

December 2016

Dear Fellow Clergy,

This note is being sent to encourage you to designate one Sunday in the coming year as Episcopal Charities Sunday in your church. We would be pleased to provide you with materials, and a speaker if you wish, to inform your parishioners of the many outreach ministries our diocese supports through the work of Episcopal Charities. It would be a great opportunity to bring the importance of outreach ministry to the greater attention of your congregation.

How might this benefit your people? Most importantly, greater familiarity with the many creative outreach programs we support in the communities and congregations throughout southeast Florida might inspire your folks to develop such ministries locally. Even if you already have some vital outreach ministries, your parishioners may see new or improved ways of serving those in need. Additionally, by having a Sunday focus on ministry to those in need, you call your people's attention to one of the most important aspects of the Christian call. We are prepared to help you with that.

I was in parish ministry long enough to know that it is not a bad idea to have a visitor come around once in a while to share some aspect of the faith. As much as your flock loves you, they get energized by having someone new to hear every so often.

Please take us up on this by contacting me at rstaylor50@yahoo.com or by accepting the offer when we call to ask you about it. You do not need to feel obligated to take up a special offering for the benefit of Episcopal Charities. On the other hand, we would like to be allowed to let people know how they can support our vital ministry to the poor in our area if they feel so moved.

Faithfully yours,

The Rev. Canon Robert S. Taylor, Interim Executive Director, ECSEFL