



*You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. (2 Corinthians 9:11)*

## Dear Friend of Catholic Charities,

Thanksgiving brims with family and food. Whether family members are seated around one bountiful table or joined together from afar, we seek to be with those we love. We enjoy making new memories with treasured family recipes as we give thanks to the Lord for all our blessings.

“In the family, faith is handed on together with life, generation after generation. It is shared like food at the family table and like the love in our hearts. In this way, families become privileged places in which to encounter Jesus, who loves us and desires our good always.” (Pope Leo XIV)



JAY & BARBARA

Catholic Charities of Long Island Meals on Wheels drivers like Jay Dakis are preparing to deliver delicious turkey dinners for Thanksgiving. Barbara, an 85-year-old senior on his Nassau County route, will welcome him just as she has since her daughter-in-law Judy signed her up for Meals on Wheels earlier this year.



BARBARA

Judy was passing along a blessing that her own parents, now deceased, received from Catholic Charities' Meals on Wheels program years ago. At the time, they were in their 90s and living at home on Long Island.

**“It’s a fabulous service,” Judy says, “I’m proud to say I’m Catholic, and proud that Catholic Charities is out there helping my mother in law.”**



Barbara, a widow, has two sons: Richard, Judy's husband, and John. She's also a grandmother of four and great-grandmother of three. She loves the weekly meals she receives because they taste great and are low in calories and sodium. "The food is excellent," she says. "They're all wonderful and they're all different."

Shoulder problems make lifting a problem, so preparing meals herself would be a very difficult chore for Barbara. The ease and goodness of the delivered meals is a true Thanksgiving blessing.

Barbara has a warm, engaging personality. Jay, who enjoys visiting all senior clients on his 15-stop route, admits she is special. "I've never met anybody like her," he said.

I'm proud to report that in 2024 Catholic Charities of Long Island served 188,913 meals to our Meals on Wheels clients in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

**Every single penny you donate goes directly to this ministry.**

Each of you hold a place in my Thanksgiving prayers for remembering those who rely on Catholic Charities of Long Island for assistance. Even if you can't donate, please add your prayer to mine.

In Christ,



Michael E. Smith  
CEO, Catholic Charities of Long Island



## Long Island Seniors Need Your Help!

Catholic Charities' Meals on Wheels program can deliver a delicious meal for just \$5.42. For most, that's a small price to pay to ensure a nutritious meal and friendly companionship.



Scan to donate online