

## Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive



### **What is the Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive**

The Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive is a Catholic Charities affiliated outreach event held each year by parishes around the Archdiocese of Washington, DC. Parish and school families and friends go out into their neighborhoods to collect nonperishable food items which support local food pantries and shelters. This event is open to all parish communities and is designed to be an easy way for volunteers of any age to work together to serve their neighbors in need.

The food drive was started in 1987 at Blessed Sacrament Parish (DC) by Greg Gannon. He was a man of service and faith with a passion to help those in need. Inspired by the idea to have his friends collect food for the poor, he started what was to become an event which would collect over one million food items for the hungry of the metropolitan DC area. In 2006, Greg passed away after suffering from brain cancer. The food drive has since continued to thrive under the leadership and the same passion for service of Greg's brother Rick Gannon. The annual food drive has become a treasured tradition for hundreds of volunteers at Blessed Sacrament.

With the support of Catholic Charities, we have been able to create a model to share with other parishes of the Archdiocese. This simple proven method of engaging adults and children alike to collect food items on a Saturday morning is creating new traditions for more families. It is a wonderful experience to serve the less fortunate as a family not to mention to spread our Catholic faith through action not just words!

You can always get more information on our website at [www.ggcfid.org](http://www.ggcfid.org) .