



THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

April 2016

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

Executive Board

President:

Peg Riggs

President Elect:

Debbie Spillman

Vice President (Fundraising):

Holly Hosinski

Vice President (Membership):

Anne Choinacky

Vice President (Clothing):

Linda Wray

Recording Secretary:

Joanne Van Avermaete

Corresponding Secretary:

Jane Reed

Treasurer:

Kentucky Derby Day Luncheon

Friday, May 6, 2016

Post Time 11:00 AM

\$30.00

Blue Heron at Blackthorn

(The Blue Heron is located at 5440 Nimtz Pkwy, off Bendix Drive. There is plenty of parking close to the facility with an easy drop off area.)

Christ Child board members will model fashions from "On The Fringe" at Bangs Salon. "On the Fringe" prides itself on timeless styles mixed with a contemporary flair so you can reinvent your wardrobe effortlessly year after year.

Look for your invitation in the mail.

'Let Love Shine' Coming Soon

The 2016 Let Love Shine Event is coming in just a few months, Friday, June 17 at The Brick on Northside Avenue in South Bend. The LLS volunteers are working hard to bring you another fantastic fundraising event! Be sure to look for information coming soon on how to purchase raffle tickets for several exciting raffle packages that support the Let Love Shine fundraiser!

Don't forget that we are still collecting donations in the Patti Zych memorial cookie jar at the center. The cookie jar (along with all the cash contained in it!) will be one of the raffle items/packages at the event. Additionally, we are still collecting gift cards for our "balloon pop," where a \$25 donation gets you a balloon containing at least \$25 worth of gift cards. If you'd like to donate for either of these efforts mentioned above, please drop your donations at the center or mail to Christ Child Society, PO Box 1286, South Bend, IN 46624.

Also, thank you to Christ Child board members who have been assisting with follow up phone calls for our underwriting efforts! We appreciate your support and help!

Check out the website for The Brick at thebrick.net to get a peek at our venue!

Think Spring: Membership Renewals in April

It's that time again! Time to renew your Membership to the Christ Child Society. Membership renewal forms for the year 2016-2017 are mailed in April. Members are urged to return their renewal forms and checks by May 16 to be assured that you are in the 2016-2017 Christ Child Directory. So please, mark your calendars.

CALENDAR

Apr 10,20,27 Restock/Inventory
Center 9 AM

Apr 18 Board Meeting
10:15 Dickinson Room, main SJCP

Apr 27 In Memoriam Mass
St. Patrick's 12:15 PM

Book Club

Go Set A Watchman

by Harper Lee

April 20

Judy Kearns (273-9850)

Data 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

"The purpose of life, after all, is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experiences." - Eleanor Roosevelt

Two years ago, Judy Kuzmich asked if I would consider being president of Christ Child. My first instinct was "No, not me, I can't do this." Instead of "No," I asked her to give me some time to think about it. I didn't know how I would be able to fill to this position with my other commitments in my life: my boys, my husband, my Mom, my substitute teaching, my—wait "my"—where is the bigger picture? Christ Child is bigger than any of "my" stuff. Christ Child has been around for 69 years. Children in need of clothing are in St. Joe County for more than 69 years. Members have volunteered for Christ Child for 69 years. Volunteers have weaved in and out of Christ Child for 69 years. Who was I to say no? After a couple of days, well, you all know, I said yes.

I'm asking all Christ Child members to say YES. I ask all of you to examine yourselves and see where you can find the time to do more for Christ Child. I know, most of you are saying, "No, not me!" or "I don't have the time." but you can do it. Commitments can vary from a few minutes a day, an hour a week or more.

Say YES to:

- ☐ Volunteering at the Center on Wednesdays from 9-Noon.
- ☐ Praying for our members and our clients.
- ☐ Becoming a new clothing buyer.
- ☐ Coming to Derby Day.
- ☐ Helping with Let Love Shine.
- ☐ Inviting your friends to the New Member Coffee.
- ☐ Getting out of your "room," meeting new people, and trying a new "job."
- ☐ Tutoring at St. Adalbert School.
- ☐ Talking about Christ Child to ANYONE who will listen!

Eleanor Roosevelt had the right idea: we must EXPERIENCE life, not be a spectator. Spring has sprung, take a chance, be open to new beginnings and make a difference!



At the spring luncheon were (bottom row) Esther Cyr, Marie Brady, Katie Screes and Joan Hardig; (top row) Mary Liddell, Marge Hosinski, Beth Barrett, Bishop Kevin Rhodes, Judy Kuzmich, Marjorie Bycraft, Maureen Cahir and Peg Riggs.



Christ Child Bequest

A gift in your will (a bequest) is the most traditional way to provide significant help to carry out the mission of The Christ Child Society of South Bend, Indiana. It will provide layettes and clothing each year for thousands of needy children in our community.

Your gift in your will can be a specific dollar amount, a percentage or a part of your residuary estate. A gift can be made to the Endowment Fund or to the General Fund. For example:

Specific Bequest

"I give to The Christ Child Society, Inc. of South Bend, Indiana, Endowment Fund the sum of _____ dollars."

"I give to The Christ Child Society, Inc. of South Bend, Indiana, General Fund the sum of _____ dollars."

Percentage Bequest

"I give to The Christ Child Society, Inc. of South Bend, Indiana, Endowment Fund _____% of my estate."

"I give to The Christ Child Society, Inc. of South Bend, Indiana, General Fund _____% of my estate."

Residuary Bequest

"I give all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate to The Christ Child Society, Inc. of South Bend, Indiana, Endowment Fund."

(or)

"I give all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate to The Christ Child Society, Inc. of South Bend, IN, General Fund."

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

Bickel, Marian (William Bickel,
Frank/Diane James, SJRMC-
Mishawaka-4 West Rehab)
Blazek, Rosene (Bob/Toni Kowalski)
Finn, Ron (M/M Pat O'Malley, Peg
Riggs)
Goodwin, Jr., Harold (JoAnn
Axelberg, Winifred L. Vanden
Bossche)
Groody, Ed (Barbara Dillon)
Jeske, James E. (Tom/Judy
Burmeister)
Letherman, John (Marcia/Tom Blum)
Pitts, Edward (Marcia/Tom Blum)
Ricca, Elvira (Marcia/Tom Blum)
Rohan, Therese (Kathryn Screes)
Scanlon, Lillian (Bill/Jane Killilea,
Nancy/Jack Pycik)
Sellenbert, David (Kent/Katy Perry)
Smith, Omerine (Joan Hardig)
Teuschi, Mary E. (Ann Leonard
Molenda)
Veldman, Theresa (M/M Bradford
Saar, Kathryn Screes, M/M Al
Veldman, M/M Robert Veldman,
Ted Veldman)

Special Occasion

Biltz, Joan/Orlen- 60th Wedding
Anniversary (Joan Biltz)
Williams, Wes (James/Patricia
Short)



Shamrocks, Sparkles and Spring

After Mass with Bishop Kevin Rhodes, members were greeted with shamrocks and sparkles while entering the dining room at the Morris Inn. Spring was in the air during our semi-annual meeting with the sunshine coming through the windows. The shoe department sparkled as Sue Walsh told us about 3500 pair of shoes for children and the "Sole Sisters." Dessert came after the meeting and all left with a spring in their step, and eagerness to continue the mission of the Christ Child Society.

Won't You Join Us?

What is it that you really love about being a part of Christ Child?
Is it the friendships you've made or the sense of pride you feel for our mission?

Maybe it's the tug on your heart when you look into the eyes of a grateful mother who knows someone else cares about her child the way she does. Maybe it's the laugh-out-loud moments watching the children show off new shoes and colorful coats as they dance in our hallways. Or maybe it's the sense of fulfillment knowing you have made a difference in the life and future of a child?

Did it start with a personal invitation to join or a friendly face that made you feel welcome and a part of the gang?

Whatever it is that makes you the heart and voice of Christ Child, we ask you to share that message to help grow our organization. Christ Child depends on the spirit, energy and talents of its members, and the more we have, the more we can give.

There are many ways new members can support our mission even if they aren't able to help on Wednesdays at the Center. Paying dues, supporting our fundraisers and social events, donating used books and clothing and praying for our clients are all ways to be a valuable and active member. All these are needed to help us "challenge poverty one child at a time."

We will be hosting our New Member Coffee on Wednesday, May 11, starting at 9:30 AM. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends, family members and acquaintances to the Center to meet our members, hear our story and take a tour. Names of invitees should be sent to Kristy Botich (wbotich@sbcglobal.net) or 291-7523 to ensure an invitation is sent, though last minute guests are always welcome.

Won't you help us be the welcoming face of Christ Child?

Deadline for May newsletter
April 18

Ann Korb (277-6443) ack339@aol.com

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



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Reflections on Our Day of Recollection Jean Fuehrmeyer Judy Kuzmich

On a snowy winter day Christ Child members and friends gathered at Moreau Seminary for a Day of Lenten Reflections. What a wonderful day it was. Some were unable to attend because of winter's reminder that we were still in the mode of cold and snow but those attending were warmed by Fr. Charlie Kohlerman's words of inspiration in the Year of Mercy.

Fr. Charlie spoke of how Pope Francis wants us to focus on the celebration of the breaking of the bread. He tells us we cannot fully celebrate the "breaking of the bread" (the Eucharist) unless we have first celebrated the "washing of the feet," until we have gathered and invited into the celebration—the children, the elderly, the disadvantaged, the weak, the sinners and those in true need of Jesus' and our compassion, forgiveness and love.

Drawing on the words and heart of Pope Francis in this Holy Year of Mercy, Fr. Charlie touched the heart of Christ Child's mission to serve the children and families of our community who need to have their material needs met before they can be touched by the word of God. He further challenged us to look for Jesus in each of those who cross our paths, reminding us that "the wrapping is not the person." Only then might we avoid letting the suffering and pain of others pass over us without a response. Father talked of the Prodigal Son and the forgiveness that was given to him by his father. He suggested the book ***The Return of the Prodigal Son*** by Henri Nouwen as additional

reading material.

Because of the weather, the afternoon session was canceled. We gathered for lunch and were told we could continue our time together with open conversations at our tables, leaving at our leisure. Table conversations were very lively and interesting with a variety of topics. Our table talk consisted of our favorite things in the past and in the present. When we sat down for lunch, the snow was so heavy we could not see across the lake. By the time our groups started to leave, we could see the steeple of the Basilica and the Golden Dome. What a wonderful and beautiful day to spend time with other members and friends.

Calling All Gift Wrapping Experts!

As graduation weekend at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College nears, please consider volunteering a few hours to wrap gifts at Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. As we do at Christmas season, Christ Child Society of South Bend will wrap gifts in exchange for donations to our cause. This past Christmas we were able to raise over \$3000.00 through this activity.

Wrappers are needed Friday May 13th, Saturday May 14th, and Sunday May 15th. Co-Chairs Cathy Mathews, Kay Houser and Deb Low will be canvassing the distribution center with sign-up sheets during the month of April.

Thanks in advance for your generosity of time and your talent.