



Office of the Bishop

## DIocese OF LITTLE ROCK

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September 2, 2025

To the Catholic community in the Diocese of Little Rock,

Imagine living on the street or in a park close to where you attend Mass. You do not have enough money to feed yourself or your family, and your only shelter is a tent.

Living day-to-day, not knowing where your next meal will come from, how you will provide for your family, or where you can safely sleep for the night, are very stressful realities to worry about daily. For some, being food insecure and unhoused results in feelings of hopelessness and despair.

Recognizing that we have people in need in every community in our diocese, we have selected the Outreach Center at St. Edward Catholic Parish in Texarkana to help as this year's One Church partner. They have been providing meals Monday through Friday for the past 40 years out of an old house that is being replaced with a new facility on the parish grounds. They serve a sack lunch to about 200 to 250 people a day. That is more than 52,000 meals a year for those in need. They also provide hygiene kits, clothing, and occasionally sleeping bags and tents for people needing shelter. Their volunteers treat their guests with respect, dignity, and love with their warm smiles and attentive listening.

One Church began seven years ago as a way for our diocese to unite as the Catholic church in Arkansas to help a parish or mission with a project they cannot accomplish alone. The St. Edward Outreach Center needs our help with the future of their ministry. Once their new building is up and running, they will have more opportunities to minister with the poor and marginalized. In addition to buying supplies, they would also like to offer healthier food options and increase the hours they are open.

I invite the Catholic community in our state to join together in supporting the St. Edward Outreach Center through One Church. You can learn more about their ministry on our diocesan website at [dolr.org/one-church](http://dolr.org/one-church) or by contacting Catholic Charities of Arkansas.

Please prayerfully consider how you can participate in One Church to help the St. Edward Outreach Center do what is asked of us in Matthew 25: "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And Jesus replied, "Whatever you did for one of these least of mine, you did for me."

May the Lord bless you for your generosity and openness to being a source of hope for those in need who will experience the love of Christ at the St. Edward Outreach Center.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock