblical verse which guides this year's Appeal is:

"Blessed are the Merciful, for they shall be shown Mercy."

Jesus calls us to act with mercy and compassion just as He did throughout his ministry. He did not simply feel pity for those who were suffering – He acted. He showed mercy and compassion. He met the needs of others both spiritually and physically. He showed us that love of God and love of neighbor cannot be separated. The Catholic Charities Appeal is our opportunity to put our faith into action. We who ask for God's mercy are to be willing to show mercy to others.

Your act of giving to the Catholic Charities Appeal ensures that our ministries in the Archdiocese of Mobile will continue to help tens of thousands of people in our communities. Incredible acts of mercy are offered through the many hard-working hands of those who serve within the ministries funded by the Catholic Charities Appeal. When you offer a gift to the Catholic Charities Appeal, you too are acting with mercy in support of the services that work to share Christ's love with our neighbors in need.

Your participation is essential to ensure we can continue this 92-year effort to put our faith into action. Archbishop Toolen, who began the Catholic Charities Appeal, referred to the Appeal as "the life blood of the Archdiocese." Without care for neighbor, our faith is empty.

With your generosity, we can continue to help the tens of thousands of people who mercifully receive the assistance they need from the ministries and programs supported by our Catholic Charities Appeal. These ministries provide aid to the poor, food for the hungry, a loving home for a child through adoption, counseling for families and individuals, hope for an expectant mother, spiritual enrichment for our youth, outreach to the imprisoned, much-needed services to the elderly and those with disabilities, and accompaniment for children whose parents are in prison.

When we make a pledge to the Catholic Charities Appeal, and share the blessings that God has given us, we join with our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the Archdiocese of Mobile to do the Lord's work and spread His love and mercy to others.

Let us join together in answering His call to meet the needs of our neighbors with a pledge to the 2023 Catholic Charities Appeal. Thank you and may God bless you!