



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: February 3, 2011

Our annual Food for Families Program will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 9, 2011.

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 are more urgent than ever. The cooperation and support (financial and food items) of all of us is the key to its success.

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  
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 14<sup>th</sup> 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**

Canned Meats/Fish

Canned Meats

Canned Chicken

Canned Beef Stews

Canned Ravioli; Spaghetti/Meatballs

Canned Chicken and Dumplings

Canned Soups and Chili

Canned Tuna, Salmon and Sardines

Canned Fruits and Vegetables

Canned Fruit and Applesauce

Canned Peas

Canned Corn

Canned Mixed Vegetables

Canned Tomatoes

Canned Green Beans

Canned Beets

Canned Carrots

Canned Pork and Beans

Canned Whole White Potatoes

Canned Sweet Potatoes

Dry Package Items

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Pancake Mix (complete)

Bisquick/Baking Mix

Breakfast Cereals

Cornbread Mix

Dried Beans (Navy, Pinto, etc.)

Rice

Macaroni

Noodles/Pasta of any type

Spaghetti

Macaroni and Cheese

Oatmeal, Cream of Wheat

Graham Crackers

Saltine Crackers

Milk (powdered or canned)

Staples

Sugar

Flour

Coffee (ground and instant)