



THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

February 2020

308 South Scott Street, P.O. Box 1286, South Bend, In 46624 (574) 288-6028 (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 On The Move

The Christ Child Clothing Center will have a new home in 2020. After several years of searching, the space occupied by Mishawaka Furniture in the Town and Country Plaza became available. Thorough research, financial analysis and surveys of both clients and volunteers led to the signing of a lease that will commence in March.

New Building Necessary

Several factors led to the search for a new building. At St. Patrick's, the exposed outdoor waiting area, overcrowded client room and hallways and lack of privacy at registration made a visit to the Center challenging. Storage space was difficult to access and sharing space with the parish often limited work, meeting and socializing space. Finally, chronic heat, mold, and plumbing issues made the building less than healthy.

The new space checks most of the "must have" boxes devised by the search committee.

High Visibility

Its high visibility location will increase awareness of CCS and its mission. Clients will be more comfortable and better served. With nearby stores and the BMV, the location will be convenient for one stop errands for clients and volunteers. Ample, safe parking and a location on a major bus route add to the convenience. Members will also appreciate the loading dock, suitable work areas and a space to grab a cup of coffee or have a meeting.

The landlord supports our mission and recognizes the value of having a respected, well established organization as a tenant. He has been very accommodating, offering five months rent free and a below market rent as well as agreeing to pay for bathroom upgrades and energy efficient lighting.

On October 28, 2019 the Board of Directors of the Christ Child Society unanimously voted to approve the lease of the space. Co-Presidents Pat Falvey and Suzanne Wiwi signed the new lease on December 20th.

Experts have been brought on board to make the large open space as efficient and accommodating as possible. Architect Jacquelyn Hilderbrand and Flow Engineer Jeff Botich are analyzing work activities, volunteer and client needs and storage requirements, as well as keeping in mind possible expansion of services and flexibility of use. Mary Liddell will serve as Project Manager for the move, a role she mastered in the move to St. Pat's, and along with Co-Chair Deb Spillman, Mary has gathered an enthusiastic committee to facilitate the move.

Clients Notified of Move

Letters were sent to clients to announce the move and make them feel welcome at the new location. Referral agencies have also been informed and their annual spring meeting may be held at the new Center. The move is an excellent opportunity to share the CCS story with the community.

(Continued on page 6)

Calendar

February

THE CENTER WILL BE OPEN FOR GROUPS THAT WISH TO WORK ON PACKING/INVENTORY. GROUPS SHOULD CONTACT SUZANNE WIWI WITH THE DATES AND TIMES THEY WISH TO WORK THIS MONTH.

18..... Board Meeting
Harmony Hillcare IT 10AM
25..... In Memoriam Mass
Little Flower 8:30 AM

March

4,11,18..... Restock/Inventory
9:00 AM-NOON
5..... Day of Reflection
Moreau Seminary
registration form on page 4
10..... Deadline April Newsletter
16..... March Board Meeting TBA
Harmony Hillcare IT 10AM
25..... In Memoriam Mass
Little Flower 8:30 AM
26..... Spring Mass, Meeting
and Luncheon - Holy
Cross Village



Presidents Pat Falvey and Suzanne Wiwi sign the lease for the new Christ Child Center.

Data Updates

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

The Meaning of Sisterhood

Patricia Falvey
Co-President

(Preface by the author...I am thankful for and cherish the participation of the men in our organization.
However, in this instance I am addressing the women.)

As I walked into the vestibule of the church to offer sympathy to my recently widowed Christ Child friend, my eyes started to well up with tears. When I hugged her we both sobbed. Then she said, 'I can't believe the number of friends from Christ Child that attended the visitation yesterday. And there are so many here in the church today.' And then in the midst of all her grief she asked 'how is your husband doing?'

I entered the church and sat and prayed and cried. Here I was at the funeral mass for the husband of a friend I'd met through the Christ Child Society. We and our husbands were all close in age. We'd both just returned from Florida - she as a widow and I driving my husband back for a chemo treatment. While praying and silently letting the tears flow, I started to reflect.

I became a member of the Christ Child Society three years ago. I only knew a few of the members when I first joined. But in this short time, I've made very special friends and have experienced closeness that is really important to me. While it started as just being part of an incredible organization that provides for children in need, I look forward to arriving early on Wednesday mornings, some Sunday afternoons and occasional Tuesday evenings. I relish the hugs we exchange as we pass through the hall before the Center opens for clients. And then there is the morning gathering with announcements and prayer intentions and our prayer. In the years I've participated I've noticed that our prayer time has increased. Sometimes we pray for personal intentions, but I've noted that many of us are comfortable sharing what is heaviest on our hearts. And there are weeks when we share prayers that have been answered.

Exiting the mass, another friend/Christ Child member took my hand as I proceeded down the aisle. It gave me such a source of strength. It confirmed what I've come to believe. This powerful organization is made of people with huge hearts. Not only do we take care of those precious children of God, we support one another when we need it most. While our mission states we are volunteers dedicated to the personal service and clothing of all needy children and infants in the love and spirit of the Christ Child, who we are and what we do is so much more. We are a sisterhood.

While I can't locate the name of the writer, I came upon an appropriate quote about how I feel about our organization that I'd like to share as we start off 2020 and a vibrant future. "Sisterhood is many wonderful things. It's a warm smile on a cold and rainy day, a friendly hug, a cheerful hello. It's treasured. It's sacred. It's eternal. It's knowing that there will always be someone there for you. It's dreams shared, and goals achieved. It's counting on others and being counted on. It is real." This is the Christ Child Society of South Bend.

Faith-Dedication-Organization-Friendship

Suzanne Wiwi
Co-President

My first year and a half as an "active" Christ Child member has been one of learning much about this organization that I was not aware of prior to the gift of retirement.

Faith: There are many organizations that begin their day with prayer, as we do, but what I find so special involves the many intentions offered for others. It may be someone we all know, our country, or for the many people we serve. No matter where we worship reaching out to others is important. Members may visit a family who has suffered a loss, a fellow member that is in the hospital, or provide meals for a member who is ill. Knowing that we have a support group is a wondrous feeling.

Dedication: In my former position, pre retirement, it was always a blessing to make a request for help and have it met with many affirmative offers. I continue to be blessed in the same way with my involvement in Christ Child. It could take place at the Center, at a meeting or at a special event. There is always someone, often multiple offers, to give advice, help, or lead you to someone who can help. Knowing you have a support group makes being involved so important. Christ Child members have been that support for me as well as many others. "This personal contact with the poor was of inestimable value in the development of the Christ Child Society. A spirit of personal service for love of the person of Christ had given it birth now fostered its growth and development." - Mary Virginia Merrick

Organization: I am often asked why Christ Child was such a draw for me once I retired. First of all, when I first joined Christ Child, I was a young mother who was working part-time and looking to be involved in a not-for-profit organization. I knew some people in Christ Child and it fit my schedule with work and taking care of my son. Thus it began, but who would have thought that four years later I would be taking the job of administrator at a school which was, in my opinion, a lot more than forty hours a week. I loved Christ Child from the very beginning and credit people such as Marilyn Tepe, Lois Leliaert and many more for my love of this organization. While I couldn't volunteer, it was an opportunity for our junior high students to become involved and learn about why we give to others. Also, I thrive on being organized and Christ Child, as I often say to others, runs like a "well oiled machine."

Friendship: I have met some of the most caring, talented, and kind people who bring with them a variety of experiences, talents, and a love for the Mission set by our founder Mary Virginia Merrick. It is a pleasure to have so many friends to share in the joy of giving to others.

"The spirit of the Christ Child Society is one of personal love for the Christ Child expressing itself in the personal service for the least of "His little ones." - Mary Virginia Merrick

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:

Marge Baldine (Jim/Carol Holt)
Ed Bilinski (Toni Pikuza),
Mary Blum (Ann Schmiedeler)
St. Maura Brannick (Terry/Tom Slamkowski)
Mary Ellen Brennan (Peg/Dean Riggs, Ed/Joan Hardig, Sheila Emge, M/M James Cierzniak)
Dr. Larry Burns (Art/Mary Lou Houle)
Martha Burns (Joan Biltz)
Don Busick (Carol Jacquay)
John Bycraft (Art /Mary Lou Houle)
Pierre M. Ceuterick (Marlene/Otto Martinec, Marijo Martinec)
Paula Marie Davis (Patricia W. Falvey)
William Dillon (Henry/Mary Ann Chandler)
Frank Dolgos (Mary Ann Sobieralski)
Tom Dogulas (Art/Mary Lou Houle)
Phoebe Elizabeth Forsythe (Donna Kyle)
Pete Fox (Jim/Carol Holt, Margaret Hosinski)
Phillip Freedlund (Ginger O'Hara)
Ann Gordon (Helen Diltz)
Joyce Gregory (Jerry/Mary Ann Cavanah, Michael/Kathleen Hoffman, Daniel/LeAnn Gregory, David Schmidt, Michael/Janet Fahey, Corey Gregory, Robert/Debra Andrews,
Jane/James McCabe, M/M Dan Gregory)
Kate Griffin (Dan/Beth Barrett)
Pat Harrison (Harrison/Lopez Family Fund)
Jon Housand (Nancy/Jack Pycik)
Zachary James (Dee Tepe, Tom/Judy Burmeister, Mary/Ed Kubiak)
Chesterine Jaroszewski (K. Jaroszewski)
James Johnson (Carol Jacquay)
Bill Jones (Marcia/Tom Blum)
Robert L. Jones (Teddi Murray)
Catherine Koscielski (Margaret Hosinski, Pat/Paul Joubert, Anthony/Ann Germano, Bruce/Judy Cassady, Mary Beth McGrath, Florence

IN MEMORIAM

Members

Gretchen Anderson
Mary Ellen Brennan
Anne Klimek
Lois Mary Leliaert

Husband

Tom Slamkowski

Duesterberg, Marie Mengel, Ned Schimizzi, Drs. Gail English & Nels Leininger, Kathleen Lawton, John/Kathleen Julien, Rosemary Spalding, Paul Guentert, MD, Ismail Al-Ani, MD, Charbel Maskiny, MD, Erin Rissler, NP, Emilee Tehrani, NP, Debby Seltzer, Marty Lohmuller, Katherine Doughman, Julie Vest, Susan LaFaucia, Alison Nowaczewski, Shannon Bella, Rockell Davis, Kathy Robertson, Janet Hesch)

Alex Kocsis (M/M James Keultjes)
Carol Kolar (Jim/Carol Holt)
Eleanor Krizman (Jerry/Betty Vascil)
Jerry Kromkowski (Carol Bauer)
Jane Kanouse (Joan Biltz)
Anna Karason (Winifred Vanden Bossche)
Jack Keane (Suzy/John Halloran)
William Killilea (Terry/Tom Slamkowski, Kathy/John Seidl, Judy/Jerry Kearns, William/Renee Hochstetter, Jim/Carol Holt, Toni/Bob Kowalski)

Carol/Bill King (Peggy Bauer)
Evelyn Klosowski (Kathy/John Seidl, Teena/Mike Lutomski, Debbie/Jack Spillman, Joe /Joan Goralski, Barbara/Michael Lutomski, Crowe, LLP, Audrey Herzberg, Berzai Family, Kathy Allsop, Tim/Rhonda Masters, Christine/James Klowowski, Bill/Cheryl Herman, Mary Beth Cannon, Ed/Joan Hardig, Helen Muffoletto, Peg/Dean Riggs, Patty/James Carr, Kathy/Dave Ziege, Karen Tan, Jazzercise Girls)
Mary Kloski (Meg/Matt Gilbert)
Barbara Kniepkamp (Ann Schmiedeler)
Jerry Kromkowski (Jim/Carol Holt)
Lois Leliaert (Judy/John Kenney, M/M John Whaley, M/M Pat Lee, Mrs. Jane Whaley, Julie Magee, Kathryn Screes, M/M James Cierzniak, James/Anne Choinacky, Margaret Hosinski, Marie Burt, M/M Tom Whaley, M/M Marvin Whaley, Peter, Linda/Olivia Melsa, Bernadette Sutton, Margaret Kenney, Gerald-Shelby Mittendorf, Connie/Dennis Bruner, Patricia Zubler, Alice Backs, Sheila Emge, Nancy/Betty Ann Gibbons, Jane Horning, Greg/Jean Mee, Peg/Dean Riggs, Winifred VandenBossche, Ed/Joan Hardig, Rolande/Roger Parent, Esther Cyr, M/M Dave Pettet, M/M Ron Pettet)

Guardian Angels



A special membership category was established in 1998. A one time \$1000 enrollment fee for deceased members, spouses 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 and spouses may pre-enroll in the program and will be officially enrolled upon their deaths.

Refer any questions to Norma Villanucci (243-0621)

**Guardian Angels: John Bycraft III, Verne A. Ganser,
Jane and Fred Kanouse**

Living Angels: Marjorie Lane Bycraft, Gerry Dickey

Alison Liddell (Neal/Linda Cason)
 Peggy Makielski (Helen Diltz)
 Peg Mahoney (Greg/Jean Mee)
 Louise Mehringer (Bob/Toni Kowalski-
 John Meuleman (K. Jaroszewski)
 Jeffrey Miller (Joe/Marie Burt)
 Kevin Morris (Ben/Mary Cashman)
 David Pendzinski (Jack/Nancy Pycik)
 Rebecca Pflueger (Sandy/Bernie
 Gorski)
 John Rappel (Bob/Toni Kowalski)
 Louise Revels (Dorothy H. Mady)
 Edna Sirois (Ben/Mary Cashman)
 Darlene Sladen (Anita B. Golba)
 Steve Smith (Jim/Carol Holt)
 Leo J. Sobieralski, Jr. (Mary Ann Sobi-
 eralski, Marti/Frank Moriconi)
 Pat Steele (Mee Family)
 Clement Szymanski (Sue/Rick Seall)
 Don Thallemer (Bernie/Sandy Gorski)

Kathleen Welsh (Mary Beth McGrath)
 Barbara Wentworth (Marcia/Tom
 Blum)
 Irene Wiskotoni (K. Jaroszewski)
 Joseph Zappie (Catherine Sergio)
 Bob Zengeler (Greg/Jean Mee)
SPECIAL OCCASION:
 Mary Ann Corcoran - (Pat/Joe Corco-
 ran)
 Angela Cukier - (Tom/Terry Slam-
 kowski)
 Dillon Family - (Barbara Dillon)
 Hiroko Harrison - Get well (Carol
 Bauer)
 Mary/Jim Hesburgh - Merry Christmas
 (Barbara Dillon)
 Judy Kuzmich - Happy Birthday (Mary
 & Joseph Franco)
 Colby James Lutomski (Peg/Dean
 Riggs)

Carol Miller - Recovering health (The-
 resa Miller)
 Tom & Becky Monnin - 25th Anniv
 (Carol Bauer)
 Joe/Jane Moorhouse - for clothing
 donations (Terry/Tom Slamkowski)
 Maria Muhlherr - Improved health
 (James /Nancy Yohe)
 Peter Mullen - Induction to SB Hall of
 Fame (Terry/Tom Slamkowski)
 Emily Nash (Suzanne McMillion)
 Elsie Nemeth - Quick recovery (Joe/
 Marie Burt, Jim/Pat Short)
 Barbara Norkus (Mary/Ed Kubiak)
 Emilia Adison Riggs (Peg/Dean Riggs)
 Pat & Jim Short - Anniv. (Mary Lou/
 Pete Mullen)
 William and Warren's Baptism (Katy
 Gregg)
 Caroline Wuszke (Bob/Toni Kowalski)

Join Us

Wednesday, March 5 at Moreau Seminary

Christ Child Day of Prayer and Reflection

Reflecting on the love, mercy, and compassion of Christ
 - the heart of our mission to serve children in need.

Reflections by Rev. Peter Rocca, CSC

Rector Emeritus, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

9:00-9:30 am	Sign in, coffee, tea, juices, fruit, and pastries available
9:45 -10:45 am	Meet in the lower lounge for the morning's reflection
11:00 am	Mass in the chapel
1200-1:00 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm	Benediction in the chapel

Name _____ Phone _____

_____ number of reservations at \$18.00 _____ total enclosed

Please send your check for \$18.00 payable to the
 Christ Child Society PO Box 1286 South Bend, In 46624

Registration Deadline is FEBRUARY 25

Park in the East Lot off Moreau Drive and enter through the lower level.
 An elevator is available to take you to the Main Level.

SUCCESS at St. Adalbert's

The long term relationship between Christ Child and St. Adalbert continues to flourish reaping benefits for both the students and our members! It was hard to tell who had more fun at the 1st grade Math Party held on November 19. Small groups of students rotated through six math stations including math stories, geometry, patterning and math facts practice. Each student was given a tote bag with a non-fiction book and math materials to work with at home.

The next day, several Christ Child members joined St. Adalbert students at the Morris Center for this season's "Shein Family Young People's Discovery Concert." The students LOVED it and the school deeply appreciated our financial support that covered transportation costs. This is just one more way that Christ Child is opening doors of cultural experiences for young people.

This spring, twenty-five 6th graders will experience a campus visit at Saint Mary's College and 5th graders will again visit Holy Cross campus as part of our signature Aspire partnership. This new program is designed to plant the seed for educational and career goals for these students, many of whom are English language learners and will be first-generation college students.

Interested in Serving at Spring Mass As Lay Minister, Reader, Choir?

The Annual Spring Mass is on March 26 at 11 AM at St. Joseph's Chapel at Holy Cross College, followed by the luncheon. If you are currently a Lector or Minister of Holy Communion at your parish and are interested in serving at this Mass, or if you would like to be part of a Music Ministry (no experience necessary!), please contact Betsie Pendarvis at bpendarvis@gmail.com or 574-217-7251.



One member Rosanne Cordell, a licensed librarian, is providing first time instruction in research skills and internet usage for Middle School students. Learning to locate, analyze, cite and accurately use online research is a critical skill for high school work and beyond. "Find a need and fill it"- the teachers are grateful for Rosanne's skills and generous gift of time.

Our Christ Child tutors continue to work with students in all grade levels at the school including the library. We will continue to support more field trip experiences as well as in-school learning. Interested in joining us for the fun? Contact Judy Kuzmich (574-303-4625) or Jean Fuehrmeyer (574-440-4608).

Book Club

Feb. 21
Pat Healy (272-5640)

Britt Marie Was Here
by Frederick Beckman

Mar. 21
Judy Kearns (273-9850)

The Lilac Girls
by Martin Hall Kelly

Executive Board

Co Presidents:

Patricia Falvey
Suzanne Wiwi

President Elect:

Monique Deguara

Vice President (Fundraising):

Kathy Seidl

Vice President (Membership):

Sue Seall

Vice President (Clothing):

Betsie Pendarvis

Recording Secretary:

Ruth Nieboer

Corresponding Secretary:

Nancy Meyer

Treasurer:

Elizabeth Van Doren

Meet Monique Deguara, President-Elect

I joyfully retired January 2018 after a fulfilling career in healthcare supply chain administration. John and I celebrated our 45th anniversary this year. We love to travel both internationally and in the US, especially when visits with grandchildren are involved. Our four children live in four different states on both coasts along with 11 grandchildren so we have lots of travel opportunities. I enjoy weaving as a hobby.

My family came first and I stayed home with our four children until the youngest was in grade school. I completed my BS in Accounting at IUSB in 1990 and started working for St Joseph Medical Center, eventually as Purchasing Supervisor for its three hospitals. I moved to Franciscan Alliance in 2001 as their Director of Central Purchasing and helped create a new program which centralized all purchasing for the Franciscan Alliance Health System. In 2006 I earned my Master of Public Affairs from IUSB and a Certified Materials Resource Professional certificate in 2004. I enjoyed the people I worked with and felt that I was able to accomplish much as we all worked together to further our Franciscan healthcare mission.

I've been involved as a member of Holy Cross Parish since the nineties. I was on the School Board for a three year term when my youngest son was in school. Next I was asked to sit on the Parish Finance Committee. I've continued work in that committee through several different pastors and took on the chairperson roles years ago.

I was a board member and treasurer for Hannah's House from 1998-2004. I became involved with the Iraqi Student Project in 2008 and served as the South Bend chapter's treasurer while we supported three displaced students from Iraq as they studied at Holy Cross College and Saint Mary's College until their graduations in 2012/13.

Continuation of Christ Child's 'On the Move' to New Location . . .

Generous past donors have provided the financial means to make this move, but additional funding will be sought. Along with possible grant funding, naming opportunities will be offered for interested donors. Perhaps a family member or community business can be recognized with the library, play area or community room named in their honor. As we continue to build relationships in the community, monetary and in-kind donations are anticipated. Those who know of an individual or business that may be willing to support our mission, please contact Pat Falvey or Suzanne Wiwi at president@christchilds.org.

Look for announcements of upcoming volunteer opportunities and the community open house this summer.

Informational Coffee May 13

The May 13 informational coffee for prospective and new members will begin in the Bethany Room at 10:00 AM at The Christ Child Center and will include information on how one may participate in rewarding volunteer activities. Membership in The Christ Child Society is open to individuals of all religious affiliations who are interested in furthering the welfare of children.

Teddy Bear Toss Huge Success

The Notre Dame Women's Basketball Teddy Bear Toss on Wednesday, December 11, 2019, was a huge success. Thirty oversized bags of stuffed animals were collected and shared with St. Joseph Regional Medical Center. On the next day, several members gathered up the bags and delivered them to the Center where they will be sorted out later and be ready for the opening day in August.

A special thanks goes out to all of the members, three grandchildren, and Jake Amodio, Assistant Director of Marketing, Notre Dame Athletics who coordinated with the Christ Child chair in making this evening such a fun and delightful event for everyone.

Participants were Marcia Auger, Melissa Baltz, Ann Choinacky, Susan Cress, Monique Deguara, Pat Falvey and granddaughter Cecilia Bonadies, Jean Fuehrmeyer, Mary Heller, Sherri Jones, Barb Mickow, Mary Carol Nagle, Ruth Nieboer, Betsie Pen-darvis and grandson Josiah DeLorenzo, Jane Reed, Barb Reihl, Tricia Shafer and grandson Nichalous Bradley, Kae Sobczyk, Norma Villanucci, Susan Walsh and Suzanne Wiwi.



***In March Mishawaka Furniture
in Town and Country Plaza will become
the new Christ Child Center.***

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Once again at the Center Christ Child members signed up children for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. This program sends one book a month to all children under the age of five who live in Saint Joseph County who register for the program. Members signed up 315 children, many of them babies! Since August 2018 we have signed up over 700 children which means lots of books going to our littlest clients. Many mothers mentioned that their children were already signed up, some through us in 2018, and how much the children enjoyed receiving these quality books through the mail.

Gift Wrap at Christmas

Christ Child volunteers once again wrapped presents for donations at the Notre Dame Book Store from December 14 to December 23. We were happy to share our mission with the shoppers and we heard more than one story of how Christ Child Society had helped them in the past. It was also a nice opportunity to work with women we had not had a chance to volunteer with in the past. Seeing someone drop in a \$20 bill because they believed in us was heartwarming and even those \$1.00 donations add up. We made \$2351.51 in donations.



SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, April 30, 2020

Derby Day Luncheon and Style Show

Chicory Event Center

Mishawaka

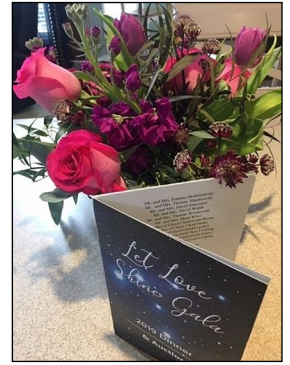
Fun, food and fellowship

SAVE THE DATE

'Let Love Shine' Raises Over \$100,000

The Christ Child Society's annual largest fundraiser "Let Love Shine" was held on November 7 at the Grand Ballroom of the Century Center. The event was well attended with 268 supporters of Christ Child enjoying an evening of great food, amazing live and silent auction items, a balloon pop, friendship and laughter.

Attendees were treated upon arrival with the wonderful music trio of Knapp, Probst & Wolfe as they walked down the ballroom stairs lighted by candles as well as appetizers and an open bar. Stunning table centerpieces of purple tulips, hot pink roses, eucalyptus, and Italian ruscus were provided by local florist Poppies by Polly and were available for purchase. Patricia Falvey and Suzanne Wiwi, our co-presidents, welcomed our guests before dinner was served. Guests enjoyed a delicious meal of European field green, tenderloin medallions and chicken followed by a choice of either chocolate or lemon cake.



The Heart of a Child Award was presented to the Women's Care Center in gratitude for the continued collaboration and support of our organization and the community. Ann Manion, Volunteer President, and Bobby Williams, Foundation Director, accepted the award of a beautiful Waterford Angel and spoke briefly about the unique connection between our two organizations.

The highly anticipated new video showcasing the truly amazing work our volunteers do throughout the year in order to serve children living in poverty was shown to our attendees. The new video definitely motivated our guests when Father Jacob Meyer, our Master of Ceremonies for the event and Pastor of St. Monica, opened the Bids for Kids and raised just over \$50,000!

Father Jacob hosted a lively and humorous evening with encouraging the attendees to open their hearts and wallets for our mission. Every item in both the live and silent auctions was sold! Final number for total profits for the evening are still pending but the co-chairs are happy to disclose that the auction made over \$100,000 in total for Christ Child.

Co-chairs Susan Coulter and Patti Banet would like to thank the following volunteer members for their unbelievable amount of time, talent and love that went into putting together this event: Patricia Falvey and Suzanne Wiwi, Monique Deguara, Melissa Baltz, Beth Barrett, Mary Liddell, Megan Fitz, Holly Hosinski, Judy Kuzmich, Kathy Seidl, Lisa Smessaert, Sherri Jones, Ann Finn, Sharon James and Susan Walsh and all the wonderful volunteers in Layettes, Shoes, New Clothing, Used Clothing, Coats, and Books who generously put up with us pestering, pleading and begging for baskets to auction off, gift cards or money for the Gala. "We are truly humbled by your generosity!"



CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1286
South Bend, Indiana 46624



Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SOUTH BEND, IN
Permit No. 239

Annual Mass, Meeting and Spring Luncheon ***Thursday, March 26, 2020***

**Mass will begin at 11 AM at St. Joseph Chapel, Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame
Bishop Kevin Rhoades, celebrant**

Luncheon Meeting at Andre Place following the Mass

Join us for Spiritual uplifting and comradery.

Offertory Gifts: Members are asked to bring layette items to be donated to the layette department.

Name _____ Phone _____

_____ number of reservations at \$25.00 _____ total enclosed

Questions? Call Hetty Cohen h=277-1656, c=520-9267 or hetty_cohen@yahoo.com

Please send checks to Christ Child Society, P.O. Box 1286, South Bend, IN 46624

Reservation Deadline - March 13, 2020