

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Mailing Address
POST OFFICE BOX F
ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA
18105-1538

4029 WEST TILGHMAN STREET
ALLENTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18104
(610) 437-0755
Fax (610) 433-7822

Dear Friends,

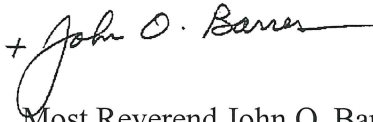
I am writing to you to request your support of the **Fifth Annual Catholic Charities Gala**. Catholic Charities will celebrate this important event on Sunday, March 11, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Fogelsville. This year, the Gala will honor St. Joseph Medical Center and Sacred Heart HealthCare System. Catholic Charities is proud to honor these organizations for their collaborative working relationship with Catholic Charities and for their contributions in the community. The Gala will also honor Robert A. Allwein of St. Thomas More Parish for a lifetime of achievement as a volunteer.

In order to ensure that this event is a success, I would like you to consider a sponsorship. Sponsorship opportunities and benefits are enclosed. All proceeds will benefit the poor and vulnerable residents of Lehigh, Northampton, Berks, Carbon, and Schuylkill counties. Your impact can be felt when the hungry are fed, at-risk children are protected, the poor become self-reliant, fragile families are strengthened, refugees are resettled and older adults can feel safe in their homes.

I am pleased to announce that Pamela Kelly-Salvino and Tony Salvino are again chairing the Catholic Charities Gala with new co-chairs Dr. Linda Lapos and Paul Wirth.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown, the largest accredited multi-service agency in the area, offers social services to both Catholics and Non-Catholics alike. It is our privilege to honor these organizations, who are a shining example of how our health care system can make a difference in the local community, and to honor Bob Allwein for his dedicated volunteer service. I thank you for considering my request for sponsorship of this event.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

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Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Allentown