



THE EPISCOPAL  
DIOCESE OF  
NEW YORK

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

**March 7<sup>th</sup> 2010: Episcopal Charities Sunday  
Collection to support feeding programs in the Diocese of New York**

In these difficult times I am especially moved to recall to your attention the vital role that the feeding programs of Episcopal Charities – the official outreach arm of our diocese – play in the lives of thousands of God’s children who are in desperate need.

The 33 parish-based feeding programs supported by Episcopal Charities make a critical difference to individuals in communities throughout our diocese. They include soup kitchens, food pantries, brown bag lunches, food delivery to the elderly and meals for persons living with HIV/ AIDS. In 2009, they served more than a million meals to our neighbors in need. Over the past year, they have consistently reported increases in demand of 10-20%, and in some cases the increase has been dramatically greater. This comes at a time when government and food bank resources are declining, making it increasingly difficult for them to serve those most in need.

*These are, unquestionably, hard times for nearly everyone. But while we may all feel financial strains, we do not all live with the risk of imminent hunger.*

**I very much hope that on Episcopal Charities Sunday March 7th, you will be moved to offer your full support.**

I thank you for your generosity.

Faithfully,

*+ Mark*

THE RIGHT REVEREND MARK S. SISK  
BISHOP OF NEW YORK

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