



# CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY<sup>®</sup> OF SOUTH BEND

WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

2366 Miracle Lane  
Mishawaka, IN 46545  
574 288 6028  
info@christchildsb.org

Spring 2024

*"Nothing is too much to do for a child."*

## Calendar

### March

- 5, 12, 19, 26** Open for members  
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- 6, 13, 27** Open for members  
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- 18** Board Meeting - Desmond  
Conference Room 10:00 AM
- 20** **Spring Mass & Luncheon**  
11:00 St. Anthony de Padua  
Church/ 12:15 Morris Park  
Country Club
- 25** In Memoriam Mass - Little  
Flower 8:30 AM
- 31** **Happy Easter!**

### April

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** Open for members  
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- 3, 10, 17, 24** Open for members  
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- 15** Board Meeting - Desmond  
Conference Room 10:00 AM
- 24** **Informational Coffee**  
9:30 to 11:00 AM
- 25** In Memoriam Mass - Little  
Flower 8:30 AM

### May

- 7, 14, 21, 28** Open for members  
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** Open for members  
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- 8** **Diaper Drop**  
CCS Clothing Center 9:30 to  
11:00 AM
- 12** **Happy Mothers Day!**
- 15** Summer newsletter deadline
- 20** Board Meeting - Desmond  
Conference Room 10:00 AM
- 25** In Memoriam Mass - Little  
Flower 8:30 AM

## Day of Reflection Brings Members Together

The 2024 Day of Reflection, held at Moreau Seminary on Tuesday, February 20, was a perfect way to begin the Lenten season. The 31 members who attended enjoyed a light breakfast followed by short talks by Fr. Peter Rocca, CSC who facilitated the event. Those present then participated in small group discussions.

After Mass in the stunning chapel, the group enjoyed lunch in the Moreau dining room, which was delicious as always. A time of silent meditation in the Chapel followed by Benediction completed the uplifting day.



Above: Sue Seall, Jan Christanson, Carol Holt, Chris Krueper, Joan Hurley, and Ann Choinacky enjoy lunch. Below left: Sheila Emge reads during Mass in front of the beautiful windows of the Moreau Chapel.



"Spending the Day of Reflection with Christ Child members, outside of the Center and away from volunteering duties, allows us to relate on a personal level. It's something we don't always have time to do while serving clients."

*Sue Seall*

## Clothe-a-Child Dolls Reappear April 22



This Spring look for the "Mitten Kids" at check out lanes in local Martin's Supermarkets. The Clothe-a-Child program will be available from **April 22-May 12, 2024**.

As a good start, the Student Council of Saint Joseph High School sponsored a Dress Down Day on December 1, 2023 to benefit The Christ Child Society's Clothe-a-Child program. The students raised \$607.30.

## No Rest at the Clothing Center!

**Melissa Baltz**  
Co-President

We are busy at the Christ Child Clothing Center serving our families from early August through early December. So, you might think our members are now taking a well-deserved rest. Not so! We take a short break at Christmas but in January we are already getting ready for next August.

The Center is busy with volunteers unpacking boxes of clothes, sorting them, and putting them on the shelves. The back loading dock area is full of donations of used clothing that must be sorted and put in bins to give out next fall to "our children." And adult items children can't wear need to be organized and put in Mary's Boutique so that parents or guardians of the children can pick up a few items for themselves.

The Layette and Foster Hope programs, plus helping families in emergency situations, continue all year. Volunteers in Layettes are packing tote bags full of infant items to deliver to the hospitals. Foster Hope continues to get referrals for foster children in need of clothing and personal items of their very own.

We are busy all year, but our dedicated volunteers would not have it any other way.

## Introducing President-Elect Vickie Sleevi

Vickie Sleevi is convinced that God's providential hand guided her to The Christ Child Society of South Bend after relocating here in June 2021. Through three separate visits to the BMV in Town and Country Plaza, three random meetings with Tricia Schafer (long-time CCS member), and a mention of CCS in the Sunday bulletin of Corpus Christi Church (which pastor Fr. Daryl Rybicki cannot recall being there...), she was repeatedly "stirred" to find out more about The Christ Child Society. Tricia's invitation to come to the training day in August of 2021 sealed the deal.

Vickie was so thoroughly impressed with the scope and efficiency of

the operations at the Center and the friendliness, dedication, and expertise of the member volunteers that she filled out a membership application on the spot. After three years as a member of CCS, she is still constantly amazed and humbled by the skills and hard work of the many wonderful ladies who serve our clients with true concern and respect, even at the end of some very long days. They make this organization the success that it is, and she is very proud to be able to work with and learn from them.

When clients are in the building, you can find Vickie up front working with the greeter team. As a retired high school Foreign Language teacher, she loves being able to put her skills to use helping Spanish-speaking clients as they go through the process. And she was thrilled to be able to help some French-speaking refugee families when they visited the Center.

After selling her home in Southwest Michigan in 2020, the move to South Bend was an easy decision. Vickie's three daughters, Samantha, Shelby, and Sarah, all live and work in Chicago, while her son, Joe, lives in Grand Rapids, Michigan with his wife and two children. Being within easy driving distance of her children and

grandchildren played a big role in her relocation plan. In her free time, she loves to travel, read, crochet, and do jigsaw puzzles, with the occasional day of substitute teaching in South Bend area Catholic schools thrown in.

Vickie joined the Board of Directors in 2022. She has served as Co-Chair of *Let Love Shine* 2022, Vice-President of Clothing, Co-Chair of the Day of Reflection, Chair of the Informational Coffee, and Co-Chair of the Silent Auction for *Let Love Shine* 2023. She is honored to be asked to be President-Elect and hopes that, with help and guidance from the membership and past Presidents, she can do her part to continue the amazing work of The Christ Child Society of South Bend.



### Layettes of Hope Assembly

**Wednesdays,  
March 6, 13, 27  
9:00 to 11:00 AM**

in the

**Desmond Conference Room**

*Contact Susan Wendowski  
with questions*



## Celebrate Moms with 5th Annual Diaper Drop on May 8

What started out as a way to assist mothers in need during a time of confinement, uncertainty, and Covid, has now become a yearly community outreach program for The Christ Child Society of South Bend. This gives Christ Child's donors and volunteers an opportunity to help make a difference for local Moms and babies who lack basic resources. **What a wonderful way to celebrate Mother's Day!**

Anyone who has young children or grandchildren knows diapers are costly and little ones go through them quickly. Typically, a child requires at least 50 diaper changes per week. That's a lot of diapers and baby wipes!

Many factors impact the ability of parents to provide diapers for their babies. With rising costs, some mothers are forced to keep their babies and toddlers in a soiled diaper much longer than they would like. This can lead to parental stress and health issues for the child.

CCS was grateful that over 46,000 diapers were distributed in 2023. The Goal for 2024 is to collect over 50,000 diapers and baby wipes.

Diaper Drop Co-Chairs Lisa Smessaert and Marie Burt are looking for your help. It's easy! You can make a difference in the life of a baby by helping to keep them dry and comfortable:

1. Help spread the word by sharing Diaper Drop posts on the CCS Facebook Page.
2. Ask your church, school or workplace to have a diaper collection prior to May 8.
3. Provide us with a contact person at your work, church, or school to coordinate a collection box.
4. Organize a diaper collection in your neighborhood. Volunteers can pick them up.
5. Ask your family and friends to

help celebrate Mother's Day or another occasion such as a birthday by forgoing a gift and gifting diapers instead.

6. Send diapers directly to The Christ Child Society through an on-line purveyor such as Costco, Sam's Club, or Amazon.
7. Donate funds for diapers to be purchased and distributed by Christ Child volunteers.
8. Donate Diapers at The Christ Child Society Center during the 'Drive Up and Drop Off' on Wednesday May 8.

**On May 8, diapers and diaper wipes will be collected and organized at the Christ Child Center. The hours of collection will be from 9:00 AM through 2:00 PM at the front entrance curb at Town & Country Shopping Center.** On the very same day, volunteers will load vehicles and deliver diapers to the receiving organizations.



In 2023, nine referral agencies were recipients of diapers: The St. Vincent de Paul Society, Center for the Homeless, Northeast Neighborhood Food Pantry, El Campito, La Casa De Amistad, St. Margaret's House, Salvation Army Kroc Center, the Christ Child Foster Hope Program, and Y.W.C.A. They are appreciative of this support in expanding their services to the community. Many families depend on these organizations for family support services.

Volunteers are needed to help this project be successful!

Critical to the event is the coordination of diaper collection boxes to be distributed to local schools and churches. Find out if your church or school is participating and assist with the drop off and collection. Other ways to assist include:

1. Volunteer at the curb as a diaper collector on the day of the event.
2. Help with organizing diapers for each of the receiving agencies.
3. Help by providing food and/or beverages for the volunteers.
4. Provide a larger vehicle or truck and be a driver to help deliver the diapers.

Contact Lisa Smessaert at 574-340-5497 or Marie Burt at 574-271-5987 to join the volunteer team and help make a difference for babies and Moms. Thank you for your consideration.

"Nothing is ever too much to do for a child."

### 2023-24 Executive Board

Co-Presidents  
Sue Seall  
Melissa Baltz  
President- Elect  
Vickie Sleevi  
Vice President (Fundraising)  
Lisa Smessaert  
Vice President (Membership)  
Tricia Shafer  
Vice President (Clothing)  
Judy Farrell  
Vice President (Communications)  
Mary Hazel  
Board Secretary  
Karen Van Meter  
Treasurer  
Sue Kinnucan



## Help The Christ Child Society GROW!

The annual CCS **Informational Coffee** will be held at The Christ Child Society Clothing Center on **Wednesday, April 24, 2024, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM.**

Small groups of guests will be led by a CCS member on a tour of the facility followed by refreshments in the Desmond Conference Room.

There will be a short presentation covering every aspect of the organization including its history, programs offered in addition to the distribution of clothing, and how CCS is funded. Time for individual questions will follow.

All members are encouraged to share their love for The Christ Child Society by inviting friends and acquaintances to attend if they are interested in finding out more about CCS. Members may attend with their guests, but it is not required.

For planning purposes, please email names of possible attendees - or send your own name if you want to learn more - to [info@christchildsb.org](mailto:info@christchildsb.org) with "Informational Coffee" in the subject line.

If you are interested in volunteering at the event, contact Chairperson Vickie Sleevi.



*The Clothing Center is a fun and satisfying place to volunteer. There are many options for serving and darling babies and children to hug!*



## How can you make a difference in the life of a child?

### The Clothing Program

Help stock shelves, unpack and sort new clothing, select clothing for clients, pull wagons or register clients. Shop! Join the clothing buyers' team!

### Education

Work with students at St. Adalbert School, help stock and sort books at the Center, join the Scholarship Committee.

### Mary's Boutique/Used Clothing

Sort used items that are offered as a special treat for adult clients and supplemental clothing for children.

### Volunteer for 1 day opportunities

Such as Diaper Drop or assembling Layettes of Hope.

### Be a Leader

Chair a committee or join the Board.

### Throw a party

Help plan Let Love Shine, Fall & Spring Luncheons, or monthly Lunch and Learns at the Center.

### Promote CCS

Work on the newsletter and promotions of CCS events. Share the good news about CCS by speaking to outside groups about the work of Christ Child.

### Create!

Sew Angel Layettes. Knit or crochet infant sweaters, hats or blankets.



## 2023 Clothing Program Serves Nearly 5,000 Children

December 13 brought both exhilaration and thanksgiving to Christ Child members. Thanksgiving that five months of intense work were complete, and exhilaration that 4,566 children were given warm new clothing from hats to shoes and everything in between, 226 new moms received generous bundles of



clothing and other baby items, and 135 foster children found clothing, toiletries, and other goodies in totes just for them, for a total of just under 5,000 children!

Of course, the Layette and Foster Hope Programs and services to refugee families and families in emergency situations continue year-round.



The task of restocking for next year is just beginning. But for now, CCS volunteers rejoice in the smiles of the children: a foster child receiving his first-ever pair of pajamas, a little girl with a new coat in her very favorite shade of pink, a teen with brand new Nike athletic shoes, a girl in a cute Halloween costume.

This is why we do what we do, and it is satisfying enough.

## Clothing Program Receives Top Ratings

The 2023 Christ Child Society survey was developed to evaluate clients' experience at the Clothing Center. The survey questions, rated on a scale of 1 to 5, asked about the quality and style of the clothing, the friendliness of the volunteers at the center and how the experience at the center could be improved.

The survey was given on random days and presented to between 75% and 93% of clients on those days, just after they had picked up the clothing for their children.

The majority of participants in the survey gave the highest mark in answer to all the questions and the comments were all positive.

The move to the current location was influenced by the 2019 survey which focused on location, convenience and items that the Clothing Program offered. It is clear that the improvements made after that survey resulted in satisfied clients.

### What Clients Have to Say About CCS

*"It is so nice to have everyone be so friendly, helpful and smiling. We appreciate you in our community.*

*Just want you all to know how thankful I am of the work you all do. Thank you!*

*Everyone was extra nice!*

*Everything is wonderful. Keep doing a great job.*

*Thank you for your service and God Bless*

*So grateful!!!*

*Very friendly and helpful.*

*Thank you! We appreciate you.*

*They are so fast, friendly and efficient.*

*Everyone was very nice!*

*Very organized and nice volunteers."*



## Gifts and Memorials

The Christ Child Remembrance Card is a convenient way to send donations in any amount to The Christ Child Society to honor a memory or special occasion such as a birthday, anniversary or accomplishment. Deceased friends or relatives will be remembered in a perpetual monthly Mass. When requesting a Remembrance Card, please print legibly. 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 (574.277.7787).

### SPECIAL OCCASSION

Anne Aitcheson - Good Luck (Mary Jane Danner)  
 All Past Presidents of Christ Child Society of South Bend (Peg Riggs)  
 Peggy Bolstetter (Mary Jane Danner)  
 June Branner (Mary Jane Danner)  
 Julia and Tommy Brothers (Barbara Dillon)  
 Mary Fran Burt (Marie Burt)  
 Jan Christianson (Jean/Paul Richards)  
 Eileen Dial (Mary Jane Danner)  
 Mary Dietz - Birthday (Carol Bauer)  
 Matt Brach and Colleen Dosch (M/M R. Brach)  
 Mary and Jim Hesburgh (Barbara Dillon)  
 James Hesburgh (Melanie Chapleau)  
 Anne Jennings (Suzy Halloran)  
 Kimberly and James Keultjes - Merry Christmas (Angela Gustafson)  
 Chris and David Krueper - 50th Anniversary (Esther Cyr)  
 John and Anita Manuszak (Joe/Marie Burt)  
 Julie McSweeney - Good Luck (Peg Riggs)  
 Rhonda Meyer (Mary Jane Danner)  
 Laura Kay Minter - Merry Christmas! (Marie Burt)  
 Kevin & Barb Slater (Kevin/Barb Slater)  
 Winnie Vanden Bossche - Get Well (Jo Ann Axelberg)  
 Bishop Bill Wack, C.S.C (Carol Bauer)  
 Suzanne Wiwi (Joan Hardig)  
 Bob and Sue Yoder - 50th Anniversary (Joe/Marie Burt)

### IN MEMORIAM

Carlos Arce (Kimberly/James Keultjes)  
 Fred Angeli (Marcia/Tom Blum)  
 Judge Paul Baldoni (Kimberly/James Keultjes)  
 Audrey Bauer-Dekker (Marcia Blum)  
 Peggy Bolstetter (Mary Jane Danner)  
 Ken Boswell (Marcia/Tom Blum)  
 Walter Botich (Ed/Joan Hardig)  
 June Brandner (Mary Jane Danner)  
 Gerald J. Broadhurst (Teddi Murray)  
 Butch Buczynski (Janice Goosens)  
 Larry Carmola (Kae Sobczyk, Melissa Baltz, Patricia Banet, Sue Seall, Kathy Seidl, Terry Slamkowski)  
 John Christianson (Marcia Auger)  
 Betsy Cooke (Cynthia Cooke)  
 Joseph Corcoran (Anonymous, Edward Artnak Family, Marcia/ Bruce Auger, Patricia Banet, Peter Braasch, Esther Cyr, Monique/ John Deguara, Barbara Dillon, Michael/Lori Divita, Jayne/John Dregits, Suzanne/Daniel

### Deceased Members

E. Elva Gable  
 Patricia Healy  
 Peggy Peck

### Deceased Spouses

Dr. Robert Szerence  
 A. Robert O'Brien

Elliott, Sheila Emge, Julianne/Ed Hardig, Joan/Ed Hardig, Mary/Chris Hazel, Mary Heller, Renee Hochstetter, Carol Holt, Jane Horning, Helga Jean, Marie Johnson, M/M Charles Klute, Judy/Hugh Kuzmich, Tammy/Bradley Lindorf, Deb/Mike Low, Linda Meyer, Nancy/Del Meyer, Marti/Frank Moriconi, Mary O'Brien, Bette O'Malley, Rolande/Roger Parent, Diane Quinn, Peg/Dean Riggs, Sherri Roth, Kathy/John Seidl, Catherine Sergio, Amanda Skwarcan, Terry Slamkowski, Vickie Sleevi, Sue Uhran, Susan Wendowski, Linda Wray, Noel/Ruth Yarger)  
 Brian Corey (Jane Dietrich)  
 Mariellen Corrigan (Jim/Pat Short)  
 Polly DeCicco (Lauren Romeo)  
 Patricia E. DeVolder (Kimberly and James Keultjes)  
 Rhodora Donahue (Marcia Blum)  
 Adele Driscoll (Carol/Jim Holt)  
 Florence Duesterberg (Pam/Paul Macri, Jerome/Barbara Callaghan)  
 Helen Kay Eberley (Marcia Blum)  
 Barbara Ferraro (Jean/Greg Mee)  
 Jean Fuehrmeyer (Marcia Auger, Bruce/ Nancy Axmacher, Melissa Baltz, Patricia Banet, Beth/Dan Barrett, Nyla/John Bitunjac, Kristy Botich, Judy/Tom Burmeister, Marie/ Joe Burt, Mary Ann Camosy, Anne Choinacky, Kay/Earl Cooper, Pat Corcoran, Rosanne Cordell, Ginesa Craig, Esther Cyr, Monique/ John Deguara, Sheila Emge, Dave/Linda Emrick, Bonnie/Richard Fremgen, Linda Fuehrmeyer, Sandy/Mike Fuehrmeyer, Rebecca/John Gaughan, Karen/Rich Gevis, Judith Gorham, Catherine Gregg, Diane Griffith, Joan/Ed Hardig, Jane Horning, Margaret Hosinski, Sharri Jones, Barry/ Maryann Keating, Sue Kinnucan, Gary Kirschenbaum, Mary Kubiak, Judy/Hugh Kuzmich, Cynthia Lange, Don, Connie, Andy & Melissa Lentz, Deb/Mike Low, Cathy/ John Mathews, Nancy/Del Meyer, Fred Mittelstaedt, Marti/Frank Moriconi, Mary/ Douglas Moxley, Sherry/Mark North, Joe and Janet O'Tousa, Carol Palmer, Rolande/Roger

Parent, Betsie/John Pendarvis, Susy Porter, Bridget/Mark Purdome, Diane Quinn, Barb Reihl, Peg Riggs, Donna Rockin, Janice Rockin, Tom/Kathy Schafer, Cathy Schulz, Rick/Sue Seall, John/Kathy Seidl, Terry Slamkowski, Vickie Sleevi, Maggie/Mike Smith, Kae/Mike Sobczyk, Benjamin Tovrog, Sue Uhran, Beth Ulrich, Susan Walsh, Phil/Susan Wendowski, Mark/Suzanne Wiwi, Ruth Yarger)  
 Sr. Marie Irene Gerencher (Louise Anella)  
 Paul Gifford (Peg/Dean Riggs)  
 Carmine Giordano (Karen/Ronald Mosca)  
 Chris Haney (Marijo Martinec)  
 Patricia Healy (Louise Anella, John/Katie Anthony, M/M Allen Arender, Tony/Nancy Bulic, Jeff/Diane Butterfield, Rosemary Crowe, Esther Cyr, Judith Eckrich, Angie/ Phil Faccenda, Mary/ James Ford, Jeanne Griffiths, Richard Gross, Ann Jones, Judy/Jerry Kearns, Kathleen Lawton, Dr. Dave Waldbillig/ Ms Allison McCarthy, Brian/Mary McNulty, Pedro/Lauri Miro, Kathryn/Lawrence Mudd, Lisa/Tony Nyers, Mary/Michael O'Connor, Bette O'Malley, The Ottman Family, Jen Pangraze, Kristen Smith and Laura Robertson, Melissa/Edward Schuster, Linda/Warren Verterano, Bonnie/Harry Shaffer, Lauri Slowiak, Chase/Amy Sorrick, Jennifer/ John Staud, Rikka/Eric Stewart, Manette Tepe, Maren Titmas, Kathleen/John Walsh, Norma Wilson)  
 Jim Hoffman (Norma Hoffman)  
 James Holt (Marcia Auger, Beth Barrett, Kristy Botich, Marie/Joe Burt, Rilla Campbell, Pat Corcoran, Esther Cyr, Joan/Ed Hardig, Teresa/Sam Jermano, Judith/Jerome Kearns, Deb Low, Michelle Mikula, Martha/Frank Moriconi, Bette O'Malley, Diane Quinn, Peg/ Dean Riggs, Sue Seall, Kathy/John Seidl, Amanda Skwarcan, Sue Uhran, Susan Walsh)  
 Martha M. Hosinski (Claire Sanford)  
 Agnes Houk (Judith/Jerome Kearns)  
 Irene Ison (Louise Anella)  
 Ed Jordanich (Marti/Frank Moriconi)  
 Donald Jun (Julie Schreiber)  
 Dan Kaczowoski (Joan Hurley)  
 Patrick Kaiser (Beth/Dan Barrett)  
 Richard Kirchberg (Marie Brady)  
 Don Kraltel (Marcia/Tom Blum)  
 Al Laatsch (Marcia/Tom Blum)  
 Alison Liddell (Linda Cason)  
 Lyla Lockhart (Rosemary Crowe, Helga Jean, Heather, Mekenzie, Danielle, Ingrid & Dr. Blakley, Deb/Sherry Roysdon)  
 Clay Mathile (Marcia/Tom Blum)



*In Memoriam continued*

Irene McNulty (Karen/Darrell Barnett,  
Beth Barrett, Judi/Doug Brown, Diane/Tony  
Coiro, Esther Cyr, Shirley Davidson, Deb  
DeCook, Patins Project, Lisa Galea, Becky/Jon  
Giszewski, Dorothy Mady, James McNulty,  
Pat/Linda McNulty, Jean/Greg Mee, Bette  
O'Malley, Diane Quinn, Deborah/Tim Taylor,  
Celia Wasserman)  
Anthony Mersits (Joan Hurley, Peg Riggs)  
Helen Mersits (Peg Riggs)  
Phyllis Miller (Joe/Marie Burt)  
Muriel Minsk (Marlene Martinec)  
Michael Montalbano (Anonymous, Melissa  
Baltz, Patricia Banet, Donna/Pat Barnecut,  
Kathleen Berta, John/Monique Deguara, Mary  
Heller, Sandy/Keith Kaniewski, Kimberly/  
Jim Keultjes, Susan/James Kezios, Jane/  
Carl Littrell, Tracy/David McCormick, Sarah/  
JT McDonald, Nancy/Del Meyer, Susan  
Montalbano, Rolande/Roger Parent, Betsie/  
John Pendarvis, Barb Reihl, Barbara Ruff,  
Sue/Rick Seall, Kathy/John Seidl, Terry  
Slamkowski, Kae/Mike Sobczyk)  
Robert 'Bob' O'Brien (Judy Burmeister,  
Margaret Hosinski, Marti Moriconi)  
Ruth Eileen O'Brien (Ann Schmiedeler)  
Ken Oler (Marcia/Tom Blum)  
Mary Jo O'Neil (Laura Trippel, Nancy/Jack  
Pycik)  
Irene Panzica (Thomas/Diana Panzica)  
Peggy Peck (Mary Jane Horning)  
Bernard J. Randall (Suzanne Shevitz)  
William Reinke (Ed/Joan Hardig)  
Mary Lou Reuscher (Marcia/Tom Blum)  
Denise Roemer (Bette O'Malley)  
Jack Beck Rogers (Jacqueline Badics)  
Fred Schmiedeler (Suzy/John Halloran)  
Bernard Schroeder (Patti/Lowell Paschke)  
Bernadette Schumacher (The Bauer Family)  
Bill Sexton (Greg/Jean Mee)  
Jean Scott (Janice Goossens)  
Anthony Stein (Joan Hurley)  
Dale Strzelecki (Peg Riggs)  
Robert Szerencse (Diane Quinn)  
Sue Thomas (Mary Jane Horning)  
James Toepp (Esther Cyr)  
John Uhran (Esther Cyr, Deb/Mike Low,  
Jim/Pat Short, Amanda Skwarcn, Terry  
Slamkowski, Ed/Joan Hardig, Bette O'Malley,  
Suzy/John Halloran)  
Amelia Claire Wieland (Jacqueline Badics)  
Jim, Nancy, and Mary Beth Yohe (Joe/  
Marie Burt)

Enroll a loved one as a  
**Guardian Angel**

Contact [info@christchildsb.org](mailto:info@christchildsb.org)  
for information

## Teddy Bear Toss Benefits Clothing Program

Notre Dame Women's Basketball hosted the 2023 Teddy Bear Toss on December 6.

Christ Child Society members Sue Seall, Barb Mickow, Kae Sobczyk, Melissa Baltz and Jane Reed gathered stuffed animals tossed from the crowd during half time of

the ND-Lafayette College game with the help of ND cheerleaders and the Leprechaun.

Sixteen large trash bags were filled with toys which will be given to all toddlers who are clothed through The Christ Child Society Clothing Program and Foster Hope.



## Half Price Books Helps Book for a Child

The Book for a Child program relies on donations to stock the book shelves. This year, Half Price Books has become a major donor, providing us with multiple donations of books appropriate for all ages.

Store Manager Tyler Collier provided several donations and then turned over the task to Katelyn Russell, the Assistant Manager, who now regularly prepares boxes of books for CCS to pick up.

In October, Katelyn made a delivery of 6 large boxes of books to the Center and saw firsthand the book area where the children get to choose their books. Katelyn also saw our inventory area where volunteers prep and sort the books by reading and age level. CCS is so grateful for Half Price Books' donations. They are key to the program's success.



## Elks Support CCS

Since 2019, the South Bend Elks Lodge #235 has partnered with the Christ Child Clothing Program by sharing their Beacon Grant of \$2,000. Members of the Elks have also volunteered at the Clothing Center.

The Christ Child Society truly appreciates the Elks' continued support!



## Join the Euchre Club!

Get to know CCS members! Have fun in a low-pressure card group!

*Become a regular player or a substitute.*

Fourth Thursday of every month  
(except November & December)

1:00 to 4:00 pm

For information, call Joan Hardig



**CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY**  
OF SOUTH BEND  
WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

2366 Miracle Lane  
Mishawaka, IN 46545

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Permit No. 239



artwork by Pat Falvey

PWF

*Come to the Spring Mass,  
Annual Meeting and Luncheon*  
**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**

11:00 AM ~ Mass at  
St. Anthony de Padua Church  
2310 East Jefferson Blvd., South Bend  
Fr. Arthur Joseph Ssembajja, Celebrant

*Please bring layette items to the back of church for the Offertory*

12:15 PM - Luncheon & Meeting  
Morris Park Country Club  
2200 McKinley Ave., South Bend

**Cost ~ \$30**

Mail check to The Christ Child Society, pay at the Clothing Center  
or pay via the website, [christchildsb.org](http://christchildsb.org)