

Outreach Ministries of St. Johns

Blanket Ministry

New Start Blankets benefits domestic violence shelters in San Diego. The blankets we collect go to women and children who have escaped domestic violence. Most of the time, women and children arrive at the shelters with only the clothes on their backs. They are each given a new blanket, usually the only new thing they receive, and it is theirs to keep. Blankets are multi purpose, providing comfort, warmth, and security.

Pill Bottle Ministry

Did you know that in developing countries, the pill bottle and cap is often more expensive than the medication inside? You can donate your empty prescription bottles by bringing them to Nale Hall.

Matthew 25: Ministries accepts donations of empty plastic pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies and for shredding and recycling. Their pill bottle program fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment.

To make the process more efficient, please donate only amber-colored prescription bottles with the label removed.

If you would like to contribute your financial support as well as your pill bottles, we welcome your donations.

Eyeglass Recycling

If you buy new glasses, bring your old pair to St. Johns. They will be delivered to LensCrafter, where they will be reground and used for those who can't afford to buy brand new glasses.

Greeting Cards

Your greeting cards, stickers and other supplies will be delivered to our ECS Head Start program and to Mi Escuilita, a Head Start run by SBCS. All cards are accepted: free cards you have received from charitable organizations or greeting cards you were sent (you may cut off the back to remove any personal information). The children use them in art projects and to identify objects and make up stories.

Gently Used Blankets for Dreams for Change

The Outreach Committee has chosen to support Dreams For Change, an organization that provides resources for people living in their cars in 'Safe Parking' places set aside by the County. Please bring your **clean, gently used blankets** and they will be delivered to the organization. There will be a labeled container in Nale Hall to receive donations.

Emergency Food Pantry

The South Bay Community Services "Emergency Food Pantry" needs donations every month. If you would like to donate, please bring your non-perishable food items to the Parish Office and they will be delivered to SBCS.

These items are always welcome:

- Dry and canned beans, boxed potatoes
- Rice, pasta, Mac & Cheese
- Canned meat or fish and can openers
- Cereals, powdered and canned milk
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Canned fruit and vegetables
- Soup, ramen noodles and crackers
- Canned stews and Spaghetti-o's

Blessings in a Bag

Feel passionate about helping the homeless, but don't want to hand out money on the streets? Here's an idea!

St John's will begin collecting and packing 1 gallon zip top bags with items that are helpful for our neighbors living outside. A few bags can be kept in your car to hand out when you come across a homeless person in need. We will also provide a prayer card from the church, so they know we care!

Items you can donate to fill the bags:

- Small bottle of water or Powerade type drink
- Men's socks (1 or 2 pair)
- Bar of soap in a plastic bag
- Toothbrush
- Small Toothpaste
- Floss picks (2 or 3)
- Body lotion
- Chapstick
- Individual packages hand wash wipes or small bottle of sanitizer
- Small can Pringles
- Small packages crackers (4 to 6 per package)
- Small cans Vienna sausages (protein)
- Small forks to eat the protein
- Granola bar or Powerbar
- Raisins
- Individually wrapped small hard candies (2 to 4)
- Disposable face mask