



CATHOLIC *Diocese of Fresno* CHARITIES

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,

The Christmas season is upon us and with it comes many wonderful traditions...decorating the tree, searching for the perfect gift for a loved one and shopping for the Christmas feast we'll share with family. It's so easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season and lose sight of the miracle of Christmas. But without fail, the Spirit of Christmas appears in the simplest of ways; the smile of a stranger, a word of encouragement or a random act of kindness.

Last week we were called to serve a family from a small rural community within our Diocese. This family with four small children had lost their home and all their belongings in a fire. Catholic Charities delivered food, clothing and diapers to them the very next day. With humble gratitude, this family continually thanked us for these gifts. To them, what they received were gifts of hope.

Because of your kindness, Catholic Charities provides hope to more than 239,000 people each year. As we come together during this Christmas season, we thank you for sharing your gifts with those less fortunate. While most of us are blessed with family and friends to share the love and excitement of the holidays, please remember those who are most vulnerable. Pray that they may find hope, peace and comfort this Christmas season and beyond.

Please consider a Christmas donation to help us serve those in the greatest of need. Thank you for your never ending support of Catholic Charities.

Merry Christmas and may the love of Christ be with you always.

Jeff Negrete
Executive Director

"Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:15)