



THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

April 2015

308 South Scott Street, P.O. Box 1286, South Bend, In 46624 (574) 288-6028 (fax) 288-4282 (e-mail) officer@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.

2015 Mary Virginia Merrick Award Winner Margaret Hosinski

The Christ Child Society of South Bend honors Margaret (Marge) Hosinski with the 2015 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.

Marge Hosinski joined Christ Child in 1970, served as president in 1977 and on the Board multiple times. She is at the Clothing Center on Wednesdays registering/interviewing clients, was instrumental in starting the Endowment and has the title of "public historian," taking over from founder Puddy Crowley. Ever the team player, Marge has been a part of every event our chapter has had since she joined.

Some excerpts from the nomination forms:

Marge is omnipresent and tireless in every aspect of Christ Child's mission and work. She can lead, follow and compromise as the need allows.

She is gracious, poised and always smiling. What a beautiful soul! What a willing spirit!

She is a true representative for everything Christ Child stands for.

Marge loves Christ Child.

Marge embodies the spirit of Mary Virginia Merrick through her actions and devotion to Christ Child. Thank you, Marge, for all you have done and continue to do for our chapter!



Executive Board

President:

Peg Riggs

President Elect:

Vice President (Fundraising):

Judy Burmeister

Vice President (Membership):

Anne Choinacky

Vice President (Clothing):

Sue Walsh

Recording Secretary:

Jean Fuehrmeyer

Corresponding Secretary:

Marie Burt

Treasurer:

Pat Hillebrand

CALENDAR

Apr 1,15,22,29 . Restock/Inventory
Center 9:00 AM

Apr 5Easter

Apr 20Board Meeting
Center 9:00 am

Apr 22In Memoriam Mass
St. Patrick's 12:15 PM

May 1 Derby Day

May 13 New Member Coffee
Center 9:30 am

5th Annual Let Love Shine Dinner/Auction September 3

Gillespie Center
Hilton Garden Inn

It's Time: New Member Coffee

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 13 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 Joan Hardig, khardig@aol.com, 277-7787 or Kristy Botich, wbotich@sbcglobal.net, 291-7523 with names and addresses so invitations can be sent. It's time to share our mission and our blessing.

Updates

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

From the President . . . Peg Riggs

**“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
nothing is going to get better. It's not.” - Dr. Seus**

With April comes a change in the weather. More sun, less snow, some rain, lots of wind and the fresh air -- the beginning of a new season and the promise of warmth. With the rough winter we all suffered through, “Spring is nature’s way of saying ‘let’s party!’” (thanks, Robin Williams). Time to put away the wool sweaters and pull out the short sleeve shirts and capri pants. Time to open the windows and let the fresh air in. Time to look ahead. Time to roll with the changes coming our way.

Your membership renewal forms will be mailed this month. PLEASE take the time to check over all of your information. If you want your birthday listed in the newsletter, be sure to list it on your form. Remember to get your renewal form in before May 15 to be listed in the directory. Thank you all for continuing your commitment to the Christ Child Society.

A big thank you goes to five brave members who said “YES” to be on the Board. The following ladies will begin their three year commitment in July, 2015: Linda Wray, Katy Perry, Terry Slamkowski, Sue Seall and Mary Wisniewski. Like the rest of you, I am looking forward to working with these wonderful members! Thank you all for stepping up to serve the Christ Child Society of South Bend.

Happy Easter to all! He is Risen; Truly He is Risen!

Canonization Efforts Endorsed by Father Ted

The Spring Luncheon was a special time to debut a recent video of Father Ted Hesburgh speaking at length about our foundress. Notre Dame President emeritus Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C. was interviewed in early November and video tapped in mid- December of 2014, speaking about Mary Virginia Merrick. Sincere thanks go out to Christ Child member Melanie Chapleau, longtime executive assistant for Father Hesburgh, for arranging this incredible opportunity for the canonization efforts at National Christ Child Society.

Deb Low, a South Bend member and national board member, who had met Father Ted several times through her husband Mike, initiated the conversations with Father and was impressed by his admiration for MVM and her accomplishments. Father had volunteered as a chaplain and boys basketball coach in one of the Christ Child settlement houses in his days as a young priest in Washington D.C. He saw first-hand the good that resulted from MVM’s vision.

When Deb asked him if he would be willing to go on camera to speak about our foundress, he responded “Whatever I can do to advance the cause, would be my pleasure.” The result is a video in which Father speaks about Mary Virginia Merrick’s achievement of being honored with Notre Dame’s Laetare Medal in 1915. Father also endorsed her canonization in a written statement signed in February. Given that Father passed away on February 26, we are fortunate to have received this final blessing of our mission and our foundress by this remarkable and holy man.

Get Out Your Hats - It’s Derby Day

Spring is finally on its way. The Derby Day Committee is hard at work.

We are having a great sit down meal May 1, 2015, at 11:30

Chico’s and White House/Black Market are going to get us pumped up for breaking out of our winter clothes.

We are excited to see your hats and your smiles.

It’s been a long winter; come, visit friends you haven’t seen in a while.

Your ticket price is still \$30.00 at Knollwood.

This year we will have shuttle service.

Look for the red balloons and get a ride to the front door - no stairs.

Don’t forget your Hat and your smile!



April

1	Winifred Farquhar
3	Lorraine Hull
4	Deborah Spillman
5	Mildred Walasinski
5	Sandy Redden
6	Barbara Szweczyk
6	Diane Coiro
7	Cheryl Meyer
11	Mary Kubiak
11	Sheila Marshall
12	Louise Anella
13	Mary Hintz
13	William Killilea
14	Joan Biltz
14	Denise Collins
18	Della Dewald
18	Louise Lauer
20	Joan Baugher
20	Mary Ann Sobieralaski
20	Toni Kowalski
21	Debra Low
21	Julann Bauer
22	Mary Thallemer
22	Cynthia Pankiw
23	Helen McCleary
25	Katherine Perry
26	Tami McNally
27	Theresa Veldman
27	Mary Hazel
28	Kristy Botich
29	Madeline Deyerling
29	Mary Jane Severyn
29	Esther Cyr
29	James La Bella
29	Evonne Corbett
30	Mary Balint
30	Karen Clifford

Book Club

Big Stone Gap

by Adriana Trigiani

April 15

Mary Lou Mullen (234-2626)

Deadline for next newsletter

April 20

Ann Korb (277-6443) ack339@aol.

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	John/Gail Jaskowiak
Barbara Bachman (Bette/ Pat O'Malley)	Norma Janczak (Trudy Strantz)
Marcella Barr(Ruth Schmitz, Ann Riley)	Albert L. Javis (Marlene/ Otto Martinec)
Tom Beard (James/Carol Holt)	Michael Kohler (Jane Dietrich)
George Danz (Amy Patterson)	Cleo Kowalski (Winnie VandenBossche, Dr.
Ray DeCloedt (James/Carol Holt)	John/Marilyn Toepp, Thomas/Marlene Nowak,
Fr. Ted Hesburgh (Deb/Mike Low, Ken/Barb Fedder)	Greg/Jean Mee, Nancy Long, Karen Davis,
Joseph Hickey (Betty Lou Woolverton, Marilou VanderGriend, Tom/ Janet Turnock, Michael Toal, Mary Jane/Bill Stanley, Rosemary Shafer, Kathryn Screes, Denise/Charles Roemer, Wes/Mary Burch Ratliff, Edward Hirt/Kathleen McTigue, Judy/Hugh Kuzmich, Barbara Dillon, Barbara/William Dennis, Peg Claeys, Mary Ellen Brennan, Dan/Beth Barrett, Pamela Austin,	Jane Horning, Ed/Joan Hardig, Carol Bauer, JoAnn Axelberg)
	Ginny Lochmandy (Jerry/ Betty Vascil)
	Peggy Lutz (Amy Patterson)
	Bonnie McFadden (Ed/Joan Hardig)
	Barbara Medlock (Rosemary Shafer)
	Andrew Miller (Carol Bauer)
	Florian H. Moskwinski (Profiles Salon)
	Doris Palmer (Phyllis/Earl Kubale)
	Dennie M. Palmer (Peggy

In Memoriam

Members
Patricia Forray
Cleo Kowalski
Patti Zych
Husband
Joseph Hickey

Bauer)
 Ida/Tom Pamperin (Earl/
Phyllis Kubale)
 Margaret Ann Penk (Marcia/
Tom Blum)
 Richard Scott Pulaski (The
Remley Family)
 Raymond Rospopo (Joe/
Marie Burt)
 William Seward (Teresa/
Sam Jermano)
 Barbara Thistlewaite
 (Florence M.
Duesterberg)
 Gertrude Wettergren
 (Bernie/Sandy Gorski)
 Margaret Mary (Miller)
 Zenner (Bill/Marian
Bickel)
 Patti Zych (Gail Fisk,
Pat Gay, Judy/Hugh

Kuzmich, Deb/Mike Low,
 Richard/Donna Mason,
 Jim/Pat Short, Mary/Dick
 Reineke)
 Special Occasion
 Kay Artnak (Corcoran)
 Melanie Chapleau - In honor
 & thanksgiving (Deb/
 Mike Low)
 Molly Edgette - Friendship
 (Corcoran)
 Fr. Andre LeVeille -(Joe/
 Marie Burt)
 Jack Limberg -Get well
 (Joe/Marie Burt)
 Fr. Jacob Meyer -Healing
 (Peggy Bauer)
 Cleo Kowalski - Complete
 recovery (Dr. John/
 Marilyn Toepp, JoAnn
 Axelberg)
 Matt's mother - Improved
 health (Mary Tice)
 Mary Jo Miller - Speedy
 recovery (Virginia/John
 Zellers)
 Alan Zellers - Recovery
 from heart surgery/stroke
 (Virginia/John Zellers)



St. Joe High School Teachers and Staff volunteered at the clothing center on March 6 as part of their teacher/staff retreat. Eight facility members assisted in the assembling of Layettes of Hope that Christ Child gives to Women's Care Center. It was a great morning and we appreciate the opportunity to show SJHS the many ways Christ Child serves the needy in St. Joseph County.

Christ Child Society Guardian Angels

A special membership category was established in 1998. A one time \$1000 enrollment fee for deceased members or spouses, benefiting the Christ Child Society Endowment Fund, will insure the Society's ability to continue the future good works.



The Guardian Angels are honored with their names appearing on a plaque in the Christ Child Society office. The family of the deceased will receive an enrollment certificate. Each angel will be remembered monthly and each year at our annual Mass. A special page in our

directory will list our angels annually. Current members and spouses may pre-enroll in the program. These "angels in waiting" will be kept on a special list and officially enrolled upon their deaths. Refer any questions to Sheila Emge (277-6421).

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P.O. Box 1286
South Bend, Indiana 46624



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Strategic Plan 2014 - Attracting New Members

In the October 2014 newsletter, the Strategic Plan of 2014 was outlined. Now, let's take a one of the recommendations and go a little more in depth.

The strategic plan recommended we attract younger, more invigorated members and improve the experience of existing members. In order to strengthen the organization and broaden our volunteer pool, CCS should establish a New Member Chair and Committee. The rationale behind this: Happy, well-informed and satisfied members will better serve the community and the organization.

Christ Child Society prides itself on its members. It is much more than a "group of gals." We are a force - a force of women on a mission to provide clothing to the needy in St. Joseph County. Let's spread the word. How can we do that? We can invite our neighbor, our daughters or daughters-in-law, the lady we see at daily Mass, friends of friends to the New Member Coffee on May 13 at the Clothing Center. Give the names and address of the chosen to Joan Hardig (277-7787 or khardig@aol.com), or Kristy Botich (wbotich@sbcglobal.net or 291-7523) and a personal invitation will be sent to her to come to see what we are all about.

If YOU are interested in reaching out to our new members, contact Beth Barrett (256-5633 or ehbarrett@comcast.net) about being a part of the New Member Committee. We all want to be a part of the bigger picture; won't you step up and make sure the next generation of volunteers keeps the Christ Child clients in their hearts and prayers.

What Saint Pius Accomplished In Just One Week!

Here is the message that went out to Saint Pius X families:

In support of the Christ Child Society, the kindergarten classes of Saint Pius X Catholic School are sponsoring a school wide clothing drive from March 9-13. It went on to say what items were needed, including shoes and boots. Even parent volunteers were there to take donations at drop off in the morning.

The kindergarten classes will be graphing all the clothing donated. Let's generate big numbers to help their "thermometer tally" boil over, and show to them the beauty of giving as a school community. Thank you and God Bless! By this simple request, the Saint Pius X community donated over 4500 pieces of clothes and shoes! All of this generosity in ONE WEEK!

