

## *Christian Community Service in Action this Fall*

Christian Community Service has been very active! We hit the ground running by partnering with our parish's Assisting Children Ministry, with a successful collection of school supplies and backpacks for the orphanage in Mexico.

In September, fifth graders put their creativity and thoughtfulness into creating Baptismal banners in Art class for the newly baptized in our parish under the leadership of Mrs. Slater and 5th grade CCS Coordinator, Sheryl Valdez.

Later in September, Gwen Hourihan, from Union Station Homeless Services presented a Powerpoint to our middle school students and teachers to help them understand how their middle school service activities: Adopt-a-Meal, planning children's activities for the homeless family center and making sack lunches for the homeless, really make a difference. Seventh grade CCS Coordinator Michele Ciampa coordinated a tour for a few parents with teachers Mrs. Bello and Ms. France to visit Union Station Family Services Center to help us prepare for the upcoming children's activities they will be planning and leading in small groups beginning in 2017.

In October, our first graders made Halloween cards for Meals on Wheels. Christian Community Service Coordinator for 1<sup>st</sup> grade, Stela Garcia, organized and led the activity with parent volunteers. Holiday card making for Meals on Wheels is an ongoing first grade activity, so please contact Stela if interested in helping out with this first grade service project.

Also in October, our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade CCS Coordinator, Matt Krappman, led a successful Respect Life baby essentials drive. They donated various items and boxed them up with parent volunteers for moms and babies in need. At our school mass on October 14<sup>th</sup>, the third graders processed up to the altar with their boxes and Father Alfredo blessed their boxes before delivery.

Our 4<sup>th</sup> graders have been visiting the church regularly in order to help keep our church pews tidy.

We are so grateful for all of you in the St. Philip the Apostle School community who generously contribute your time, talent and treasure to help us give back to the community!