



AD MAIOREM DEI GLORIAM

BC HIGH + CANISIUS + CHEVERUS + DE SMET JESUIT + FAIRFIELD PREP + FORDHAM PREP  
GEORGETOWN PREP + GONZAGA COLLEGE + GONZAGA PREP + LOYOLA + LOYOLA BLAKEFIELD  
MCQUAID + REGIS + ROCKHURST HIGH SCHOOL + SCRANTON PREP + ST. JOSEPH'S PREP  
ST. PETER'S PREP + XAVIER

## “THE GREAT IGNATIAN CHALLENGE” RETURNS

*Eighteen Jesuit High Schools Launch their Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive Competition to Fill Food Banks with Much Needed Provisions*

INSPIRED BY THE STUDENTS' SPIRIT OF GIVING, DONOR PLEDGES OVER HALF MILLION DOLLARS  
TOWARDS FINANCIAL AID AND ENDOWMENT OF THE PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

(October 17, 2022 – New York, NY) Eighteen Jesuit high schools from nine states – New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Washington, and the District of Columbia – have announced the launch of the seventh annual **Great Ignatian Challenge**, an annual holiday food drive competition intended to raise the students' awareness of hunger and inspire them to take action by working to fill their local food banks, pantries, and community centers with tens of thousands of pounds of much-needed provisions. This friendly but spirited competition will run from October 17 through November 23. Last year, the schools participating in The Great Ignatian Challenge collected and distributed over **334,400 pounds** of food. Over the past six years, The Great Ignatian Challenge has collected and distributed **over 937,000 pounds** of food!

Once Fordham Prep alumnus, Jim Rowen, will personally support the Challenge, this year pledging over **half million dollars** to support the schools' efforts. The eighteen schools will compete for tiered awards based on criteria identified by Mr. Rowen, including the most amount of food collected per student. This year, monies will go towards supporting financial assistance programs and endowments at the participating schools. Inspired by the commitment to social justice and service to the community that lies at the heart of Jesuit education, Mr. Rowen has generously donated more than **\$1,830,000** towards the Great Ignatian Challenge competitions over the last six years. His desire is to open this competition up to even more schools next year.

This year the participating schools are:

- [Boston College High School](#) (Boston, MA)
- [Canisius High School](#) (Buffalo, NY)
- [Cheverus High School](#) (Portland, ME)
- [De Smet Jesuit](#) (St. Louis, MO)
- [Fairfield College Preparatory School](#) (Fairfield, CT)
- [Fordham Preparatory School](#) (The Bronx)
- [Georgetown Prep](#) (North Bethesda, MD)
- [Gonzaga College High School](#) (Washington, DC)
- [Gonzaga Preparatory](#) (Spokane, WA)
- [Loyola School](#) (Manhattan)
- [Loyola Blakefield](#) (Towson, MD)

- [McQuaid Jesuit](#) (Rochester, NY)
- [Regis High School](#) (Manhattan)
- [Rockhurst High School](#) (Kansas City, MO)
- [St. Joseph's Prep](#) (Philadelphia, PA)
- [Saint Peter's Prep](#) (Jersey City, NJ)
- [Scranton Prep](#) (Scranton, PA)
- [Xavier High School](#) (Manhattan)

The schools are all sponsored by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and the Challenge derives its name from the 16th-century saint, Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, who taught, "Love consists of sharing what one has and what one is with those one loves. Love ought to show itself in deeds more than in words."

A key component of a Jesuit education is caring for the wider community which allows students to gain first-hand knowledge of local, national, and global issues. Through service to the community, the students prepare for the day when they will participate in their world as competent, concerned, and responsible members who are committed to social justice.

For more information, please visit the participating school websites and look for the Great Ignatian Challenge.

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