

## Volunteer Recognition Pop-Up

### Christ Our Light Catholic Church

On March 22, 2023, Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service visited the Christ Our Light Catholic Church (formerly St. Florian) to recognize food pantry volunteers.

This food pantry has been in operation since 1992, with countless volunteers helping each week.

Volunteers meet weekly to set up, pack, and disperse essential food items for individuals who visit the food pantry and deliver to those who are unable to attend in person.

It is estimated that over 150 hours are put into volunteer work for the running of this pantry a week. The food is donated by the Chicago Food Depository.



Volunteer Programs Coordinator, Cecilia Maciel Martinez, presented the Governor's Certificate of Appreciation Awards to twelve volunteers for their outstanding volunteerism efforts in setting up and running the weekly food pantry. At the time of the visit, volunteers were preparing to disperse food items such as baked goods, vegetables, and meat for upcoming Easter festivities.

**Serve Illinois congratulates these volunteers for their commitment to their communities and for extending the opportunity to further expand our enabling legislation responsibility to recognize outstanding community service accomplishments.**

## Volunteer Highlight



For Women's History Month, we also want to recognize Joan Gibbons food pantry organizer, for her ongoing commitment of over 15 years in ensuring the food pantry runs smoothly.

## What is a Volunteer Recognition Pop-Up?

A Volunteer Pop-Up Recognition is a way to honor an organization, program, group, or individual for their outstanding volunteer efforts.

Individuals are recognized by receiving a Governor's Certificate of Appreciation award, whether in person or through the mail and are highlighted on Serve Illinois' social media.

