



Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh
111 Boulevard of the Allies
Pittsburgh PA 15222

E-mail: dioceseofpittsburghcommunications@diopitt.org

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Contact: Bethany Shaw 412-456-6968

bshaw@ccpgh.org

(Day of event, cell) 412-401-4723

ADVISORY TO NEWS AND ASSIGNMENT EDITORS:

25th LOVEWALK FOR THE POOR

PITTSBURGH – **Hundreds of youth and their families** of the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh will participate in the **twenty-fifth annual Lovewalk for the Poor** on **Sunday, February 15, 2015**, led by **Bishop David A. Zubik**, Diocese of Pittsburgh.

By carrying items on the trek to the East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM), participants in the walk imitate some of the hardships of the poor and homeless who often have no choice but to walk in the cold of winter carrying their possessions with them.

Bishop Zubik will celebrate a Mass at **2 p.m.** in **Sacred Heart Church** at **310 Shady Avenue** in Pittsburgh's **Shadyside** neighborhood preceding the march. After communion, Susan Rauscher, Executive Director, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and Michael Mingrone, Executive Director of EECM, will address participants, express their gratitude for participation and how their donations will benefit the agencies. Donations for Catholic Charities will benefit the Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program which provides support services for single, pregnant and parenting mothers 18 or older and their infants. Services include counseling, employment assistance, and life-skills, pre-natal and parenting education, as well as, providing housing and support services to homeless single mothers through a program called Roselia.

Mr. Mingrone will talk about the ministries provided by EECM, where over 67,000 meals are served from Community Kitchen. And, nearly 1000 families received emergency groceries and other assistance from the food pantry while volunteers delivered over 30,000 meals to homebound East End residents. More than 1,000 young people participated in the children and youth programs, which include programs for at-risk youth, tutoring, basketball and summer camps. And hundreds of adults received job therapy, training, emergency shelter and transitional housing for other needy people through EECM's IMPACTS program.

The **march** beginning around **3:10 p.m.** will proceed **from the church** to the **East End Cooperative Ministry at its new location, 6140 Penn Circle, East Liberty.**

Suggested donations are boxed non-perishable food for the East End Cooperative Ministry and baby wipes and diapers for the Roselia Program. For **further information**, 412-456-6996 or visit www.ccpgh.org

Limited parking is available. Carpooling is encouraged. Buses may park at Home Depot, 400 N. Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206.

YOUR COVERAGE OF THESE EVENTS IS WELCOME.