



Sisters of Charity of Our Lady, Mother of the Church

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Dear Friend of the Sisters,

A young Sister teaching junior high school likes to share stories with her students about her grandfather's generosity. He ran a small business and often didn't charge customers who were having a tough time financially. When some of them insisted on trying to pay him back, he would reply, **"Would you please let a person do something now and then just to stretch his soul?"**

Stretching our souls! That's what happens when we help others, assist the poor and less fortunate, care for those in need and give generously. We do indeed stretch our souls when we extend ourselves beyond the level of obligation in kindhearted acts of love. And in doing so, we imitate the outstanding generosity of Jesus Himself, who gave everything out of love for others.



Students benefit greatly from the guidance and caring attention they receive from Sister Cabrini.

Thank you for stretching your soul when you've stood side-by-side with Sister Cabrini and Sister Rafael in our ministries of educating young children and teenagers. **Sister Cabrini** teaches 5th grade at Sacred Heart School and shares with her students how she is always mindful of those struggling in their school and local communities. She eagerly looks forward to Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter when special outreach is offered to families in need. Says Sister Cabrini, "I am so fortunate to be a Sister, ministering to the poor every day."

Sister Rafael is a teacher, dorm mother and Vice-Principal at our high school, the Academy of the Holy Family, located at our Motherhouse. Sister Rafael recounts, "Twice, when announcing where our graduates would be going to college, it has been my privilege to say that this young woman is becoming a Sister of Charity and is doing something beautiful with her life." Our Sisters want you to know that YOU have brought souls to Christ when you've assisted them as they educate God's



Sister Rafael (l.) enjoys time with Sister Marie Celeste, one of her former students who is "doing something beautiful with her life." She has become a Sister of Charity.

children. Can I ask you once again, like that young Sister's grandfather, to stretch your soul through your generous support of the Sisters of Charity? Will you continue to stand side-by-side with Sister Cabrini and Sister Rafael, with Sister Lucette, Sister Jacinta, Sister Mary Jude and all our Sisters through your generous offering? Every expression of your charity will make a significant difference in the lives of the people we assist in our ministries. Their lives are forever changed and improved by YOUR goodness and kindness.

Sister Lucette serves at our Homeless Shelter, where they are offered more than a roof over their heads. She recalls recently sharing extra food with someone whose family had fallen on really hard times. The next day this person sought her out to say, “Sister, I can’t begin to tell you how much the things you gave me helped us.”

Sister Jacinta has spent many years serving the aged and infirm in our Health Care Facilities. It has been her experience that “The elderly don’t ask for a lot of attention, but the little they request, they need it badly. When they are ill or in pain, they should truly be believed because a senior will say it like it is.” For Sister Jacinta, the most rewarding part of caring for the elderly is in preparing them for eternity.



Sister Lucette serves families in need at our Homeless Shelter. Here they receive, not only a roof over their heads, but also the encouragement and support they need to carry on.



Assisted by Sister Mary Jude, Gloria was renewed in her faith and has become a faithful and active member of the Church.

Sister Mary Jude assists those who are desperate, often abandoned, and seeking refuge in our great nation. She tells of an immigrant mother, Gloria, who desperately wants to put food on the table every day for her children. In Mexico, Gloria hardly ever went to church, but when she came to America, “the Church looked for her, not only helping her and her family with food, but to know and love Jesus more.”

Dear Friend, one of the miracles of your charity to the Sisters is that you can be busy at your daily tasks at home or at work and at the same time be sharing the Gospel with the children we teach, the hungry we feed, the homeless we shelter and immigrants seeking safety and protection.

Please be sure to share your petitions and special intentions with us. Our Sisters will offer your needs to God in our daily prayers and Masses.

It is the special ministry of all our Sisters, particularly our dear elder and infirm Sisters, to pray for you and your loved ones each day. And may the Lord greatly bless you every time you go beyond obligation and **stretch your soul** aiding the Sisters and generously helping others.

Gratefully in Mary, Mother of the Church,

Mother Marie Julie, SCMC

Mother Marie Julie, SCMC
Superior General

Our Sisters are counting on your continued support. Like the young Sister’s grandfather, will you do something just to stretch your soul? You can win a victory for Christ, wherever you are, by your generosity and caring. And in doing so, you could even be ministering to Jesus Himself who told us He is especially present among us in the least of our sisters and brothers.



SCAN TO SHARE WITH
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