



# THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

March 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.

## Bishop Kevin Rhoades to Celebrate Mass

The daffodils will be popping up on March 25 as Christ Child members arrive for their Mass and Spring Luncheon on the campus of Notre Dame. Bishop Kevin Rhoades will celebrate the 11:00 AM Mass of The Annunciation in the warm and intimate Chapel of Alumni Hall. This special feast honoring the Blessed Mother coincides with the wonderful work done by Christ Child members for mothers in our community.

Lunch will be served at 12:15 PM at the bright and sunny Morris Inn. At this luncheon the new board members will be introduced and the Mary Virginia Merrick Award presented. Let's fill the Chapel to welcome Bishop Rhoades.

### 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

### Save September 3

## 5th Annual Let Love Shine Dinner and Auction September 3, 2015

## Member Volunteers Needed to Become Parish Ambassadors for Christ Child

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

The Strategic Plan recommended that we create a network of Parish Coordinators who marshal our cause to members of each parish in South Bend. This could expand our membership and spread the word about CCS. The cultivation, retention and continuous recruitment would occur as an on-going focus.

Christ Child members come from almost every parish in the South Bend area. We are passionate about our organization and our mission to clothe all of the needy children and infants in the love and spirit of the Christ Child. So imagine if twice a year, we ask for space in the bulletin to invite parishioners to come to a meet-and-greet with actual Christ Child members. Or, if once a year, we ask to speak at the end of Mass inviting parishioners to check us out. Ask your pastor if Christ Child could be listed on their web site as a link to an out-reach organization. Speak at a mom's group, an ARISE gathering, a widow and widowers group or at Theology on Tap. Look through your parish bulletin and seize the opportunities.

If YOU are interested in reaching out to your Parish, contact Deb Low (243-0583) or [debramlow@comcast.net](mailto:debramlow@comcast.net) about being a part of the Parish Coordinator Committee. Be a part of expanding our membership and sharing your passion of Christ Child.

### CALENDAR

- Mar 4, 11, 18, 25..... Restock/Inventory  
Center 9:00 AM
- Mar 16 ..... Board Meeting  
St. Vincent de Paul  
520 Crescent Avenue 9:30 AM
- Mar 25 ..... Spring Mass/Luncheon  
Alumni Hall/Morris Inn  
Notre Dame 11:00 AM
- Mar 25 ..... In Memoriam Mass  
St. Patrick's 12:15 PM

**The Center will open  
for clients on August 12**

### Updates

- Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/ChristChildSB](https://www.facebook.com/ChristChildSB)
- Follow us on Twitter: @ChristChildSB
- Check us out online: [www.christchildsb.org](http://www.christchildsb.org)

## From the President . . . Peg Riggs

**“Everything in life has its own time. There is time to celebrate and there is time to mourn. This is the time for reflection and transformation. Let us look within and change into what we ought to be.” - Aaron Saul**

What a winter! Between the crazy snowfall and the frigid temperatures, I'm glad to see it coming to an end. It's a beautiful season in the beginning, but now I cannot wait for March 20, the first official day of SPRING!

We are officially in Lent. This is my favorite liturgical season and it is a great way to evaluate what is important. As Catholics, we tend to “give up something” from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. I have friends who give up chocolate, coffee, or wine. Even my grandma, Pauline Quinlan, would always give up whiskey - of course she didn't drink whiskey! I haven't followed this practice for a few years. Instead, I followed the advice of few awesome priests. They offered the alternative “add something.” Whether it was taking five minutes a day to pray, go to daily Mass, practice random acts of kindness, or even smiling at strangers, I thought this was a more practical substitute to self-denial. A few online friends have started a 40 days = 40 bags. It is a way for them to evaluate the items in their homes. This gives families a chance to keep what is important to them and their families and a way to share their extras with the needy. A tidy home is just a bonus to the process. Charity does begin at home.

With the start of spring comes the start of a new year within Christ Child. Coming up soon is the Spring Mass and Luncheon on March 25. Our program includes the presentation of five new board members as well as honoring one of our members with the Mary Virginia Merrick Award. Make plans to come and celebrate our chapter! May 1 is Derby Day at Knollwood. Mark your calendars for a fun event!

The clothing Center just reopened March 4. Our first focus is to get the Layettes of Hope assembled for the Women's Care Center. The Women's Care Center truly appreciates the 3000 Layettes of Hope we provide for them. Clothing rooms are busy getting inventory stocked, ordered, opened, and organized. I am always amazed at how many volunteers it takes to get the Center ready in the off months..We will open again for clients on August 12.

### Incropera's Buying Trip Surprised by Donation

When Andrea Incropera went to Walmart Mishawaka the afternoon of February 4, she was expecting a normal clothing buying trip, but it was not. Andrea was in the checkout lane when a woman and her son came behind her. “You must be purchasing for an organization,” she said. Andrea told her Christ Child Society, and that we clothe the needy in St Joe County. She handed Andrea \$40, saying that was all she could do but wished she could do more. “It was definitely a feel good moment for me,” said Andrea, “and I thanked her multiple times. She looked like she could really use the money herself; however, no doubt she felt others needed it more.”

### Bring Your Friends to May New Member Coffee

Mark your calendars for May 13, the date of the New Member Coffee. May is the time of year when we all renew our membership. It would be consistent that we focus on new members at that time as well. This timing will also ensure that new member names be included in the next annual directory listing.

Please think about any friends/acquaintances/neighbors of yours who you think might be interested in learning more about the Christ Child Society. Give these names to Joan Hardig khardig@aol.com or (277-7787) or Kristi Botich wbotich@sbcglobal.net or (291-7523), so we can be sure they get an invitation.

Then come to the Center with your friends on May 13 at 9:30 am for coffee and pastries. They'll be given a tour and hear brief presentations about the many rewards of working for the Christ Child. Isn't it time we share this wonderful organization with more people? Let's share this “best kept secret”!



2	Kay Ellgass
3	Dick and Vicki Riel
4	Betsy Cooke
5	Loretta Chillag
5	Kay Catanzarite
5	Kimberly Keultjes
8	Patricia Jane Waldron
8	Maureen Jones
9	Millie Gurthet
10	Mary Lou Smith
11	Barbara Wilson
12	Karen Barnett
13	Mary Kloska
13	Janet Crull
14	Jeanine Wideman
14	Marlene Nowak
15	Rosemary Anderson
18	Mary Brown
21	Patricia Skudlarek
22	Bette O'Malley
23	Mary Ann Mostaert
24	Norma Wilson
24	Mary Clare Dunbar
26	Michelle Kuehn

Remember: if your birthday isn't listed it's because we don't have it! Share your birthday month and day—the year isn't necessary! Email twilliams@christchildsb.org with your information.

### Book Club

*Big Stone Gap*

by Adriana Trigiani

March 18

Mary Lou Mullen (234-2626)

Deadline for next newsletter

March 16

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

## Gifts and Memorials

### In Memoriam

Marcella Barr (Carol/  
Jerome Bauer, Kay/Roy  
Ellgass, Andrea/Frank  
Incropera, Debra/Michael  
Low)

Debbie Bauters (Barbara  
Dillon)

Edward J. Gray (Anne  
Thomas Klimek)

Ron Kulick (Margaret  
Hosinski)

Norma Magneson (Joan/  
Edward Hardig)

Edward Ruth (Diane/Frank  
James)

Lloyd Schumacher (Carol/  
Donald Nash)

Dennis Stark (Barbara  
Dillon)

Eleanor Wack (Christ The  
King Parish)

Barb Whelan (Nancy/John  
Pycik)

### Special Occasions:

Marianne Doran (Christ  
The King Parish)

Marge Farmer (Christ The  
King Parish)

Joanne Gans (Christ The  
King Parish)

John Korb (Theresa/Callix  
Miller)

Elaine Thompson (Marilyn/  
Dr. John Toepp)

Gifts and Memorials received after January 30  
will appear in the April newsletter.

## Heritage Square Martin's Presents Winning Check to Christ Child



Tom Slott (Martin's Store Manager), Peg Riggs, Natasha Schaffer, the Community Affairs Representative for Martin's Supermarket, and Christ Child members Beth Barrett (behind), Marie Burt, Anne Eme and Mandy Skwarcan

In January, Natasha Schaffer, the Community Affairs Representative for Martin's Supermarket at Heritage Square, left Christ Child this message:

"This past December, Martins had our annual 'Snapshots with Santa' fundraiser. Afterwards, we held a Facebook contest for our customers to have them vote for whom they thought was the 'best' Santa amongst ALL of our stores. The winning store would then get an additional \$500 for their charity of choice.

"I'm happy to say that Store #25 (Heritage Square) won and we would like to present you with a check for \$500!"

What a wonderful surprise! How thrilling for Christ Child of South Bend to be offered this bonus. Thanks to Martin's and to Santa Gary Barnes for this opportunity!

## Save the date...

### The Christ Child Society Derby Day Luncheon and Style Show

When: Friday, May 1, 2015

Where: Knollwood Country Club

What: Delicious Derby themed lunch  
Style show by Chico's with White  
House/Black Market.

Raffle with fabulous prizes.

Chance to catch up with friends.

Who: You and your guests.

Invite your friends and family to  
join your table. Everyone can wear  
his or her favorite hat!

Why: Because it's fun!

Watch for your invitation and raffle tickets.  
They're coming soon!

## Blogger Looking for Readers, Feedback

Anne Kelley, NCCS president, has developed a blog to stay in touch with chapters. As this is her first blogging attempt, she wants to have lots of readers and feedback. Please check the link [www.blog.nationalchristchild.org](http://www.blog.nationalchristchild.org) and follow the instructions on how to subscribe. Let's get lots of followers from our Chapter.

## 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.



New Guardian Angels:

John A. Troeger. Mary A. Fahey

New Angels in Waiting:

Sonny and Dee Tepe

Refer any questions to Sheila Emge (277-6421).

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 P.O. Box 1286  
 South Bend, Indiana 46624



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## *Annual Mass and Spring Luncheon* *Wednesday, March 25, 2015*

**Mass will begin at 11:00 AM at Alumni Hall, Notre Dame**  
**Bishop Kevin Rhoades, celebrant**

Alumni Hall is located just north of The Morris Inn and to the left of the Circle

**Luncheon Meeting at the Morris Inn at 12:15 PM**

Parking Fee at the Inn \$5.00

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

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

**Reservation Deadline - March 18, 2015**