



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
OF CHARLESTON

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

PRESS RELEASE — *For Immediate Release*

media@charlestdioocese.org | 843.261.0535 | **November 11, 2022**

Catholic Diocese of Charleston encourages communities to assist veterans

CHARLESTON, SC—Nov. 11 is Veterans Day, a day to celebrate and honor our veterans for their love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. Today, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston is asking our communities to join its efforts in working to end the crisis of veterans experiencing homelessness.

“We are called to take care of our brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who have given so much to protect our freedom and the freedom of others around the world,” said Most Reverend Jacques Fabre-Jeune, CS, Bishop of Charleston.

According to statistics published by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, an estimated 428 homeless veterans reside in South Carolina. This crisis is worthy of attention and a solution.

“These men and women served honorably in the various branches of our military and deserve to be supported and cared for by all of us,” Bishop Fabre said.

Veterans carry the visible and invisible wounds of war. That is why Catholic Charities of South Carolina, the outreach arm of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston, ministers to veterans, especially homeless veterans, living in our state. The nonprofit provides short-term basic needs and guidance, permanent supportive housing, and referrals for free counseling and mental health support for veterans re-entering civilian life. Catholic Charities also partners with Goodwill Industries' senior program to set up professional job connections with our veterans.

“For many veterans, it is difficult to navigate the process to get access to special benefits and services, and consequently many give up,” stated Nikki Grimbball, Catholic Charities program specialist. “Catholic Charities of South Carolina fills this void. We serve veterans that suffer from PTSD, addiction, or that may have a distrust with the VA. We help veterans settle back into the everyday struggles of civilian life. From assisting with paperwork to referring counseling and providing necessary resources, we are here to serve our veterans in need.”

The diocese is encouraging the faithful to contact their state and national representatives and voice their support for homeless veterans.

“It is important for our veterans to know they have our love and support and that the Church will help to provide for all their spiritual, emotional and physical needs,” said Bishop Fabre.

Those who wish to support Catholic Charities in their effort to assist veterans in need can go to <https://charitiessc.org/donate> to donate.

ABOUT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

Founded in 1820, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston is comprised of 114 parishes and missions, 32 Catholic schools, and 350,000 people. It encompasses the state of South Carolina.

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