

## **Benevolence Policy: Appendix A**

To qualify for financial assistance from the General Benevolence Fund, the following standards must be met:

- The request must be for assisting with one or more of the following necessities:
  - Clothing
  - Groceries
  - Medical expenses including dental, vision, and prescription medicines
  - Shelter (rent or mortgage on primary place of residence)
  - Telephone payment on home phone
  - Transportation costs such as a bus pass, vehicle fuel, or maintenance on primary vehicle
  - Utility payment (electrical, gas, or water)
  - Employment assistance
- The requested funds must not be used for expenses such as, but not limited to, the following:
  - Alcoholic beverages, cigarettes, illegal drugs, etc.
  - Business expenses, except when directly related to obtaining employment
  - Discretionary travel or transportation costs not related to employment, medical care, or other required travel
  - Education, except when directly related to obtaining employment
  - Entertainment of any kind
  - Gambling
  - Secondary residences
  - Secondary vehicles
- The recipient of the requested funds must meet the following requirements:
  - Neither attends our parish regularly nor is identified as a member of our parish.
  - Has not received benevolence more than four times within a 12-month period.
  - Has not been known to misuse benevolence previously provided.
- The recipient is unable to obtain financial assistance from other sources such as following:
  - Government (unemployment, financial aid, social services, etc.)
  - Family and friends
  - Home church