



Archdiocese of Cape Town

Office of the Auxiliary Bishop of Cape Town

23rd June 2020

Thank you

Greetings from the Chancery. From all accounts it would appear that we are now nearing the peak with respect to Covid-19 infections. Hopefully with greater cooperation from the citizens of our beautiful city, infections will soon be on the decline. Let us continue to practice hand washing, social distancing, and wearing the face mask.

The main purpose of this letter is to offer our heartfelt thanks to all those who have so generously supported our feeding scheme. As at 18th June 2020 we spent R1 937 999,85 on feeding the poor through food parcels and virtual food vouchers for people in the outlying areas. Of this R1 090 087,03 was recuperated through the generosity of individuals and Parishes and the Archdiocese contributed R847 912,82. Some of the individual donations came from outside of the Archdiocese of Cape Town. Some individuals and a few Parishes have made repeated contributions and this has helped us sustain the effort. We thank and congratulate these Parishes and individuals for their generous response to a desperate need.

Where we have been able to identify donors, letters of thanks have gone out, but by and large, many donors chose to remain anonymous. Even where names appear on the proof of payment notices, the whereabouts of these generous persons are unknown. Where Parishes are concerned, it will be good if notices of payment could reach my office so that an acknowledgement can be made. It will be good for Parishioners to see what has been done on their behalf. We are aware that some Parishes are also seeing to their internal needs as parochial feeding schemes and soup kitchens have been maintained. These Parishes still go beyond their parochial needs and seek ways of assisting the wider Archdiocesan effort. We are also deeply grateful to those Parish Priests who have approached individuals in their Parishes who could make contributions. For all these efforts we say “Thank you”.

Others who need to be mentioned are those who generously donate their time. The only overheads we pay are for refreshments for those who pack, and for fuel. No salaries are paid to those who are literally on the frontline. Another form of generosity that we acknowledge is the contribution of edible goods such as fruit and dairy products. To all, we say thank you – may you be richly rewarded! Those who can contribute with food, perishable and non-perishable, are requested to kindly contact Mr Eugene Jackson at eugene.jackson@cwd.org.za; or Mr Achmat Satardien at achmatsatardien@gmail.com.

When John’s messengers went to find out if Christ had indeed appeared Jesus said to them: “go back and tell John what you have seen and heard ... the good news is proclaimed to the poor” (Lk 7:22-23). Christ has appeared and in keeping with his word, he is among those who suffer hunger pangs (cf. Mt 25:40). But he is also among those who bring relief to the poor. If we listen closely to this crisis we will know that through it we can touch the life of Christ in a deep and meaningful way. Yes indeed: “go and announce what you have seen and heard. The poor have had the good news proclaimed through the action of the Archdiocese of Cape Town”.

What of the future? We have made several appeals for funding but these are difficult times. The Archdiocese can no longer sustain the scheme to the extent that it has done since the start of the crisis. At this time the words of of the mystic St Teresa of Avila ring true: “Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassionately on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the

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hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.”

We have made known the banking details for the contributions but for the sake of convenience for those who wish to participate in this work of mercy we include them once more:

Bank: Standard Bank
A/c name: Archdiocese of Cape Town Collections
A/c Number: 070248036 (For those who require it this is a current account).
Branch name: Thibault Square
Branch code: 051001

PLEASE GIVE US THIS REFERENCE: FOOD PARCELS

In conclusion I wish to thank all concerned for the generosity that has been demonstrated.

One with you in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Sylvester David OMI". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Bishop Sylvester David OMI
VG: Archdiocese of Cape Town

PS: Some visuals of the actual feeding during the Covid-19 pandemic are included hereunder.

