

## Erste Bank and Caritas: Donate every time you save

03.12.2012

### **EUR 1 donated for each new savings account opened**

#### **Support the Caritas domestic aid programme**

Now, everyone who saves money also supports Caritas. EUR 1 is donated for each new savings account opened. The special offer is valid until 31 December 2012. The donations collected go to the Caritas domestic aid campaign in Austria which is for people that can no longer afford to heat their homes properly. "When winter turns into a threat, what is needed is support," said Thomas Uher, Spokesman of the Management Board of Erste Bank.

One million Austrians live in poverty or are at risk of falling into poverty. Every third person cannot afford to pay for heating and suffers from cold in the winter in their own homes. The Caritas domestic aid programme helps with heating costs and offers special counselling. This year, the fourth cooperation campaign to raise donations will take place. Up to now, Caritas has raised around EUR 10,000 every year with its Christmas campaigns.



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Caritas runs numerous projects that help the needy by providing concrete help for everyday things that are for others a matter of course. Often, what they need are the bare necessities: food for the family, money for the rent, heating or new shoes for the children.

Erste Bank and Sparkassen constitute the largest provider of financial services in Austria. More than 14,000 employees serve more than 3 million customers in over 1,000 branches and 182 banking stops. Their share in the market is 30% in Austria.