

## Giving Alms

1. Call attention to the “Catholics Believe” box on page 123. Make the connection between giving alms and the work of Solanus Casey (highlighted in the feature box in the Guide on page 206) in starting a soup kitchen that continues to feed the hungry.
2. Ask the children to name non-perishable food items that a soup kitchen might want. Use their suggestions to make a list on the board.
3. Distribute lined paper to the children. Tell them they are going to write a letter to their parents asking for alms, or donations, for a local food coop, pantry, or soup kitchen. If possible, make arrangements with a specific charity beforehand to personalize the letter.
4. Work with the children to compose the letter to the parents. At the bottom of the letter, include a number of suggested items taken from the list the children created.
5. Have the children include a date on which the donations should be brought to class.
6. Bring empty boxes to class on the date specified for donations. Have the children help you to pack the boxes.
7. Invite the children to make a group card to include with their gift of food.
8. If possible, arrange for a few of the children and their parents to deliver the boxes to the designated charity.

