Explore Your Faith: Volunteer

_Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me._
_Mt 25:40_

**Welcome Home Re-entry Mentors**

Become a mentor to someone returning to the community from incarceration. Studies show that a faith-based mentor who provides encouragement and support makes all the difference in preventing recidivism. We will train you and provide ongoing support, but you already know what to do: be kind, be compassionate, be caring, be optimistic, be reliable. Mentors are at least 25 years old and commit for an hour a week for a year. You will make a BIG difference in someone’s life. Start now!


**Attention Financial Professionals!**

Help motivated people to break the cycle of poverty. Join Catholic Charities “Financial Stability Network” of financial professionals who will offer _pro bono_ financial education, financial coaching, and tax return preparation services for low income families and individuals in the Archdiocese of Washington. If you have any type of financial experience, consider joining the new Network.


**Calendar of Monthly and Weekly Service Projects**

Is your family looking for something to do together? Is your group looking for a way to build community? How doing a one-time short project that make a big difference in a few hours: clean up a shelter, pack breakfast bags (Cup of Joe) for people who stay in our shelters, help load up food packages, and more. Do one, do them all. Most are appropriate for families and high school students.

Get information and sign up to get started: [www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org/volunteer)

**Shelter Hospitality Volunteers**

Do you have the spiritual gift of service, hospitality or giving? Help the staff who run our low-barrier emergency shelters in DC to dole out “soup, soap, and hope” to 1,100 people each night. Sign up for a once-a-week/6-month gig. You’ll be amazed what a difference you make to those with no place of their own to call home.


**St Maria’s Meals**

Choose your spot to spend 2 hours feeding the hungry and thirsty and your soul. This food truck serves meals in different communities in the Archdiocese. On Tuesday evenings, volunteers serve families in the Camp Springs area. Bright and early on Friday mornings, volunteers serve breakfast to immigrants who are day laborers in the Long Branch area. Serve once, once a week, or once a month.


**Note to Parish Bulletin Editor:** Please publish one, some or all of these service opportunities @ Catholic Charities now and/or throughout Lent. Just cut and paste. Formatting is only to catch your eye, so change as you desire!

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