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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Generosity Shines Through Harvest of Blessings**

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Through the generosity of many holiday season contributions this year, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque was able to help 261 families from 16 different Iowa counties through the 2011 Harvest of Blessings program. A total of \$26,020.00 in financial assistance was provided to the families, including 612 children and 432 adults.

Harvest of Blessings is an annual holiday season appeal in the Archdiocese of Dubuque to assist families in need with financial assistance for the holiday season. Donations from all areas were accepted, pooled, and distributed among the many families who apply for assistance through the program. Applications were available at all parishes in the Archdiocese of Dubuque.

Catholic Charities expresses gratitude to the donors and partnering parishes that make the program possible, and bring the true Christmas spirit to life for so many families in need.

In addition to the Harvest of Blessings program, Catholic Charities also receives many sponsors who adopt families in need at Christmas time. This year 13 sponsors (businesses and families) helped an additional 31 households experience a more joyful Christmas.

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque was founded in 1931 as a non-profit, social service organization. The organization serves 30 counties in Northeast Iowa and is part of a national social services network through Catholic Charities USA, working to reduce poverty, strengthen families, and empower communities, responding to persons in need of all faiths. For more information or ways to get involved visit [www.charitiesdbq.com](http://www.charitiesdbq.com) or call 800.772.2758.

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