



## HELP YOUR PARISH

# Share the Perfect Gift

### THIS ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

## Opportunities to *Share the Perfect Gift* -Bulletin Announcements

**Margaret O'Neill** – Senior Program Manager of Volunteer Services Catholic Charities ADW

### Decorate for Christmas

Spread Christmas cheer by decorating a Catholic Charities site for the holidays. Decorate the door of a group residence or the common-area at an emergency shelter and more! These sites in Washington, DC, Montgomery County and Prince George's County.

**To get involved, email:**

[Volunteer@CatholicCharitiesDC.org](mailto:Volunteer@CatholicCharitiesDC.org)

### Angel Tree Christmas Gift Program

Donate a gift for a parent in need to give to their child on Christmas. After Thanksgiving, visit the Angel Tree page to make your commitment and get the scoop on when and where to drop off your gifts.

**Get information and sign up:**

[www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer)

### Christmas Caroling at Shelters with Deacon Jim

Join the Troubadour Deacon and his fiddling friend to sing carols to the residents at 2 shelters on evenings of December 19 and 21. Provide your own transportation; we will provide the song sheets!

**Get details and sign up:**

[www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer)

### Hope Corps

We are recruiting young adults to work in teams to lead volunteer events once a month for the next year. Hope Corps members lead volunteers in one-time, short projects that make a big difference in a few hours. Hope Corps members receive training and swag and our gratitude!

**Get information and apply:**

[www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer)

### Give of Yourself

Is your family looking for something to do together? Is your group looking for a way to build community? How about doing a one-time project that makes a big difference in a few hours: clean up a shelter, pack breakfast bags (Cup of Joe) for people who stay in our shelters, help load up food packages, and more. Do one, do them all. Most are appropriate for families and high school students.

**Get information and sign up:**

[www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer)

### St. Stephen's Day (or any other day!)

The day after Christmas, December 26th, celebrate with food & fun and the residents at a Catholic Charities housing program by providing and serving brunch the day after Christmas. Locations in Montgomery County and DC each have ~40 residents. Get a group together to provide the food and paper products.

**To get involved, email:**

[Volunteer@CatholicCharitiesDC.org](mailto:Volunteer@CatholicCharitiesDC.org)

### Joseph's Coat of Many Colors Coat Drive

Involve your parishioners or school kids by designing your own parish or school-based coat drive, and donating the coats to Catholic Charities' Joseph's Coat of Many Colors Coat Closet.

**For more information:**

[www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/Coats](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/Coats) or email  
[Coats@CatholicCharitiesDC.org](mailto:Coats@CatholicCharitiesDC.org)

**\*Note to Parish Bulletin Editor:** Please publish one, some, or all of these service opportunities @ Catholic Charities now and/or throughout Advent & Christmas. Just cut and paste. Questions?  
[Maggie.ONeill@CC-DC.org](mailto:Maggie.ONeill@CC-DC.org)



Archdiocese of Washington  
Evangelization





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### Welcome Home Re-entry Mentors

Become a mentor to someone returning to the community from incarceration. Studies show that a faith-based mentor who provides encouragement and support makes all the difference in preventing recidivism. We will train you and provide ongoing support, but you already know what to do: be kind, be compassionate, be caring, be optimistic, and be reliable. Mentors are at least 25 years old and commit for an hour a week for a year. You will make a BIG difference in someone's life. Start now!

**Get information and apply:**

[www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer)

### Attention Financial Professionals!

Help motivated people to break the cycle of poverty. Join Catholic Charities "Financial Stability Network" of financial professionals who will offer pro bono financial education, financial coaching, and tax return preparation services for low income families and individuals in the Archdiocese of Washington. If you have any type of financial experience, consider joining the new Network.

**Get information and apply:**

[www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer)

### St Maria's Meals

Choose your spot to spend 2 hours feeding the hungry and thirsty and your soul. This food truck serves meals in different communities in the Archdiocese. On Tuesday evenings, volunteers serve families in the Camp Springs area. Bright and early on Friday mornings, volunteers serve breakfast to immigrants who are day laborers in the Long Branch area. Serve once, once a week, or once a month.

**Get information and apply:**

[www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer)

### Shelter Hospitality Volunteers

Do you have the spiritual gift of service, hospitality or giving? Help the staff who run our low-barrier emergency shelters in DC to dole out "soup, soap, and hope" to 1,100 people each night. Sign up for a once-a-week/6 month gig. You'll be amazed what a difference you make to those with no place of their own to call home.

**Get information and apply:**

[www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer)

### Calendar of Monthly and Weekly Service Projects

Is your family looking for something to do together? Is your group looking for a way to build community? How about doing a one-time short project that makes a big difference in a few hours: clean up a shelter, pack breakfast bags (Cup of Joe) for people who stay in our shelters, help load up food packages, and more. Do one, do them all. Most are appropriate for families and high school students.

**Get information and sign up to get started:**

[www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer)

**\*Note to Parish Bulletin Editor:** Please publish one, some or all of these service opportunities @ Catholic Charities now and/or throughout Lent. Just cut and paste.

Change formatting to fit your Bulletin!

**Questions?** [Margaret.ONeill@CatholicCharitiesDC.org](mailto:Margaret.ONeill@CatholicCharitiesDC.org)

*Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me. Mt 25:40*



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