

19TH ANNUAL LONG-SLEEVE RELIEF DRIVE

ASH WEDNESDAY
TO
HOLY THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 14 -
MARCH 28
2024



LONG-SLEEVE RELIEF DRIVE

HOW A STORY ABOUT A PEPPER TEACHES A LESSON ABOUT PESTICIDES

Picture yourself as a farmworker.

You are out in the fields picking vegetables. You get thirsty, and while there is water available there are no cups available.

Bringing your own cup is not an option; it's too difficult to work at a breakneck pace picking vegetables and worry about where you might find a cup. So you improvise. You pick a pepper, cut it in half and use a half as a cup. Was that a good idea?

This is not a made-up scenario. Farmworkers faced with not enough resources to keep hydrated in the fields did just that. But what happened when they did that is they were drinking pesticides within the pepper along with water. This created a lot of health problems for them, and jumpstarted farmworkers and advocates to make sure there was water and drinking cups available throughout the day — especially at peak times when the Florida sun is brutal. So what did we learn from that pepper? That education equals action. But you can take that education even further.



And yes, thanks to the knowledge from that pepper, every day Catholics can help the men and women who put food on their tables. Florida Catholic Media spearheads the popular drive that officially begins Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14) and runs through Holy Thursday (Mar. 28). The focus of the drive is to donate clean, used or new men's and women's cotton long-sleeve shirts that can be used in the fields. Rough working conditions, exposure to weather, many washings, etc., create an ever-present need for long-sleeve shirts, which protect workers from bites and stings from various insects, and from contamination from sprays that help protect crops.

The ideal of “think globally and act locally” is something many people have heard. This annual drive embodies that philosophy as Florida residents open their eyes to poverty in their midst. It creates awareness of the conditions farmworkers face and the vital role they play in the economy. During Lent, parishes, schools, organizations and individuals are invited to conduct local drives and deliver the items collected to one of the many drop-off points around the state for distribution to farmworkers and others in need.

Education helped Florida Catholic Media staff develop the Long-Sleeve Relief Drive 19 years ago as staffers mentally put themselves in the shoes of a farmworker. Working outside in the heat for 10 hours in clothes that are worn the next day and the next day, each day getting more and more saturated with chemicals from pesticides and sun exposure.

That's why Florida Catholic Media began its Long-Sleeve Relief Drive. Since 2005 over a million long sleeve shirts have been donated. That's a lot of shirts — more than 100 tons — but they are necessary. By now, many of those shirts — donated from the back of people's closets — have been used to the “point of no return” and thrown away only because there is another shirt to take its place.

For information on the drive, visit <https://www.thefloridacatholic.org/news/advocacy/long-sleeve-relief/>. Collection and distribution sites are listed on the next pages.

For more information, contact us by email at LSR@thefloridacatholic.org, call 407-373-0076 or toll free 1-888-275-9953, extension 202.

To make a monetary donation, make your check payable to Florida Catholic Media and mail to: Long Sleeve Relief, P.O. Box 4993, Orlando, FL 32802-4993 or donate securely online at <https://donorbox.org/long-sleeve-relief-drive-2024>. ■



COLLECTION SITES

DIOCESE OF ORLANDO

<p>All Souls Parish <i>St. Vincent de Paul - Outside Blue Bin</i> 3280 W. 1st Street Sanford, FL 32771</p>	<p>Annunciation Parish <i>SVDP Truck, 3rd Thursday of every month, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</i> 1020 Montgomery Road Altamonte Springs, FL 32714</p>
<p>Ascension Parish 2950 N. Harbor City Boulevard Melbourne, FL 32935</p>	<p>Blessed Sacrament Parish 720 12th Street Clermont, FL 34711</p>
<p>Corpus Christi Parish <i>SVDP Truck, 1st Tuesday of every month, 9 a.m. – Noon</i> 1050 Celebration Avenue Celebration, FL 34747</p>	<p>Divine Mercy Parish <i>St. Vincent de Paul Conference Drive</i> 1940 N Courtenay Parkway Merritt Island, FL 32953</p>
<p>Farmworker Association of Florida <i>Drop Off Site</i> <i>Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.</i> 1264 Apopka Boulevard Apopka, FL 32703</p>	<p>Farmworker Association of Florida <i>Drop Off Site</i> <i>Monday – Friday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.</i> 111 Fountain Drive Pierson, FL 32180</p>
<p>Holy Family Parish <i>St. Vincent de Paul - Outside Blue Bin</i> 5125 S. Apopka Vineland Road Orlando, FL 32819</p>	<p>Holy Spirit Parish 2399 Holder Road Mims, FL 32754</p>
<p>Nativity Parish 3255 N. Ronald Reagan Boulevard Longwood, FL 32750</p>	<p>Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish 4000 S. Atlantic Avenue New Smyrna Beach, FL 32169</p>
<p>Resurrection Parish <i>St. Vincent de Paul Conference Drive</i> 1211 S. Vineland Road Winter Garden, FL 34787</p>	<p>St. Ann Parish <i>St. Vincent de Paul - Outside Blue Bin & Confirmation Class Project</i> 1001 S. 10th Street Haines City, FL 33844</p>

COLLECTION SITES

DIOCESE OF ORLANDO (CONTINUED)

<p>St. Anthony Parish <i>St. Vincent de Paul Conference Drive</i> 820 Marcum Road Lakeland, FL 33809</p>	<p>St. James Parish <i>St. Vincent de Paul Conference Drive</i> 215 N. Orange Avenue Orlando, FL 32801</p>
<p>St. John Vianney Parish <i>St. Vincent de Paul Conference Drive</i> 6200 S. Orange Blossom Trail Orlando, FL 32809</p>	<p>St. Mark the Evangelist Parish <i>SVDP Truck, 2nd Tuesday of every month,</i> <i>8 a.m. – 11 a.m.</i> 7081 S.E. Highway 42 Summerfield, FL 34491</p>
<p>St. Patrick Parish <i>SDVP Truck, 1st Wednesday of every month,</i> <i>10 a.m. – Noon</i> 6803 Old Highway 441 S. Mount Dora, FL 32757</p>	<p>St. Peter's Catholic School <i>National Junior Honor Society Drive</i> 421 New York Ave W Deland, FL 32720</p>
<p>St. Stephen Parish <i>St. Vincent de Paul Conference &</i> <i>Catholic Council of Women Drive</i> 575 Tuskawilla Road Winter Springs, FL 32708</p>	<p>St. Thomas Aquinas Parish <i>SVDP Truck, 1st Weekend of every month</i> 700 Brown Chapel Road St. Cloud, FL 34769</p>
<p>St. Thomas Aquinas Parish 2180 S. Kissingen Avenue Bartow, FL 33830</p>	<p>St. Timothy Parish <i>SVDP Truck, Last Thursday of every month</i> <i>7 a.m. - 11 a.m.</i> 1351 Paige Place Lady Lake, FL 32159</p>
<p>St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store <i>Monday - Saturday, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.</i> <i>Sunday, Noon - 6 p.m.</i> 770 S. Orange Blossom Trail Apopka, FL 32703</p>	<p>St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store <i>Monday - Saturday, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.</i> 601 E. Highway 50 Clermont, FL 34711</p>

COLLECTION SITES

DIOCESE OF PALM BEACH

<p>Catholic Charities - St. Francis Center <i>Drop Off Site</i> Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. 100 W. 20th Street Riviera Beach, FL 33404 (561) 345-2000</p>	<p>Catholic Charities - Stuart Office <i>Drop Off Site</i> Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. 3232 S.E. Dixie Highway Stuart, FL 34997 (772) 283-0541</p>
<p>Farmworker Association of Florida <i>Drop Off Site</i> Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. 29 S. Maple Street, Unit A Fellsmere, FL 32948</p>	<p>John Carroll Catholic High School 3402 Delaware Avenue Fort Pierce, FL 34947</p>
<p>St. Joan of Arc Parish & School 370 S.W. Third Street Boca Raton, FL 33432</p>	<p>St. John the Evangelist Parish <i>Parish-only Drive</i> 625 111th Avenue N Naples, FL 34108</p>
<p>St. Joseph School <i>Kindergarten's Social Justice Project</i> Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. 1200 E. 10th Street Stuart, FL 34996</p>	<p>St. Mark the Evangelist Parish 1924 Zephyr Avenue Fort Pierce, FL 34982</p>
<p>St. Mary Parish <i>Drop Off Site</i> 1200 E. Main Street Pohokee, FL 33476</p>	<p>St. Rita Parish <i>Parish Youth Group Drive</i> 13645 Paddock Drive Wellington, FL 33414</p>
<p>The Guatemalan-Maya Center, Inc. <i>Drop Off Site</i> Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. or by appointment 1776 Lake Worth Road Lake Worth, FL 33460 (561) 817-5496</p>	

COLLECTION SITES

DIOCESE OF VENICE

<p>Catholic Charities - Arcadia <i>Drop Off Site</i> Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 1210 E. Oak Street Arcadia, FL 34266</p>	<p>Catholic Charities - Bradenton <i>Drop Off Site</i> Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 1219 16th Street W. Bradenton, FL 34205</p>
<p>Catholic Charities - Naples <i>Drop Off Site</i> Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 2210 Santa Barbara Boulevard Naples, FL 34116</p>	<p>Catholic Charities - Sarasota <i>Drop Off Site</i> Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 5050 N. Tamiami Trail Sarasota, FL 34234</p>
<p>Catholic Charities - Venice <i>Drop Off Site</i> Monday - Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 1000 Pinebrook Road Venice, FL 34285</p>	<p>Church of the Resurrection of Our Lord Parish 8051 Cypress Lake Drive Fort Myers, FL 33919 (239) 481-7171</p>
<p>Farmworker Association of Florida <i>Drop Off Site</i> Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. 106 2nd Street, Unit 10 Immokalee, FL 34142</p>	<p>St. Agnes Parish <i>Justice and Peace Committee Drive</i> 7775 Vanderbilt Beach Road Naples, FL 34120</p>
<p>Incarnation Parish 2929 Bee Ridge Road Sarasota, FL 34239</p>	<p>St. Finbarr Parish <i>Parish Action Committee & Knights of Columbus Drive</i> 13520 Tamiami Trail E. Naples, FL 34114</p>
<p>St. Francis Xavier School 2055 Heitman Street Fort Myers, FL 33901</p>	<p>St. John XXIII Parish <i>Outreach Ministry Drive</i> 13060 Palomino Lane Fort Myers, FL 33912</p>
<p>St. Vincent de Paul Store - Bradenton Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 1111 8th Ave West Bradenton, FL 34205</p>	<p>St. William Parish 750 Seagate Drive Naples, FL 34103</p>

SPECIAL REQUESTS



In addition to long-sleeve cotton button-down shirts, the Farmworker Association of Florida is also requesting the following supplies. *Please only drop these items off at the Farmworker Association of Florida offices after coordinating with Finn Spencer. Please email Finn directly at finn@floridafarmworkers.org.*



- ▶ Other clean and gently-used clothing items
 - Children's clothes being one the of the greatest needs;
 - Wide brimmed sun hats;
- ▶ Diapers and baby supplies;
- ▶ Household items;
- ▶ Children's toys;
- ▶ Food donations, such as:
 - Beans, rice, tortillas, maseca, cooking oil, and canned soups are greatly appreciated by our local families.