



# BECAUSE *we are* CATHOLIC

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MARYLAND SERVES AND ADVOCATES FOR THE POOR, VULNERABLE AND THOSE IN NEED NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE CATHOLIC, BUT BECAUSE WE ARE CATHOLIC.

## A Message from the Maryland Catholic Conference March 6, 2013

Can you guess who this is?

- He recently wrote: “From my perspective, a Catholic who doesn’t know or live out our Catholic social teaching is missing something important. A parish that does not share and act on this vision is not fully Catholic. A community or nation that ignores these principles is in real moral danger.”
- He runs a nonprofit that serves more than 100,000 people in need at a cost of more than \$60 million through its 75 programs in 48 locations in the District of Columbia and Maryland (Montgomery and Prince George’s counties and Southern Maryland) with a staff of nearly 800 and a volunteer pool of 3,400 people.
- This charity serves people of all faiths and backgrounds without exception – an estimated 85% of those served are not Catholic.
- He was named one of the 2012 Washingtonians of the Year.

**Answer: Monsignor John Enzler**

**President and CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington**

“Catholic social teaching gives us a very different way of looking at the world, different priorities for how we live our lives, different questions as we look at public issues. We are to measure our lives not by what we have, but how we care for others. We are called to place the protection of human life and dignity, the pursuit of justice and peace, and the defense of family and religious freedom at the center of public life. We are challenged to examine policies, budgets and priorities, from the “bottom up,” putting the poor and vulnerable first. Our teaching calls us to defend the defenseless, beginning with unborn children who have no voice but our voices. ...

“I see these principles each day in Catholic Charities’ efforts to stand up for human life and dignity, to offer food for the hungry and shelter for the homeless, to help immigrants without the right papers or young men and women without decent work, to call our leaders to build a more just community and more peaceful world,” wrote Msgr. Enzler in the Catholic Standard, January 17, 2013.