



To: Clergy, Parish Life Coordinators, Institutions and Organizations
of the Catholic Diocese of Belleville

From: The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, Ph.D., S.T.D.

Re: Food for Families Program

Date: January 24, 2012

Our annual Food for Families Program will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2012.

I am pleased as I review the results of the past successful Food for Families Programs. I know you agree that our joint efforts during this coming Lenten season continue to be most urgent. The cooperation and support (financial and food items) of all of us is the key to the success of the program again this year.

As I invite all clergy, religious, people of our parishes and institutions, students of our elementary and secondary schools, youth and students of our PSR and diocesan youth programs, and all fraternal and charitable organizations in our diocese to wholeheartedly support this much needed cause, I also encourage you to invite other religious, fraternal and civic organizations to join us in this most worthwhile endeavor.

I remind you that all food and money collected are distributed within the 28 counties of Southern Illinois which comprise our Belleville Diocese and people of all faiths continue to benefit from this program. I suggest that you arrange with the religion editor of your local newspaper and other media personnel in your area to advertise this ecumenical Food for Families Program.

Enclosed is a list of sites around the diocese to which food items can be delivered as well as a listing of recommended foods. *Please reprint in your parish bulletin the food item list as well as the sites where these items may be delivered.* All other institutions and organizations are asked to use similar means to distribute this information to their people. I leave it to your discretion if you wish to take up a special collection during Lent.

To assist you in your planning to collect the food and cash donations, I would like to offer the following information:

If you cannot personally deliver the food items, call or write Catholic Urban Programs or Daystar Community Program (phone numbers and addresses are listed on the attached sheet).

If your parish has an *operating* food program or a St. Vincent de Paul Conference, you may keep 50% of any monies collected. The remaining 50% should be forwarded to the Chancery as soon as possible after Easter Sunday.

If your parish *does not have an operating food program*, you may keep 25% of monies collected to distribute to the needy. The remaining 75% should be forwarded to the Chancery.

Please make checks payable to “Catholic Diocese of Belleville”, indicating “Food for Families” in the lower, left-hand corner of the check and send to:

Food for Families Program
Catholic Diocese of Belleville
222 South Third Street
Belleville, Illinois 62220-1985

Please accept my deepest thanks for your cooperation and support of this most needed and worthy Lenten program. Let us continue to enrich the wonderful heritage of generosity and service which belongs to the Catholic Church of Southern Illinois.

Attachment

(Please publish the list of sites appropriate to your area.)

Food for Families Delivery Sites

Office of Education
Catholic Pastoral Center
2620 Lebanon Avenue
Belleville, Illinois 62221
235-9601, Ext. 1142
Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

Chancery Office
222 South Third Street
Belleville, Illinois 62220
277-8181, Ext. 1021
Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

St. Joseph Rectory
506 West Main Street
Benton, Illinois 62812
438-9941

St. Teresa Rectory
1201 Lebanon Avenue
Belleville, Illinois 62221
233-3500

St. Luke Rectory
301 North Church Street
Belleville, Illinois 62220
236-1124

Cathedral of St. Peter
c/o St. Vincent de Paul Society
200 West Harrison Street
Belleville, Illinois 62220
234-1166

Daystar Community Program
909 Washington Avenue (Store)
Cairo, Illinois 62914
734-0178

Holy Childhood of Jesus Church
104 North Independence Street
Mascoutah, Illinois 62258
566-2958

St. Francis Xavier Church
303 South Poplar Street
Carbondale, Illinois 62901
457-4556

St. Boniface Church
402 Munster Street
Germantown, Illinois 62245
523-4271

Holy Family Church
116 Church Street
Cahokia, Illinois 62206
337-4548

St. Mary Rectory
115 North 14th Street
Mount Vernon, Illinois 62864
244-1559

Catholic Urban Programs
#7 Vieuxcarre Drive
East St. Louis, Illinois 62203
398-5616

Our Lady of Lourdes Church
611 West Broadway
Sparta, Illinois 62286
443-2811

St. Joseph Church
901 North Alton
Lebanon, Illinois 62254
537-2575

(Please publish this list of suggested food items.)

Food for Families -- Suggested Canned and Other Food Items Needed

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| Canned Meats/Fish | Dry Package Items |
| Canned Meats | Instant Mashed Potatoes |
| Canned Chicken | Pancake Mix (complete) |
| Canned Beef Stews | Bisquick/Baking Mix |
| Canned Ravioli; Spaghetti/Meatballs | Breakfast Cereals |
| Canned Chicken and Dumplings | Cornbread Mix |
| Canned Soups and Chili | Dried Beans (Navy, Pinto, etc.) |
| Canned Tuna, Salmon and Sardines | Rice |
| Canned Fruits and Vegetables | Macaroni |
| Canned Fruit and Applesauce | Noodles/Pasta of any type |
| Canned Peas | Spaghetti |
| Canned Corn | Macaroni and Cheese |
| Canned Mixed Vegetables | Oatmeal, Cream of Wheat |
| Canned Tomatoes | Graham Crackers |
| Canned Green Beans | Saltine Crackers |
| Canned Beets | Milk (powdered or canned) |
| Canned Carrots | Staples |
| Canned Pork and Beans | Sugar |
| Canned Whole White Potatoes | Flour |
| Canned Sweet Potatoes | Coffee (ground and instant) |