

DIOCESE OF SCRANTON
2019 PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE GRANT RECIPIENTS

Forty-four parishes received Parish Social Justice grants this year. These grants are funded by the Diocesan Annual Appeal to support a variety of parish ministries in the categories of Food Pantry and Emergency Financial Assistance, Hispanic Ministry, Family Outreach and Care for the Earth. Grants are listed by region.

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BRADFORD, SULLIVAN & SUSQUEHANNA REGION

- 1. Holy Name of Mary Parish, Montrose** **\$4,000**
Reverend Philip S. Rayappan – Pastor

For parish food pantry and emergency assistance.

- 2. Epiphany Parish, Sayre** **\$5,000**
Rev. Andrew Hvozdovic V.F. – Pastor

For a free community meal hosted by the parish social concerns committee and the parish hospitality/meal committee, and for a new free clothing distribution for children and adults.

- 3. Holy Child Parish, Mansfield** **\$2,650**
Rev. Bryan B. Wright – Pastor

For Holy Child Health Ministry, an umbrella group that promotes health and wellness within the parish community.

- 4. SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Towanda** **\$4,000**
Rev. Edward Michelini – Pastor

For the TACO (Towanda Area Christian Outreach) Food Pantry and for the Endless Mountain Pregnancy Care Center.

LACKAWANNA & WYOMING REGION

- 1. St. Mary of the Lake Parish, Lake Winola \$2,000**
Rev. Patrick Albert – Pastor

In support of the Lower Wyoming County Food Pantry
- 2. Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Tunkhannock \$2,000**
Rev. Patrick Albert – Pastor

In support of the Seven Loaves Soup Kitchen, Inc.
- 3. St. Ann Basilica Parish, Scranton \$2,500**
Rev. Sibi Padinjaredath C.P. – Administrator

For parish food pantry and emergency financial assistance
- 4. Ascension and St. Katharine Drexel Parishes, Forest City \$5,000 each**
Reverend Stephen A. Krawontka – Pastor

For outreach and emergency assistance programs including utility bills, medications, food, rent, and child care needs.
- 5. St. Patrick Parish, Scranton \$3,000**
Rev. Richard Fox - Pastor

For outreach and development of Hispanic Ministry programs - retreats and “Family Day” efforts, Spanish RCIA program, sacramental preparation, leadership training, marriage counseling, and immigration affairs support.
- 6. Mary, Mother of God Parish, Scranton \$520**
Rev. Cyril Edwards, V.E. – Pastor

For community outreach program for the children and adults who reside at low-income housing developments to include providing children with school supplies. Other programs include a Halloween Party and Easter Egg Hunt.

LACKAWANNA & WYOMING REGION (continued)

- 7. SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Scranton \$1,500**
Rev. Samuel J. Ferretti – Pastor

In support of Emergency Financial Assistance.

- 8. St. John Vianney Parish, Scott Township \$207**
Reverend Michael J. Kirwin – Pastor

For materials for bereavement/grief ministry. This ministry is particularly important with a significant aging, rural population.

- 9. St. Eulalia Parish, Roaring Brook Township \$750**
Rev. Jeffrey Tudgay – Pastor

For the Youth Helping Youth Program to fund the purchase of dry goods to help the youth group prepare healthy lunch bags for the North Pocono Food Pantry. Children in need receive breakfasts and lunches during the school year. Last year, the youth group packed and donated over 2,000 lunch bags.

- 10. St. John Neumann Parish, Scranton \$5,000**
Rev. Michael Bryant – Pastor

For Social Concerns Ministries including the St. John Neumann Week of Service, Brown Bag Ministry, Senior Adult Ministry Retreat, and a Green Space environmental justice education program.

LUZERNE REGION

- 1. St. Leo Parish, Ashley \$5,000**
Rev. Vincent H. Dang – Pastor

In support of the Ashley Food Pantry and for emergency assistance for the elderly and other members in need in the parish community.

- 2. St. Andre Bessette Parish, Wilkes-Barre \$4,000**
Rev. Kenneth M. Seegar – Pastor

For the Parish Food Voucher Project to assist parishioners and people in the neighborhood who are experiencing financial difficulties.

- 3. Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish, Hanover Twp. \$3,000**
Rev. Richard Cirba – Pastor

For the Holy Closet Clothing Ministry to include converting the basement classroom/office spaces into storage areas.

- 4. Gate of Heaven Parish, Dallas and
Our Lady of Victory Parish, Harveys Lake \$1,250 each**
Rev. Daniel Toomey – Pastor

For food, blankets, personal hygiene items for the homeless members of the Back Mountain and Wilkes-Barre communities through Mother Teresa's Haven.

- 6. SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Plains \$2,500**
Rev. John Lambert – Pastor

For renovations to the "Treasures" Clothing Donation Center at St. Benedict's Church and for utilities, showers and a drop-in warming center for the homeless.

LUZERNE REGION (continued)

- 7. Holy Name of Jesus Parish, West Hazleton \$6,520**
Rev. Brian J.W. Clarke – Pastor

For an English as a Second Language program and Hispanic Ministry Outreach. Funding will support a translation program for job and apartment applications, field trips to local sites, community support events, and ESL tutoring.

- 8. Good Shepherd Parish, Drums \$4,600**
Rev. Michael J. Kloton – Pastor

For Shepherd’s Hands Ministry for biweekly lunch for the poor, visits to infirmed parishioners, grief support ministries, outreach to the elderly, and pro-life instructional materials.

- 9. Nativity of Our Lord Parish, Duryea \$1,150**
Rev. John V. Polednak V.E. – Pastor

For ministries to the homebound and nursing home residents and support for food gift cards for needy families during the holidays.

- 10. St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Wilkes-Barre \$3,500**
Rev. Richard Cirba – Pastor

For senior ministries, an annual diaper drive, and a coat drive for children in need.

- 11. Corpus Christi Parish, West Pittston \$5,000**
Msgr. John Sempa – Pastor

For the parish food pantry, counseling and bereavement ministries, and emergency financial assistance for community members.

LUZERNE REGION (continued)

- 12. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, Hunlock Creek** **\$2,000**
Rev. Alex Roche – Pastor

To incorporate social justice education into the Confirmation program through field trips to the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker Farm, Misericordia University, Community of Economic Opportunity, St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen and the Children’s Service Center. Prayer is integrated into the service-oriented endeavors.

- 13. St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, Kingston** **\$5,000**
Rev. David Tressler – Pastor

For social justice summer lunch program run by Community of Economic Opportunity (CEO) including one adult volunteer (trained by CEO) and two (hard-to-employ) teenagers, assisted by parishioners, and for a youth ministry social justice program highlighting the Corporal Works of Mercy.

- 14. All Saints Parish, Plymouth** **\$5,000**
Rev. Jacek J. Bialkowski – Pastor

In support of various outreach programs in the parish.

- 15. St. John Bosco Parish, Conyngham** **\$5,000**
Rev. Richard Polmounter – Pastor

For the preparation and serving of lunch once a month at the Salvation Army Kitchen, Hazleton.

LYCOMING & TIOGA REGION

- 1. St. Ann Parish, Williamsport** **\$5,000**
Rev. John Victoria – Pastor

For participation in the Family Promise (nomadic homeless shelter) and the Charity Awareness Response Empathy (C.A.R.E.). Outreach to include emergency utility assistance to parishioners when requested.

- 2. St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Williamsport** **\$5,000**
Rev. Brian Van Fossen – Pastor

For Challenge and Conquest programs (social justice-oriented scouting programs) and supplemental funding for the Children’s Clothes Closet and World Marriage Day presentation.

- 3. Church of the Resurrection Parish, Muncy** **\$4,000**
Rev. Glenn E. McCreary V.E. – Pastor

For support for the Expectations Women’s Center, Son Light House Food Pantry, National Environmental Justice Conference and Prison Ministry at State Correctional Institution, Muncy.

- 4. St. Peter Parish, Wellsboro** **\$2,500**
Rev. David W. Bechtel – Pastor

For Prison Ministry and the Wellsboro Area Food Pantry.

MONROE REGION

- 1. St. Luke Parish, Stroudsburg** **\$5,000**
Rev. Carmen J. Perry – Pastor

For Saturday Soup Kitchen, food vouchers, and care for the elderly.

- 2. St. Matthew Parish, East Stroudsburg** **\$5,000**
Reverend Gerald W. Shantillo – Pastor

For Hispanic Ministry, Emergency Financial Assistance, and an outreach program to the homeless. The parish also supports a day center on Saturdays, working closely with Monroe County Homeless Advisory Board.

- 3. Most Holy Trinity Parish, Cresco** **\$5,000**
Reverend Gregory F. Loughney – Pastor

For Hispanic Ministry and Family Outreach to include an ESL Program, a Citizen Test Preparation Program for immigrants and the Loaves and Fishes ministry that provides a weekly community meal to more than 50 people.

- 4. Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Brodheadsville** **\$3,925**
Rev Michael F. Quinnan V.F. – Pastor

Parish Nurse and Health Ministry, and Social Justice Education (attendance at the 2020 CSMG Conference in Washington, D.C.)

WAYNE & PIKE REGION

- 1. St. John Neumann Parish, Lords Valley** **\$5,000**
Rev. Edward Casey – Pastor

In support of the Blooming Grove Food Pantry.

- 2. Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Peace Parish, Hawley** **\$2,000**
Rev. Richard Beck V.F. – Pastor

For the Bag a Month Food Collection Program (BAM), assisting local food pantries in serving the community.

- 3. St. Ann Parish, Shohola** **\$5,000**
Rev. Edward Casey – Pastor

For the Food Pantry and Lorenzo's Lunch, a program that ensures low-income students continue to receive nutritious meals when they no longer have access to daily free or reduced school lunches during the summer.

- 4. St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Milford** **\$3,750**
Rev. John B. Boyle – Pastor

For Youth Group Summer Service Camp and emergency financial assistance.

- 5. St. Patrick Parish, Milford** **\$5,000**
Rev. Joseph J. Manarchuck – Pastor

For the parish food pantry, emergency financial assistance, support of the Tri-State Pregnancy Center, and prison ministry at Pike County Correctional Facility.