



Catholic Social Services
Diocese of Fall River

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Faith in Action

JUNE is a time of celebrations and recognizing major achievements. We join couples as they begin their new lives together; we celebrate with graduates as they step into a new chapter; and we bask in the longer, warmer days of summer.

We also recognize those fathers and father-figures in our lives, who have shaped, guided and helped us become the individuals we are. At Catholic Social Services, many of our male volunteers have become father-figures to so many we assist and serve. In a broken and often unstable world, **YOU** demonstrate that men can be caring, sensitive, and still be strong. We thank you for what you do and how your actions make a difference to the lives you touch.

June is also a time when we acknowledge major milestones in our nation's history. One poignant event that has finally earned its due, is Juneteenth. This federal holiday recognizes the struggle and perseverance of enslaved individuals who longed for the basic right to freedom, who yearned to be treated and seen as equals, and who even in the midst of all that occurred, never gave up hope. In 1866, those formally enslaved Black Texans began celebrating the occasion, a year after the last of the slaves had been freed. A celebration of human rights and dignity, that finally became a federal holiday in 2021.

In a modern world, we still see the impact of oppression and hatred. Change has always been and still is possible. The biggest obstacle to change, is our own unwillingness to step outside our comfort zone. We are all children of God, living in a world that needs our care and attention. How we choose to view and respond to the world is more loudly heard than our words. One of my favorite quotes, whose author is anonymous, is "You see in the world, what you carry in your heart."

We all have the ability to see the beauty that surrounds us, to see the child of God in the face of everyone we encounter, and to recognize that we are all deserving of love, acceptance and dignity. As we honor those we celebrate this June, let us not forget that we have the ability and power to be the difference.

A Juneteenth Prayer ~



one love that binds us to each other, and to you. And most of all, Lord, change our routine worship and work into genuine encounter with you and our better selves so that our lives will be changed for the good of all. Amen

We pray, O Lord, for change. Jesus you revealed God through your wise words and loving deeds, and we encounter you still today in the faces of those whom society has pushed to the margins. Guide us, through the love you revealed, to establish the justice you proclaimed, that all peoples might dwell in harmony and peace, united by that

- Black Catholic Ministry, Archdiocese of Baltimore



Hello June

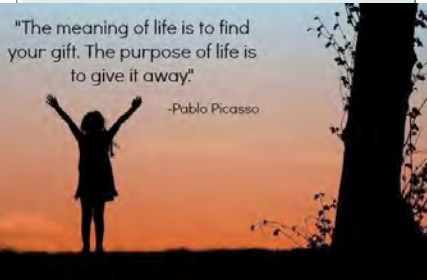
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Stamp Out Hunger.....	2
Celebrating a Birthday.....	2
Volunteer Opportunities ...	2
A Spirit of Service	3
Facts About June	3
Community in Action.....	4
Continued Support	4

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Volunteers:** Send in your CORI forms. Email: rsarai-va@cssdioc.org or call 508-674-4681 Ext. 1111.
- **Happy Birthday** to all our volunteers who celebrated a birthday in May and will be celebrating in June. We would love to honor and recognize YOU! Email your name and birthday to rsarai-va@cssdioc.org or call 508-674-4681 Ext. 1111.





Reception Area coverage—answer and direct calls, general office duties—Fall River, New Bedford & Cape Cod locations.

Portuguese speaking interpreters/translators to assist with client intakes and interviews.

Volunteers to help with miscellaneous tasks at our shelters—Cape Cod & New Bedford locations.

Dedicated volunteers to serve at our Meal Center in New Bedford.

Food Pantry Volunteers to help assemble and prepare food items for our guests in New Bedford, as well as bilingual volunteers to assist guests.

For more information about these or other opportunities contact Rose Mary Saraiva, Volunteer Coordinator at 508-674-4681 Ext. 1111 or via email at rsarai-va@cssdioc.org

BECOME A VOLUNTEER!

POST OFFICE—STAMP OUT HUNGER

The US Post Office was once again able to hold their annual food drive. According to USPS.com, this is a tradition that began 25 years ago, led by letter carriers, represented by NALC, other postal employees and volunteers. Through their dedicated commitment to “Stamping out Hunger”, this drive has delivered more than one billion pounds of food since it began.

Held every second Saturday in May, letter carriers in over 10,000 cities and towns collect non-perishable food items that their postal customers donate. These items are left by mailboxes or brought in to post offices, which are then distributed to various local community food banks, pantries and shelters.

The USPS.com site reminds us that, “One in eight Americans face hunger every day in America.” The drive is just one way that individuals can help those in their own cities and towns who are in need of help.



was the agency that benefited from their collections. Their efforts and the generous donations of their customers, netted over 2180 pounds of food for those we serve.

Working in tandem with the post office, our employees and volunteers picked up the donations and then began the work of sorting out the items.

To everyone at the **South Dartmouth Post Office**, thank you for being the difference for those who may be facing food insecurity.



Of course like everything else, COVID did not allow this to happen during the last two years, but with some quick planning, it went off again this year. So on May 14th, food was collected across the country.

During the drive, each post office selects and focuses on service provider agencies in their postal service area. For the South Dartmouth Post Office, our Food Pantry in New Bedford



Celebrating a June Birthday:

<p>Nina A.— June 2 Morgan R.—June 9 Dawn C.— June 14 Nicole H.— June 18</p>	<p>Isabell K.— June 5 Christine P.— June 12 Peter M.— June 14 Edmund F.— June 20</p>
<p>Kayla A.— June 22</p>	



A SPIRIT OF SERVICE



Portsmouth Abbey in Rhode Island offers a variety of programs and activities that engage the students with the communities it serves, helping students gain a broader perspective of the world around them.



One such event is the **Day of Service**, where students in their senior year go out into the communities and serve others. In addition to serving, they also gain a greater awareness of the needs of the community, what resources are available, and how communities pull together to make a difference.



Catholic Social Services was the benefactor of this attitude of service. On May 17th, a group of seniors headed over to the Solanus Casey Food Pantry in New Bedford. These students, who were eager to get right to work, began sorting and organizing the various donations that came in, while having fun. With music in the background, they made short work of what needed to be done.

Thank you seniors for choosing to serve at Catholic Social Services and Paula Walters and Portsmouth Abbey for making this all possible.

"Just don't give up what you're trying to do. Where there is love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong." - Ella Fitzgerald, Musician



FACTS ABOUT JUNE —

- ◇ June 5 - World Environment Day
- ◇ June 14 - Flag Day
- ◇ June 19 - Juneteenth (also known as Freedom or Emancipation Day)
- ◇ June 20 - Summer Solstice
- ◇ June 21 - Father's Day
- ◇ June 21 - National Indigenous Peoples Day (Canada)
- ◇ June 24 - Midsummer Day

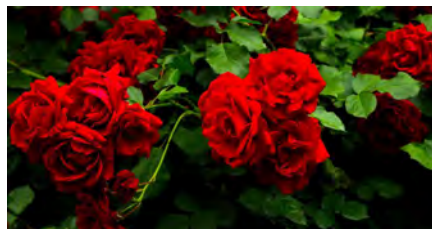


“Just for Fun” Days:

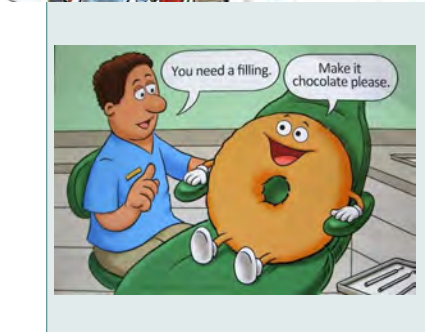
- June 1: Say Something Nice Day (Volunteers, we are proud of YOU!)
- June 3: National Donut Day
- June 3: Chimborazo Day (To the highest mountain)
- June 6: National Yo-Yo Day (What goes up, must come down—just saying!)
- June 8: Upsy Daisy Day (Rise and Shine!)
- June 21: Go Skateboarding Day (Helmets please)
- June 30: Asteroid Day

More About June:

June is the months with the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. June's birthstone is the pearl, Moonstone and Alexandrite. The birth flowers are the Rose and Honeysuckle. In 2009, June was the 662 most popular girls name in the USA.



*The month of leaves and roses,
When pleasant sights salute the eyes,
And pleasant scents the noses.*
—N. P. Willis (1807-67)



Community in Action - *Outreach...*

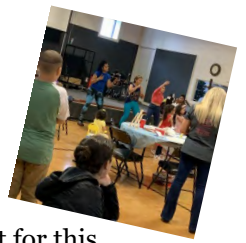
DOING NOTHING FOR OTHERS
is the undoing
OF OURSELVES.
-horace mann



WWW.SOURCEHUB.US is a foundation whose primary goal is to help educate and connect immigrants to resources of all areas of basic needs, empowering personal autonomy and self-reliance.



Catholic Social Services had the pleasure of being present for this community event, giving our agency the opportunity to reach and inform the community.



It was also a great networking event for us and helped us connect to even more resources.

Some of the agencies present included:

- * *Health First* * *Citizen's for Citizens* * *YMCA*
- * *SSTAR & The Women's Center & Project Aware*
- * *Bristol Community College* * *SER-Jobs For Progress*
- * *Essencia Therapy Group* * *Federation for Children with Special Needs*
- * *MAPS (Mass. Alliance of Portuguese Speakers)*



As volunteers, you are often asked what is available for those seeking help. The following is a list of local resources for the areas CSS serves, with bilingual options.

Greater Fall River United Neighbors at <https://unfr.org/resources/>

United Way of Greater New Bedford - Street Sheet—<https://unitedwayofgnb.org/street-sheet>

PIN—Attleboro/Taunton Resource Guide: <https://pin.bamsi.org/resources/taunton/>

PIN—Cape Cod Area: <https://pin.bamsi.org/resources/cape/>

Continued Community Support -

Catholic Social Services, like many not-for-profit agencies, relies heavily on the support of the communities they serve. Through volunteerism, donations, and funding, CSS can provide services to individuals and families in their time of need.

We are blessed to have so many of you who give selflessly of their time, talent and treasure.

We wish to acknowledge all you do, as well as thank those organizations and groups who continue to make Catholic Social Services the focus of their service and generosity.

- ◆ Amazon, Inc. and the staff at the Distribution Center, for their continued support and donations.
- ◆ Polish Women's Club in New Bedford, who collected brand new clothing for the children in our programs.

All we do is not possible without YOU!

