



March is Minnesota FoodShare Month, a time when our donations to local food shelves pack an even more powerful punch than usual in the fight against hunger. This is due to incentive funds from Minnesota FoodShare, and matching funds from Central Minnesota Community Foundation, U.S. Bank and United Way of Central Minnesota.

As a further challenge, some parishioners have agreed to match the first \$3,000 donated jointly by St. Peter's and St. Paul's.

The more we collect, the more funds are awarded to our community and the more hungry families we can feed.

We will be collecting food and cash donations at both St. Peter's and St.

Paul's during the month of March.

Should I Donate Cash or Food to the Food Shelf?

During March Food Share Month, cash donations are the preferred method of donation, because of the matching funds available. Cash has proven to be of great benefit to your food shelves.

- **For the Donor:**

- It is easier to write a check than to remember to bring a food item for the donation box
- It is less labor-intensive. Cash or checks are much easier to transport than cans and boxes of food
- It is easy to use as a tax deduction

- **For the Food Shelf:**

- Cash donations allow food shelves to purchase food items they don't receive as donations including produce, meat and dairy products, culturally-specific foods and food for special medical needs.
- Cash donations are stretched. Every dollar donated to the food shelf can result in four pounds of food because many food shelves engage in cooperative bulk purchasing.
- Cash doesn't spoil or expire so it can be used throughout the year.

- **Check Donations:**

- **To qualify for matching funds, please follow these instructions carefully.** Once all of the cash and checks have been tallied, each parish will write one check to Catholic Charities where it will be shared with the Salvation Army.
 - ***Make your check out to Church of St. Peter or Church of St. Paul***
 - ***On the memo line write in FOF or "Feed our Families"***
 - ***Drop it into the collection basket or deliver to either parish office***

- **Cash Donations:**

- ***Place your cash donation in an envelope addressed to either parish and marked FOF or "Feed Our Families" and drop it into the collection basket or deliver to either parish office***

- **Food Donations:**

- Many individuals and families prefer the connectedness they feel by donating, weighing, and delivering food items to the local food shelf. To be sure, donation of food items helps meet the needs of hungry people. If you wish to donate food items, you can bring them to either church or deliver them to Catholic Charities, 157 Roosevelt Road, St. Cloud, MN 56301 on Saturday March 26th, between 1:00pm and 6:00pm.

See reverse side