



Archdiocese of Cape Town

Office of the Auxiliary Bishop of Cape Town

12th May 2020

To all Parish Priests & Religious Communities

Dear Bishop, Msgr., Fr, Sr, Br,

A special request

Greetings from the office at my residence. I trust that you are well and are coping with the difficulties which present themselves during the pandemic. Above all, we ask that you take whatever measures are necessary to avoid contamination and also to avoid the risk of transmission as there will be some carriers of Covid-19 who themselves are asymptomatic.

As is widely known, the Archdiocese has embarked on a scheme to feed the hungry during this time of difficulty. We see this as the most viable form of ministry at this time. Details of what has been done, and also of the financial details, have been published on the webpage as have appeals for funds from Parishes and individuals. The first phase involving more than 2400 parcels at a cost of almost R250 000,00 was successfully negotiated and we are in the midst of a second phase. This time several more requests have come in.

For the first phase several individuals, comprising even persons from outside of the Archdiocese, have made contributions. A few Parishes have made donations but that is sadly a minority. Most Parishes have not made any contributions. We are deeply grateful to those Parishes and individuals who have contributed and appeal to all other Parishes and religious communities to assist in this most important work. Apart from Parish and Religious Community contributions, we ask all Parish clergy to appeal to the faithful to make individual contributions as well. At this stage predictions are that we will need to feed the poor on a regular basis over the next few months. On-going contributions are therefore essential. The Archdiocese has put in a substantial amount but there is a limit to what we have. With no levy being taken during these months we have lost our main source of income but simultaneously have far greater expenses.

The words of the Lord in the parable of the last judgement (cf. Mt 25:31-46) come sharply into focus at this time and we appeal for assistance. The banking details for the feeding project are on the webpage but we include them here for easy reference:

Bank: Standard Bank
A/c name: Archdiocese of Cape Town Collections
A/c Number: 070248036
Branch name: Thibault Square
Branch code: 051001

(For those who require it this is a current account).

PLEASE GIVE US THIS REFERENCE: FOOD PARCELS

We thank you in anticipation and wish you every blessing as you guide your flock during these difficult days.

Fraternally,

Bishop Sylvester David OMI
VG: Archdiocese of Cape Town