



THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

February 2017

308 South Scott Street, P.O. Box 1286, South Bend, In 46624 (574) 288-6028 (fax) 288-4282 (e-mail) info@christchildsb.org

Mission Statement

The South Bend Chapter of The Christ Child Society is a not-for-profit organization of volunteers dedicated to the personal service and clothing of all needy children and infants in the love and spirit of the Christ Child.

Christ Child Society of South Bend Turns 70

In 2017 the Christ Child Society of South Bend will celebrate 70 years of serving families and children in need in Saint Joseph County.

From our humble beginnings of making layettes in members' basements to using over 11000 square feet inside Saint Patrick's Parish Center, we should all feel proud of what we have accomplished.

Our Spring Mass and Annual Meeting Luncheon, on March 29th, will kick off the year's festivities. Bishop Kevin Rhoades will celebrate Mass and join us for lunch at the Morris Inn. We will have a short business meeting and the presentation of the 2017 Mary Virginia Merrick Award.

June 15th is our Let Love Shine fundraiser. Please join us at The History Museum in downtown South Bend, as an exhibition detailing The Christ Child Society of South Bend is unveiled. This is a great way for the community to see who we are and what we do for Saint Joseph County. The exhibit will remain open for the summer of 2017.

On August 6th, the anniversary of our founding, The Christ Child Society Clothing Center will open its doors for a brunch and open house. We encourage all members, past and present, donors, supporters, volunteers and community members to take the time to see our Center and to help us continue the mission of clothing children.

Please join us in celebrating our past, enjoying our current moment, and looking to the future. Various events are scheduled through the year. Continue to read newsletters, check out our Facebook page, and website for updates.

Executive Board

Co Presidents:

Peg Riggs

Debbie Spillman

President Elect:

Sue Walsh

Vice President (Fundraising):

Holly Hosinski

Vice President (Membership):

Mary Wisniewski

Vice President (Clothing):

Linda Wray

Recording Secretary:

Jane Reed

Corresponding Secretary:

Jane Reed

Treasurer:

Diane Lutomski

CALENDAR

February - Center Closed

Feb 21Board Meeting
Dickinson Room SJCPL

Feb 22 Day of Prayer, Reflection
Moreau Seminary, Notre Dame
Registration Deadline Feb 13

Feb 25In Memoriam Mass
Little Flower 8:30 AM

If you need to schedule a drop off at the Center in February, please contact Megan Fitz, administrative assistant, at mfitz105@gmail.com or text/call 292-5700.



Family Day



Knitting Hats

Data Updates

- Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/ChristChildSB
- Follow us on Twitter: @ChristChildSB
- Check us out online: www.christchildsb.org

From the Co-President . . . Peg Riggs

"With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts - Eleanor Roosevelt"

It's our 70th Anniversary year! Shout it from the mountaintops! Let's tell all of Saint Joseph County who we are, what we do, and how long we have been doing it! Our founders, 16 brave women, had the foresight to fill a need in northern Indiana. All of the hard work and optimism of past members give us perspective and motivation for our future. And while our outreach may have changed over the years, our mission still begins with layettes for the newborn children in families of need.

Mark your calendars for all of the exciting events in 2017:

February 22 - the Day of Prayer and Reflection

March 8 - the Clothing Center re-opens for volunteers to assemble Layettes of Hope and restock inventory.

29 - Spring Mass and Luncheon. Bishop Kevin Rhoades will preside at Mass at Alumni Hall and lunch will follow at the Morris Inn. The 2017 Mary Virginia Merrick Award will be presented during lunch.

April - the Clothing Center continues to be open Wednesday mornings to complete Layettes of Hope and for preparation for 2017 distribution season.

May 6 - Derby Day at Windsor Park Conference Center.

10 - New Member Coffee at the Center

15 - Membership renewal deadline

June 5 - Let Love Shine 2017 at the History Museum. We will celebrate the opening of the Christ Child exhibit.

July - Let's take time to enjoy the summer!

August 6 - Brunch and Open House at the Clothing Center. It is our 70th Anniversary. Let's take the day to celebrate us!

9 - The Clothing Center will open for clients; mark your calendars!

September - Clients will continue to be served; NCCS Convention in Washington DC

October - Fall luncheon and clothing distribution

November - clothing distribution

December - volunteer potluck and clothing distribution

I'm looking forward to a year of "Remember when" stories, "Can you believe we distributed from there" stories, "Do you remember (insert name here)" stories, and finally "I can't wait to see where we go from here" stories. I am blessed to be a 3rd generation member of Christ Child Society of South Bend. I have seen my parents and grandparents blaze the trail we now take. And I really can't wait to see what we do next!

Holiday Giftwrapping Again a Success

Neither RAIN nor SNOW nor ICE nor gloom of night stopped 50 Christ Child Society volunteers from gift-wrapping to raise \$2563.04 during the ten days before Christmas.

Through the generosity of Follett Higher Education and the Hammes Notre Dame Book Store, Christ Child once again staffed its gift-wrap station with excellent results. As in past years, the bookstore provided the supplies while Christ Child Society provided the labor, in exchange for donations. We greatly appreciate the generosity of the Notre Dame Book Store and their customers at that busy time of year. And many thanks to our members for

their time and talent during the Christmas season.

Co-chairs Marie Burt and Cathy Mathews thank all those involved and ask you to consider helping during the graduation gift-wrap schedule in May. Information about that fundraising event will be available in a future newsletter.

Think Spring and what a better way to do that when the thermometer says -0, is to go to the craft store and start decorating your hat for Derby Day on May 4, 2017. This year the best hat wins a prize. So get out that old hat and your glue gun and start decorating.



Teddy Bear Toss

The Christ Child Society is once again extremely grateful to the University of Notre Dame for accepting us as one of the recipients of their Teddy Bear Toss. This year's event was held on December 4 at the Women's Basketball game. At halftime, the audience was invited to toss teddy bears onto the court. It is exciting to be watching this event as the announcer counts down, 3...2...1 and thousands of stuffed animals fly through the air and bounce onto the gym floor.

Christ Child members assisted Notre Dame staff in gathering up all the bears and putting them in large plastic bags. The next day we transported hundreds of donated bears to our Center. On December 14, we welcomed volunteers from Ave Maria Press who spent the morning sorting the stuffed animals. For a fun, "slo-mo" video of this year's toss, check out the December 5th post on the Christ Child Society of South Bend's Facebook page!

Book Club

February 10

Mr. Churchill's Secretary
by Susan Elia McNeal
Marge Hosinski (256-9728)

Deadline for March newsletter
February 21
Ann Korb (277-6443) ack339@aol.com

Gifts and Memorials

The beautiful Gold Christ Child Remembrance Card is a convenient way to send donations in any amount to the Christ Child Society, as an In Memoriam or in recognition of a special occasion or accomplishment. A donation can be made in memory of deceased friend or relatives who will also be remembered in a perpetual monthly Mass. The card also makes it possible to celebrate happy occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries in the same way. When requesting a Remembrance Card, members are asked to print legibly since the names will be printed in each newsletter with the donor's name in parentheses. Extra cards are available in the office or from Joan Hardig (277-7787)

In Memoriam:

Sarah Arvesen (Dr. John/Marilyn Toepp)
 Carla Beres (Riverbend Quilt Guild, Judy Gaff)
 Sally Borkowski (Darlene Heck)
 Mary Buss (James/Nancy Yohe)
 Arnold Cater (Santa Maria Co. 553-K of C)
 Jim Cocquyt (Janice Goossens)
 Janet Crull (Janet Hall, Lambrecht's Jewelers, Inc., Mary Lou/Pete Mullen, Richard/Jean Dennen, Mary Willson/Mark Voelker, K. Stratmann, Harry/Bonnie Shaffer, Philip/Claire Hayes, Kathleen Lawton, Doojie/Jack Trant, Marjorie/John Bycraft, B. G. Butler, Sharon A. Wagner, Mary/Ronald Jaicomo, Don/Lucinda Ullery, Mishawaka Fairview Cemetery, Kruggel, Lawton & Co., LCC, Bette/Pat O'Malley, Margaret Hosinski, Janette Burkhart-Miller, Sonny/Dee Tepe, George/Teddi Murray, M/M James Cierziak, Mary Hintz, Maureen/Tom Cahir, Vicki McIntire, Julie/Nelson, Dan/Betty Rudy, Joyce Sopko, Anne/Charlie Gruenig)
 Virginia Curry (Helen Diltz)
 Gene Goddard (Janice Goossens)
 Jack Grubbs (Marcia/Tom Blum)
 Mary Hickey (Joe/Mary Woodka)
 Darlene Hoover (Joan M. Biltz, James/Nancy Yohe)
 Robert L. Johnston (JoAnn K. Axelberg, Winifred VandenBossche)
 William J. Jones (Melanie P. Chapeau, Diane/Gerry Quinn, Ed/Joan Hardig, Jean/Dick Dennen, Judy/Jerry Kearns, Margaret Hosinski)
 John Jurek, Sr. (Santa Maria Co. 553 K of C)
 Joseph A. Lazzara (Santa Maria Co. 553 K of C)
 James Lechner (Marlene/Otto Martinec)
 Alison Liddell (Neal/Linda Cason)
 Kathryn M. McLaughlin (Dr. John/Marilyn Toepp)
 Robert Machowiak (Jerry/Betty Vascil)
 Gene Miller (Marlene/Otto Martinec)
 Joseph M. Piatkowski (Kelly/Jeff Harrison)
 Ron Pacana (Maureen Jones)
 Thomas R. Pilot, Sr. (Denise/Chuck Roemer)
 Fr. Dave Porterfield's Sister/Great Nephew (Marcia/Tom Blum)
 Mary E. Rice (Dr. John/Marilyn Toepp)
 Mary Elizabeth Rice (Dan/Beth Barrett, B.J O'Brien)
 Jack Rogers (Sue/John Shirrell, Jim/Pat Short, Jim/Suzy Halloran)

In Memoriam

Husband
 William J. Jones
 Former Members
 Helen Toth
 Wilma Veldman

Emil/Pauline Rusnak (Marlene/Otto Martinec)
 Alex Michael Santa (Winifred VandenBossche, JoAnn K. Axelberg)
 Wolfgang Schmidt (Bette/Pat O'Malley)
 Marguerite Stein (B.J. O'Brien)
 Betty Jane Strong (George/Teddi Murray)
 Mary Ann Sullivan (Carol/Don Nash)
 Gisele Toskin (Dottie/Ron Wallace)
 Alpha VanderHeyden (Joe/Marie Burt)
 Wilma Veldman (Peggy Bauer, Peg Riggs, Carol Bauer)
 Jean Westland (Florence Duesterberg)
 Mary Witsken (M/M William J. Schmuhl, B.G. Butler, William H. Witsken, Lisa/Timothy Rink, Michael/Cynthia Rink, Ann Dean, Dan/Betty Rudy, Anne/Charlie Gruenig, Margaret Hosinski, Julie/Art Zielinski, Dennis/Barbara Norkus)
 Mary/Clarence Witsken (Bill/Norma Wilson, Mike/Kelly Wallace)
Special Occasion:
 Dr. Tom Akre - Christmas (Suzy Halloran)
 Marjorie Bycraft - Merry Christmas (Janette Burkhart-Miller)
 Jan Christianson (Jean Richards)
 Ken/Barb Fedder (Ray/Sandy Feldmeier)
 M/M James Hesburgh (Barbara Dillon)
 Bobbe Kersting (Jim/Pat Short)
 St Mary Lou Mullen - Christmas (Janette Burkhart-Miller)
 Work of Christ Child Society (Diocesan Staff/FW/SB)
 Sr. Michaelleen, CSC - Happy Birthday (Mary Ann Randall)

Wanted! New Members!

Look around... Do you have a church friend, neighbor, relative, fellow volunteer or colleague at work you think would be interested in joining Christ Child? It's not too early to give names of prospective members to New Member Coordinator Kristy Botich who will invite them to the New Member Coffee on May 10 at 9:30 AM. They will be welcomed with open arms!

Family Day 2016

On December 28 we welcomed family members at the Center. It was an enjoyable morning filled with smiles and laughter as children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren came to help with projects in Layettes, Coats, New Clothing and the Book Departments. Some of these family members had never been here before. It is always an eye-opening experience for them to see and experience the work of our mission!

CAC Annual Appeal Update

Thanks to all members and friends who have donated to the 2016-2017 Clothe-A-Child Campaign. To date (November 2016-January 2017), we have received \$64,527! All of the money raised is used to purchase clothing for the children who come to our Center to receive clothes that they would normally not have at their homes. It also is used to purchase layette clothing and books for the new moms of babies who are born at the two local hospitals, Memorial and Saint Joseph.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone that has donated BUT it is not too late to still donate. If you need another donation form please call the Christ Child office (574) 288-6028, email christchildsb@hotmail.com, or make an online donation at christchildsb.org.

Subject: Epiphany Blessings

Reflections from a Newby:

Thank you for the wonderful blessings from joining the Christ Child Society. I've enjoyed meeting and working with you. Who knew there could be such joy in developing new skills and finding a sock!

On the 28th I was able to help bundle layette socks... We clipped the doojiggies off the cardboard thingies of the iddybiddies (layette socks). Then we had to find the invisible doojiggies and remove them and pair the iddybiddies. Well I had great fun searching a mound of pairs to find a mismatched set. Bingo! I did it. Such joy in finding the other

Gael Bowler

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P.O. Box 1286
South Bend, Indiana 46624



NON-PROFIT ORG.

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Take a Day Off Just for You

Christ Child Day of Prayer and Reflection at Moreau Seminary on Moreau Drive

Reflections by Rev. David Scheidler, C.S.C.

He is currently the associate rector of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and is part of the Campus Ministry team at Notre Dame.

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

9:00 - 2:30

Doughnuts, fruit, coffee, tea	9:00-9:30
Morning Reflection	9:45
Mass	11:00
Lunch	12:00
Reflection and Benediction	1:00-2:30

Please send reservations with your check for **\$17.00** payable to The Christ Child Society to
PO Box 1286 South Bend, IN 46624

Price includes all food, drinks and the retreat. **Please include any special dietary needs**

Names(s) _____ phone _____

Deadline: Monday, February 13, please

Please park in the 'East Lot' off Moreau Drive (old Douglas Rd.) and enter through the lower level. Someone will be at the door to greet you and direct you. An elevator is available to take you to the main level.

Questions: contact Jean Fuehrmeyer 574-855-3028 or jfuehrmeyer@gmail.com or
Joanne VanAvermaete 574-291-3089 or jvanavermaete@gmail.com