

# Walk With Me



## HOUSE OF CHARITY BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

"Our communities are strong when we value the dignity of all people. In the story of the Good Samaritan, we are reminded not to walk past the downtrodden, but to reach out with a helping hand."

— BISHOP DENNIS SULLIVAN

*Your donation is essential to these ministries.*

"I think this is truly the most wonderful experience we can have: to belong to a people walking, journeying through history together with our Lord who walks among us."  
- Pope Francis

### SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Catholic Charities  
St. John of God/Archbishop Damiano School

### VOCATIONS & FORMATION OF SEMINARIANS & CARE OF PRIESTS

VITALITY CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE SERVICES

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

### INCENTIVES FOR PARISH INITIATIVES

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LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION YOUTH, YOUNG ADULT AND CAMPUS MINISTRIES

COMPASSIONATE OUTREACH

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...and to learn how to receive help if needed...

■ To double your gift via a matching gift...

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■ To learn how to include the House of Charity in your estate plan...

■ To discuss other ways to support the House of Charity...

...Please visit our website at [www.camdendiocese.org/hoc](http://www.camdendiocese.org/hoc) or call (856) 583-6128.



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HOUSE OF CHARITY  
BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Walk With Me

In our towns, parishes, and neighborhoods, we have brothers and sisters who are poor, sick, disabled, neglected, spiritually hungry, and in need of your help.

I invite you to "Walk With Me" and learn about those who have benefitted from the programs and ministries made possible by your gift to the House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal.



"Catholic education is worth the sacrifice." Erin and Steve Pence of Glassboro, NJ are parents to three children, James, Isabella, and John, and a fourth expected any day. The Pence children attend St. Michael the Archangel school. The Pences are proponents of Catholic education: "We want our children exposed to the faith daily."

Like all parents, the Pences want the best for their children. Catholic schools provide a quality system of values that will be part of students' lives forever.

Our schools model faith, service, and academic excellence. Communities in which Catholic schools are present benefit from the development of civic-minded leaders who are willing to serve.

Supporting Catholic education through the *House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal* ensures our schools maintain infrastructure, enhances educational resources, and offers challenging academics that keep pace with technological advancements.

The Catholic faithful are called to be Christ in the world and Catholic schools teach and offer opportunities for students to experience exactly what that means by learning to walk with others.

VITALity Healthcare Ministry conducts more than 1100 personal visits each year and that number continues to grow.



Regie Grose, a 58 year old Sicklerville man, began to experience weakness, muscle spasms and problems with coordination. In October of 2016, he received the diagnosis of ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. Life for Regie, his wife Deanna, and their children changed forever.

He soon needed assistance with every physical aspect of his life. As the family's resources began to dwindle, they applied for equipment and support services. The Grose family was frightened and did not know where to turn. Regie's wife Deanna received a flyer from a colleague that explained the VITALity Healthcare Ministry, a program supported by the *House of Charity – Bishop's Annual Appeal*.

Very soon, Deanna and Regie met with their VITALity Care Coordinator, Mimi Schaible. Through numerous visits, the Grose family received much needed support. Mimi assisted with filling out paperwork, researched and navigated programs, applications and requirements, and developed a care plan for Regie. Most of all, Mimi provided companionship, counsel, and support. While Regie's health condition would not improve, the support he received provided peace of mind and comfort for him and his family.



Two years ago, Israel Gonzales, a US Veteran living in Puerto Rico, was hurt after an accident while playing with his children. He experienced shocking pain in his jaw. Upon visiting a specialist, he received a particularly aggressive cancer diagnosis. After surgery and due to scheduling difficulties, he was unable to receive treatment in a timely manner. Israel turned to the Veterans Administration. Through coordination with the VA, Israel was able to receive his treatments here in New Jersey. However, for the family to remain together, they needed assistance. Through the resources and programs provided by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Camden, Israel and his family were able to stay together.

Israel is exceedingly grateful for the help he received from Catholic Charities. He obtained his medical care in a timely manner and his family was with him every step of the way. The Gonzales family created a new life in New Jersey and a happy home for their children.

When asked about Catholic Charities, Israel said, "I am grateful to have met so many good people through Catholic Charities who helped me through this difficult journey. Now it is time for me to give back!"

Today, Catholic Charities considers the Gonzales family among their most loyal volunteers.

