

362 FIREARMS REMOVED FROM THE STREETS OF BALTIMORE LAST YEAR.

ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE

2ND ANNUAL

GUN BUYBACK

Saturday, August 10
10am to 2pm

Please consider supporting
this important initiative!
Excess funds will go to
the needs of families of
homicide victims.



What is a gun buyback?

Gun buybacks allow people to voluntarily turn firearms over to the police in exchange for cash as an incentive. In turn, the number of guns in a community is reduced and the unwanted weapons are disposed of in a safe and legal way.

Do buybacks work?

Yes. They're effective, because they take firearms out of circulation, off the streets and out of people's homes. Every gun that is turned in brings with it the potential to save a life. Buybacks also raise awareness and bring hope to communities effected by crime and violence, including those in West Baltimore surrounding the Edmondson Village Shopping Center that is the site of our event. With every person who sells a gun, we reduce the chances someone will die by suicide, the firearm will be involved in an accidental shooting or an intruder will have an opportunity to use it in a violent act. Clearly, while gun buybacks are not a singular solution to solving gun violence, they do create a number of positive outcomes.

Why do some people say gun buybacks don't work?

It's complicated. Empirical evidence on the impact of gun buybacks is limited, in part because events are typically small in scope and geographic reach. The benefits also are not entirely captured using standardized scientific methods. And by design, buybacks are anonymous, so studying individual outcomes is challenging, especially when gathering the data relies on voluntary surveys. What we do know is, these events are meaningful to the communities where they are held. Buybacks empower residents, create community engagement and coalitions, connect participants with services, raise awareness for gun safety and take guns out of homes where the owners do not want them.

Hear more from Archbishop Lori about this important initiative...

