

## **St Philip Roman Catholic Church has done the 30 Hour Famine for 13 years:**

The first year, **“Fed-Up”**, March 27-28, 2004, had 29 participants. They created a “hunger chain” out of 29,000 cable ties. The chain was almost ½ mile long when it was done. That year, the students raised \$3,000 for World Vision, and \$1,000 for our local soup kitchen, Manna House, for a total of \$4,000. 8 Children saved.

Year two was **“Act Fast”**, February 25-26, 2005. We had 39 participants and they created a huge banner made from Tyvek, with 29,000 fingerprints (2,900 hands). When complete, this banner stretched around the inside walls of our church two times. The Famine raised \$5,700 for World Vision and \$2,015 for Manna House, for a total of \$7,715. 16 Children saved (24).

Year three was a **“Fast for Food”**, held February 18-19, 2006. We grew to 85 participants, and added something new: a “Mini Famine” for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. Their Famine had 27 participants and lasted eight hours. Together the participants created a “Popsicle Stick Cross” out of 29,000 Popsicle sticks, and carried it into the Famine Mass, which was extraordinary. \$13,716 was raised for World Vision and \$2,150 for Manna House, for a total of \$15,866. 38 children saved (62).

Year four was **“Starve Hunger”** and took place February 10-11, 2007. We had 100 high school participants and 33 took part in the mini-famine. We raised \$16,081 for World Vision and \$2,500 for Manna House, for a total of \$18,581. We were selected for the study tour and four of our students with a young adult leader traveled to Malawi for a life-changing experience. Bright orange shirts. 45 Children saved (107).

Year five brought **“Be Seen. Be Heard. Be Hungry.”** The Famine took place February 16-17, 2008 and had 122 high school participants and 21 Mini Famers. We raised \$18,564 for World Vision and \$2,700 for Manna House, for a total of \$21,265. Austin Gutwein, the young founder of Hoops for Hope was our speaker. We built a “Hunger House” out of cardboard and old palettes and filled it with information about hunger and poverty. We began sponsoring Abel. 52 Children saved (159).

In year six we **“Starved for Food”**. The Famine was held February 28 – March 1, 2009. We had 137 high school participants and 30 Mini Famers. This Famine raised \$19,421 for World Vision and \$4,615 for Manna House, for a total of \$24,036. It was an exciting time, as we partnered with the newly formed St. Philip Artist Guild and presented an incredible Art show entitled “Feeding the Soul”. The show consisted of over 35 professional artists and had an entire room of the gallery devoted to art from our local youth. The participants also created an 8’x12’ painted mural for the Famine Mass. 54 Children saved (213).

For year seven we had our Famine **“On an Empty Stomach”** February 27–28, 2010. We had 165 high school participants and 23 Mini Famers. The Famine raised \$21,065 for World Vision and \$5,225 for Manna House., for a total of \$26,290. We focused on clean water and the impact that has. We once again had an art show, and we built a huge arch from plastic water bottles. 59 Children saved (272).

**“Love Hungry”** was our year eight theme. The Famine was held February 26-27, 2011. We had 161 high school participants and 21 Mini Famers. Christine Leronimo was our guest speaker. The Famine raised \$21,864 for World Vision and \$5,250 for Manna House, for a total of \$27,114. We created a “wall” of canned food, which was then donated. The SPAG artists created a prayer wheel using our intentions. 61 Children saved (333)

Year nine found us ready to **“Overcome Hunger”**. The Famine was held March 3-4, 2012 and included 156 high school participants and 27 mini participants. Gabriel Bol Deng was our speaker and we raised \$20,576 for World Vision, \$5,050 for Manna House, and \$5,000 for Hope for Ariang, for a total of \$30,576. Our evening prayer service was done in silhouette behind a huge white screen. 71 Children saved (404)

We named our tenth anniversary **“POWER of 10”** to symbolize how far we had come in ten years. The Famine was held February 23-24, 2013 with 103 high school participants and 26 middle school students. Julie Coyne, founder of Education and Hope was our keynote speaker. We raised a total of \$36,400: \$23,500 for World Vision, \$6,300 for Manna House, \$3,300 for Education and Hope, and \$3,000 for The Giving Tree. 101 Children saved (505)

For our eleventh year decided to **“TELL EVERYONE”** and we did just that! The Famine was held February 22-23, 2014 with 128 high school students and 26 middle school students. We also added a micro-mini group of twelve 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Our new Bishop Frank Caggiano was our keynote speaker and we were joined by Leah Swindon from World Vision. We had three brightly colored toilets that traveled around Norwalk and local restaurants joined our cause. We raised a total of \$48,253: \$32,741 for World Vision, \$7,962 for Manna House, \$5,000 for Catholic Relief Services (food packing), and \$2550 for Hope for Ariang. 112 Children saved. (617)

Year twelve we were determined to **“Make it Count”**. We heard the challenge: **30 Hours, 30 Days, 30 people**. The Famine was held February 28-March 1 with 160 high school participants, 31 middle school students and 10 Micro Minis. Dale Williams from Midnight Run was our keynote speaker and we sold bright pink luminaries. We raised a total of \$53,812: \$35,191 for World Vision, \$6,685 for Manna House, \$9,936 for Catholic Relief Services (food packing) and \$2,000 for Midnight Run. 126 Children saved (743).

Our thirteenth year we were trying to be **“Hunger Free”**. The Famine was held February 27-28 with 155 high school participants, 29 Mini Famers and 12 Micro Minis. John Gutman from New Covenant Center was our keynote speaker, we had neon green luminaries and we honored Claire Budnik with our opening walk. We raised a total of \$41,336 for World Vision, \$6,000 for Manna House, \$10,044 for Catholic Relief Services (food packing), \$2,400 for The Giving Tree and \$500 for Sole Hope. 143 Children saved (868).