



THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

April 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.

2017 Mary Virginia Merrick Award

The Christ Child Society of South Bend honors Joan Hardig with the 2017 Mary Virginia Merrick Award.

This award honors a member who is an inspiration and example for others in supporting the mission of the Christ Child Society in the form of attendance, advocacy and promotion through gifts of her time, talent and treasure.

Joan Hardig joined Christ Child in 1965, served as President in 1982 and has been on the Board of Directors several times. Presently she serves as Parliamentarian and is the In Memoriam Chair. She rarely misses a Wednesday or Sunday at the Center where she interviews our clients with her warm smile and gentle sense of humor. She takes an active part in every event the Society has.

Some of the comments from the nomination forms were: "Joan is an inspiration to all Christ Child Society members; She is always ready to help and her knowledge of the Christ Child Society is never ending; She has been an ACTIVE member for 50 years. It's time we honor her; She has held practically every office you can hold – she is a lovely lady; and Like Mary Virginia Merrick, she is a faith-filled woman dedicated to serving others and a most deserving winner of the Mary Virginia Merrick Award."

Thank you, Joan, for all you do and continue to do for our chapter.



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

April 5,12, 19, 26 Restock, Inventory - Center 9:00 am - Noon

April 16 Easter

April 20 Board Meeting
Dickinson Room SJ CPL

April 25 In Memoriam Mass
Little Flower 8:30 AM

*Happy
Easter*



Many Christ Child members were fortunate to spend February 22 with Father David Scheidler CSC at the chapter's annual Day of Prayer and Reflection.

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

"Be a part of something bigger than yourself."

Happy April! Spring in finally in the air. Here's hoping Mother Nature is tired of the roller coaster of temperatures and daily weather changes for a while. It's time to celebrate all that spring brings - warmer temperatures, blossoming flowers, green grass, and lots of activity at the Clothing Center!

Thank you to the five new board members: Pat Chodzinski, Ann Finn, Bonnie Hay, Sherri Jones and Kathy Seidl. These women said "yes" to not only serving on the board, but "yes" to the mission of the Society and "yes" to the future of helping to clothe children in need in St. Joseph County. Please take some time to congratulate these women as they start their three-year journey on the board.

Wow! What a great Spring Mass and Luncheon. Bishop Kevin Rhoades again celebrated mass with us in Alumni Hall. Such a great space for us to gather for worship and the Morris Inn was a beautiful backdrop for a tasty lunch. Thanks to the committee for making this annual meeting so lovely.

And congratulations to Joan Hardig (whom I call Mom) on her Mary Virginia Merrick Award! I have been blessed with such a strong Mom. She has always led by example, said what is on her mind, and ALWAYS pitches in: helping at the Center in the intake room or with layettes of hope or moving boxes or sorting files; helping behind the scenes with fundraising, lunches, committees and events; and helping the future of Christ Child, having my back for the last three years as well as continuing to see the joy on the faces of the parents and children every Wednesday. You inspire me to be a better person every day. Thanks Mom, for all you do! (Love you!)

Just a reminder to mark your calendars for the following Christ Child events:

- May - 6 Derby Day at Windsor Park Conference Center
- 10 New Member Coffee at the Center
- 15 Membership renewal deadline

June - 15 Let Love Shine at the History Museum. We will celebrate the opening of the Christ Child exhibit.

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,

Let Love Shine Updates

Did you know that Mary Virginia Merrick was awarded the Laetare Medal from the University of Notre Dame in 1915? You will have your chance to see the medal and read more about it on June 15 when we open the History Museum exhibit about our organization during the Let Love Shine event.

Silent Auction

We are still in need of help putting together several baskets. If you are interested, please contact Mary Barrett at mbarrett.iu@gmail.com. Any help will be appreciated and will help us to raise additional funds for our programs.

In addition to silent auction items, we are gathering gift cards valued at \$25 or more. Even if you are unable to donate a gift card, you may still be able to help. Do you frequent a business that you could approach about donating? Do you have friends or family who own a business that might be able to donate? If you aren't comfortable making the contact, let us know whom we should reach out to and we can do that. The important thing is, before you contact anyone, please check with Kathy Seidl, marian0103@comcast.net, to make sure we have not already approached them.

We are also still collecting bottles of wine valued at \$15 or more. Contact Joan Hardig, khardig@aol.com, for more information.

In the coming weeks we will be reaching out for help with centerpieces and other set up on the day of the event. Keep an eye out for an email blast in April.

Thank you to everyone who has so generously given of his or her time, talents and treasures already. This event has the potential to introduce even more people to our organization, and it is your help that will accomplish that!



CAC Annual Appeal

Thanks to all members and friends who have donated to the 2016-2017 Clothe-A-Child Campaign. **To date, we have received \$78,685.50!** All of the money raised is used to purchase clothing for the children that come to our Center. The clothing received are items 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 that are born at the two local hospitals, Memorial and Saint Joseph.

A special thank you to everyone who has donated. But you can still donate. If you are in need of another donation form please call the Christ Child office (574) 288-6028, email christchildsb@hotmail.com, or make an online donation at christchildsb.org.

The Time is Now

It's time to find those friends, neighbors, and relatives who may be interested in the Christ Child Society and invite them to the New Member Coffee being held on May 10 at 9:30 am in the Center. It's time for them to tour the Center, hear about the work of the Christ Child Society, meet current members, and learn the many ways there are to be involved. It's time to spread the good news of our wonderful organization with others over coffee and pastries. Contact Kristy Botich by email (wbotich@sbcglobal.net) or by phone (574-291-7523) with names and addresses so invitations can be sent. It's time to celebrate our 70 years and share our blessing.

Book Club | April 18
The Little Paris Bookshop
 by Nina George
 Pat Healy (272-5640)

Deadline for May newsletter
 April 17
 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

- Eugene Campanale (Kathryn Screes, Joe/Marie Burt)
- Fred Crowe (Ed/Joan Hardig, Rosie Shafer, Barbara Dillon)
- Robert Digirolamo (Janice Goossens)
- Phil Faccenda (Mary Lou/Pete Mullen)
- Nichola Ferraro (Bill/Jan Killilea)
- Connie Froning (Joe/Marie Burt)
- James L. Fuehrmeyer, Jr. (Judy/Hugh Kuzmich)
- Kathryn Hammes Mowbray (Barbara Dillon)
- Ellen Malone (Marcia/Tom Blum, Barbara Dillon)
- Douglas "Doug" Mell (Winnie Vanden Bossche)
- Robert Myers (Ed/Joan Hardig)
- Bazil O'Hagen (Bill/Jan Killilea, Margaret Hosinski, Barbara Dillon, Carol/Jim Holt)
- Judy Palelta (Carol/Jim Holt)
- Barbara Penzkofer (Jane Dietrich)
- Shirley Schuman Family (Ginger O'Hara)
- Tim Simko (Peggy Bauer)
- Mary Sopko (Ed/Joan Hardig)
- Barbara Szewczyk (Bob/Julie Nelson, Dr. James/Patricia Taylor, James/Betsy Cooke, Janice Infalt, Lou/Carolyn Berzai, Carole Phillips, Kathryn Screes, Ginger O'Hara, Jane Horning, Jerry/Betty Vascil, Ed/Joan Hardig, John Lucey, Donald/Kaye Berta, Owen/Carol/Charles Barnett, M/M Bill Johnson, Peggy Bauer, Thomas/Marlene Nowak, James/Christine Buckley, In Memoriam Kevin Grunawalt)
- Patricia Voss (Marijo/Madelyn Martinec)

2017 Day of Reflection

"We are meant to be more than we are... we are meant for divinity". With these words Fr. David Scheidler, CSC invited those in attendance at our annual day of prayer and reflection to enter into Lent with an eye toward authentic spiritual growth.

Using words and images from Scripture and mystics such as John of the Cross and Theresa of Avila, Fr. David urged all to aim higher, to live life fully and to revel in the breadth of the Incarnation.

Inspirational words, times of prayer, good conversation, and a hearty lunch made for a wonderful day. Fifty one ladies left uplifted by the absolute knowledge of "the all consuming love of God for us."

Thank you, Fr. David!

Calling All Gift Wrappers

As graduation weekend at the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College approaches, please consider volunteering a few hours to wrap gifts at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. As we do during the Christmas season, Christ Child Society of South Bend will wrap gifts in exchange for donations to our cause. All supplies are provided by Follett Higher Education and the ND Bookstore while Christ Child supplies the labor. This past Christmas we were able to raise just over \$2500.00 from this service.

Co-chairs Marie Burt, Kay Houser and Cathy Mathews need to schedule coverage for Friday May 19, Saturday May 20 and Sunday May 21. Thanks in advance for your generosity of time and talent. Volunteers can contact Cathy Mathews at 574-277-0550 or cathmath@sbcglobal.net.



Kentucky Derby Day Luncheon

Get your hats ready for our Kentucky Derby Day Luncheon. This year the best hat will win a prize. And since this year is our 70th Anniversary, we will be featuring fashions from the Past & Present. So mark your calendars, invite your friends to the

Derby Day Luncheon

Thursday May 4, 2017
Windsor Park Conference
Post Time 11:30 am
Cost \$30.00

Kentucky Derby Drawing
Win (\$600) Place (\$300) Show (\$200)
Raffle tickets \$10 each
Need not be present to win



Guardian Angels

This special Christ Child membership category was established in 1998.



A one time \$1000 enrollment fee for deceased members, spouses, family and friends benefiting the Christ Child Society Endowment Fund, will insure the Society's ability to continue the future good works.

The Guardian Angels are remembered monthly and each year at our annual Mass.

Current members, spouses, family and friends may enroll in the program as living angels and will be officially enrolled as Guardian Angels upon their deaths.

Please refer any questions to Sheila Emge 277-6421).

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P.O. Box 1286
South Bend, Indiana 46624



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Have you ever seen such a happy group of women? Do you know why they're all smiling? They were at the Center on March 22, getting everything ready for the Center's opening on August 9. That's not as far away as we might think when you realize all that has to be accomplished before the Center is opened to clients. Why not join these ladies on Wednesday mornings?