MARY'S MEALS USA FALL 2026

# AMBASSADORS

## A HARVEST OF GRATITUDE



mary's meals

a simple solution to world hunger

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Dear Ambassadors,

As the leaves change and the harvest season begins, we're reminded that good things often grow from small beginnings. A conversation over coffee, an invitation to speak at a parish, a school fundraiser, or perhaps a story shared with a friend.

Each of these little acts of love plants a seed of hope. And because of you, those seeds are growing into something beautiful.

"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest" Matthew 9:37–38.

This season, we're celebrating the harvest you've helped grow and looking ahead to the children still waiting for their first meal.

# The Fruits of Gather & Grow '26

## DES MOINES, IOWA

### SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

What a gift it was to gather with so many of you for our Ambassador Gathering: Gather & Grow, before the Christ Our Life Conference!

We came together from across the country and each of you encouraged one another with your stories and creativity. The fruit of that gathering doesn't end when we head home. It continues every time you bring our movement to a new parish, invite someone into a fundraiser, or inspire another person to say yes.

If you missed Gather & Grow, you can still be part of the moment! Watch Magnus share personally with our ambassadors and experience some of the hope and inspiration we shared together.

**WATCH MAGNUS**





# Ambassador of Hope



## MARY JO HARTY

Mary Jo has always found joy in two things: feeding kids and being part of their education. Ask her four children, all sent through Catholic schools, and they'll tell you they can't remember a time when their mom wasn't volunteering. She didn't just attend the fundraisers. She chaired them: the Sacred Heart fall fundraiser, the Dowling auction, the pancake breakfast, the Dowling guild. And her table was always open, feeding her kids' friends and whole football teams after Friday night games.

So it's no surprise that ten years ago, Mary Jo began hosting benefit concerts for Mary's Meals. Mary Jo, thank you for showing us what it looks like to give generously of your time and talent.

# The Giving Season is Here!

**Giving Tuesday | December 1, 2026**

**Help your friends, family, parish, or school discover how they can be part of feeding children who are still waiting for Mary's Meals.**

**Year-End Giving | All December**

**You could:**
- **Share a Giving Tuesday or year-end giving message on social media.**
- **Send a personal email inviting friends to give.**
- **Share your Mary's Meals fundraising page with your community.**
- **Ask your parish or school to include Mary's Meals in its Giving Tuesday and year end giving plans.**

This Giving Season the Mary's Meals Global Family has a goal of providing 25 million life-changing school meals to children across the world.

Every meal represents a child who can look forward to a nutritious meal in school and the opportunity to learn.

Join supporters around the world as we work together to provide 25 million school meals.



# A Tree Full of Hope

## INTRODUCING GIVING ANGELS

**Advent begins November 29, 2026**
Imagine walking into your parish during Advent and seeing a Christmas tree filled with ornaments of angels. Each person who takes an ornament has the opportunity to turn the spirit of Christmas into an act of love.

This Advent, you can invite your parish to transform its Christmas tree into a beautiful expression of generosity and hope. Place ornaments and a QR code on the tree, inviting parishioners to take an ornament and make a donation to Mary's Meals.

It's a simple, meaningful way to help your parish connect the joy of Christ's birth with the needs of children around the world.

How to bring Giving Angels to your parish:

1. Talk with your parish. Ask your pastor or parish ministry leader if you can display Advent Angels on a Christmas tree.

2. Prepare your tree. Arrange the ornaments with QR codes so parishioners can easily take one and give.

3. Invite your community. Share a brief announcement at Mass or in your parish bulletin explaining how each ornament offers a way to help feed a child.

Will you help plant a little more hope this Advent?




**LEARN MORE**

# The Harvest Starts with You

Every harvest begins with a seed. And every new ambassador, donor, fundraiser, and supporter often begins with one person willing to share a story.

Every ambassador has a story worth sharing.
Have you recently hosted an event, started a new tradition, or found a creative way to share the mission? We'd love to celebrate it!

Send us a photo and a few sentences about what you did, what inspired you, and what you learned. Your story might be just the encouragement another ambassador needs to take their next step.



Your Mary's Meals USA Ambassador Support Team

We'd love to hear from you at
ambassadors.usa@marysmeals.org

Join our Facebook Group and check out our Ambassador Hub.

Start your fundraiser and create a fundraising page.