

a simple solution to world hunger

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Mary's Meals USA Welcomes Performer Steve Angrisano as its National Ambassador

Long-term supporter to highlight the importance of the life changing school-feeding program.

Bloomfield, N.J. – **July 17, 2024** – Christian singer, songwriter and performer Steve Angrisano joins the global school-feeding charity Mary's Meals USA as a national ambassador. In this capacity, he'll support the outreach efforts of Mary's Meals in the U.S. with his unique blend of song, story and worship at concerts, schools and conferences scheduled throughout the year.

"Mary's Meals USA is pleased to welcome Steve as our first national music ambassador. He has championed Mary's Meals at his many events and has also sponsored a school-feeding program for three years, directly helping to feed more than 900 children each year. As an official ambassador, he'll introduce the work of Mary's Meals—feeding children where they learn—to a wider audience in faith-based settings across the U.S. Our shared love of the global family and for feeding vulnerable children makes us very excited about this partnership," said Terry Losada-Bonet, executive director for Mary's Meals USA.

Angrisano is an internationally recognized Catholic composer and an award-winning musician. As a speaker and presenter, he's been featured at countless parish school and diocesan events, as well as 10 World Youth Days, emceed four National Catholic Youth Conferences, and since 2016, led the house band for the Christ Our Life conference in Des Moines, Iowa. He served as a keynote speaker for the Australian Youth Festival in 2017 and 2019 and was honored to serve as emcee when Pope John Paul II visited St. Louis in 1999.

Passionate about connecting people and faith, as a national ambassador for Mary's Meals, he'll invite people around the country to learn about and join the charity's mission and life changing school-feeding work for more than 2.4 million children in 17 countries.

"My journey with Mary's Meals, particularly as a sponsor, has shown me how dramatically school meals not only nourish bodies and minds, but transform lives. These meals bring hope. They bring children to school and, for some, to their only meal of the day. A child in the classroom brings hope not only to the child, but also to their family and community. I'm looking forward to sharing the important message that, as a human family, we all want our children to do well. The simplicity of a daily meal at school enables that for millions of children," Angrisano said.

This summer, Angrisano will kick off his ambassadorship with a 10-concert summer series beginning on August 8 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, bringing his family-friendly performances to churches, schools and venues across the state. More information about his performances can be found at www.marysmealsusa.org.

Steve Angrisano Iowa Concert Dates

Thursday, August 8 – Xavier High School in Cedar Rapids. Food truck starts at 5:30 p.m. followed by the concert and Adoration at 6 p.m.

Friday, August 9 – St. Patrick's Church in Tama. Food truck starts at 5 p.m. followed by the concert and Adoration at 6 p.m.

Saturday, August 10 – St. John the Apostle in Norwalk. Barbecue at 6 p.m. followed by the concert and Adoration at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 11 – St. Theresa Catholic Church in Des Moines. Food offered at 5:30 p.m. followed by the concert and Adoration at 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, August 13 – Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Beaverdale. Dinner starts at 5:45 p.m. followed by the concert and Adoration at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 14 – St. Ann's Catholic Church in Vail. Mass starts at 6 p.m. followed by food at 6:30 p.m. and the concert at 7 p.m.

Friday, August 16 – Sacred Heart Cathedral in Davenport. Mass starts at 5:30 p.m. followed by food at 6 p.m. and the concert and Adoration at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 18 – St. Michael's Catholic Church in Harlan. Food truck starts at 4:30 p.m. followed by the concert and Adoration at 6 p.m.

Tuesday, August 20 – In Legacy Square Park in Dyersville. Food offered at 5:30 p.m. followed by the concert and Adoration at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 21 – St. Mary's Catholic Church in Solon. Food offered at 5:45 p.m. followed by the concert and Adoration at 6:30 p.m.

About Mary's Meals

Now in its 22^{nd} year, Mary's Meals is a global movement that sets up school-feeding programs in some of the world's most vulnerable communities, where conflict, poverty and hunger often prevent children from gaining an education. Mary's Meals works with in-country volunteers to provide one daily nutritious meal in a place of learning to attract children into the classroom to receive an education. This simple solution to help end world hunger also enables children to lift themselves from the cycle of hunger and poverty.

Mary's Meals began by feeding 200 children in Malawi in 2002. Today, the organization feeds 2,429,182 hungry children every school day in more than 5,000 schools in the following countries: Benin, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, South Sudan, Syria, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Mary's Meals is part of the global School Meals Coalition, an emerging initiative of governments and partners to drive actions that can urgently reestablish, improve, and scale up food and education systems. For more information about Mary's Meals, visit marysmealsusa.org.

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