



CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY[®]

OF CLEVELAND

WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Christ Child Members,

In March, my mom had her 90th birthday. My sister, Joanne, and I had the pleasure of arranging a party for her that included all her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many of her friends. We enlarged some favorite pictures of her early years and displayed pictures of Mom taken with almost all of us over the years. We shared stories of Mom with guests in attendance, and they enjoyed learning things they didn't know about her. Joanne and I presented a poem that lauded her skills and talents and the love she has given us. Our poem gave us a chance to tell Mom how special she is and how she continues to amaze

us. It was a wonderful evening, and we loved seeing Mom "work the room", as we have seen so many times over the years. Our family is so scattered, I am not sure when all of us will be in one place at the same time with Mom. I am so glad that on that special night, we had the opportunity to celebrate her life in her presence.

Let those you love know that you celebrate their lives.

To those of you who are mothers, I wish you a Happy Mother's Day.

Janie

REFLECTING WITH FATHER RALPH

The transition into summertime is meant to be a happy experience. It is true that transitions take place all the time, from season to season, from one stage of life to another, from one year to the next, etc. Sometimes transitions can be very smooth and sometimes

they are downright traumatic, but one thing for sure, they happen whether we want them to or not! The work of the Christ Child Society is one contributing factor to helping children make smooth transitions. Such a role may not make for a lot of headlines, but it does make life

a little easier for young folks who may not even be aware of the assistance they may be getting. That makes the work of Christ Child all the more valuable, because "whatever you do for one of these least ones, you do for Me." Fr. Ralph

Amazon

Did you know that Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase to the Christ Child Society of Cleveland?

When you are ready to shop, go to:
smile.amazon.com

Select Christ Child Society of Cleveland as your charity.

Each time you shop, be sure to go to smile.amazon.com! Every little bit helps!

Due to personal considerations, Mary Cay McConnell has resigned as President-Elect. We will miss her on the Board, and appreciate her work for our chapter.

"Nothing is too much to do for a child." - Mary Virginia Merrick, Founder

Installation Mass and Legacy Luncheon 2017

At the annual Provisional Installation Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Fr. Ralph Wiatrowski reminded us that we were celebrating a welcoming tradition of over 100 years! This year's class of 21 women pledged "to be faithful to the duties of membership and to further the interests of the Christ Child Society; to seek first... the glory of God." Fr. Ralph related Mary's "YES" when she was asked to be the mother of God, to our "YES" to His call to us when we were baptized and then chose to live our faith. Like Mary, we answered "YES" to the call to serve God's children. We marvel that Mary was so young when she trusted God so completely. We know that with God and Mary all things are possible in our work for the Christ Child himself. We give thanks for our 100+ years of service, for our new members, and for our vibrant Society. Thanks to **Carol Janas** and **Joyce Linton**, provisional chairpersons, and to **Ann Ertle** for planning this beautiful liturgy.



Jo McGinnis
50 years



Evelyn Kondas
45 years



Mary Lou Weaver
40 years



Julie Paulus
35 years



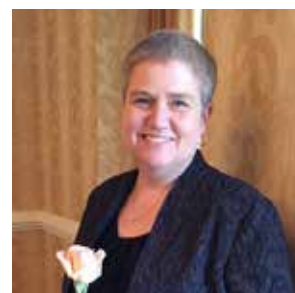
Pat Coviello and Marlene Lentz
30 years



Jean Canestraro
25 years



Left to Right: **Judith McGunagle, Alice Symons, Olga Corrigan, Linda Reardon, Pat Intili**
15 years



Lynne Gerace
10 years



After Mass, we continued our celebration with a luncheon at the Wyndham at Playhouse Square. Members and their guests welcomed our very special group of new members, enjoyed a delicious lunch, socialized with friends old and new, and recognized the enduring loyalty and commitment of another very special group of women – those celebrating Christ Child milestone anniversaries, this year ranging from 5 to 60 years! The Christ Child Society of Cleveland is truly blessed!



Left to Right: **Rose Ann Heineman, Pat Givens, Karen Kirk, Jeanette Gabele, Margo Cengic, Donna Gigliotti, Lauren Walsh, Alice Brown, Jane Blahovec, Paula Binder, Mary Haggard, Julie Jerdonek**
5 years



Provisional Class of 2017

- WE NEED YOU -

Website and Social Media

A great opportunity for members who have computer skills and some experience with Facebook, Google docs/calendar, or basic computer/document editing and updating skills.

- CCS of CLE Facebook Page Manager (Facebook experience)
- CCS of CLE Google Calendar Manager (computer experience)
- CCS of CLE Website Managers (1 -2 members to assist with website management and updates)

Contact **Terri Parker** for details.

Parmadale Headstart

Volunteers are needed January-May on the first and third Tuesdays from 9:30-11 and 1:30-3. Please contact **Sue Simon** with the dates and times you would like to read.

Libraries

Summer break is fast approaching. Schools, including their libraries, will be closed. Please contact the libraries if you would like the volunteer before the school year is over.

St. Francis Library hours are Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please contact **Irene Fitzgerald** for additional information.

St. Rocco Library hours are Mondays from 8:45 a.m. to Noon. We are looking for ladies who would be interested in volunteering one Monday a month. Please contact **Paula Conrad** for additional information.

Showcase

A Big THANK YOU to the 30 women who volunteered to help make a successful Bag Sale and Spring Changeover. Showcase looks beautiful!

We welcome back all the snowbirds who are returning home. We Need You! Please contact **Joan McAuliffe**, Scheduling Chairman or **Pat Givens**, Showcase Chairman to schedule volunteer time at the store.

2017 STARLIGHT BALL Planning Meeting

Friday May 19, 10:00 a.m.
at our Detroit Avenue offices

Which of you, our members, is interested in working on, contributing your talents and past experiences, or hearing more about the Christ Child Society of Cleveland's LARGEST fundraiser of the year?

You are enthusiastically invited to join us for our first planning meeting – there are a variety of volunteer opportunities to help us with this major event and beautiful celebration. If you are unable to attend and would like to volunteer, please contact **Cathy Caruso** or **Stephanie West**, 2017 Starlight Ball Co-Chairs.

Looking forward to seeing you or hearing from you!

Merrick House

The wonderful ladies who volunteer their time at Merrick House have been busy with the Reading Enrichment Program as well as the Grandmother Program. Over 30 children are served through these two programs.

The Reading Enrichment Program consists of ladies reading 1-3 books with the children in the Pre-K rooms and then following that up with a reinforcement activity, such as coloring, cutting and pasting, teaching a song, etc. This really helps the children improve their reading and language skills. The children truly enjoy the books and the activity that follows. The ladies volunteer on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Tuesdays of each month.

The Grandmother Program consists of ladies going any day of the week to assist the staff in caring for the babies. The ladies help with feeding, rocking, playing with, and reading to the babies. The staff really appreciates the help, as there are often multiple babies needing attention at once.

The Christ Child Society is so grateful for all of the ladies who volunteer their time in these two programs. It is very rewarding to volunteer at Merrick House and see the children smile and grow in knowledge and wisdom. In the words of Mary Virginia Merrick, "Nothing is ever too much to do for a child".

Kathy Yoakum

Spring Luncheon & Annual Business Meeting

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

Westwood Country Club
22625 Detroit Road, Rocky River, Ohio 44116

Annual Business Meeting 10:00 a.m.
Luncheon immediately following the Annual Business Meeting
Cash Bar – Complimentary Valet Parking

Reservation and Payment Deadline: Friday, June 2nd

Payment must accompany Reservation Form. Payments are non-refundable.

If you have any questions, contact **Liz Niehaus**.

2017 SPRING LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Reservation and Payment Deadline: Friday, June 2, 2017

Please Reserve: _____ Tickets @ \$40 each
_____ Silver Patron Tickets @ \$55 each (\$15 tax deductible)
_____ Gold Patron Tickets @ \$80 each (\$40 tax deductible)
_____ I cannot attend but would like to make a donation of \$ _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Seating Requests (Tables of 8-10)

Please list your name and name(s) of confirmed attendees with whom you would like to be seated.
Indicate: (M) Member (G) Guest (O) Member-Other Chapter (P) Provisional

1. _____	M G O P	6. _____	M G O P
2. _____	M G O P	7. _____	M G O P
3. _____	M G O P	8. _____	M G O P
4. _____	M G O P	9. _____	M G O P
5. _____	M G O P	10. _____	M G O P

I have no seating preference I prefer the vegetarian option

Payment Options: Check made payable to: Christ Child Society of Cleveland
- or charge my credit card -

MasterCard VISA American Express Discover

Cardholder Name: _____

Account Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____ Zip Code: _____

Mail Reservation Form with payment to:

Christ Child Society of Cleveland
7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300, Cleveland, Ohio 44102
Attn: Spring Luncheon

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

The 2017 Red Wagon Planning Meeting
Wednesday, May 24, 10:00 a.m.
Landerhaven

All are welcome to join in planning for the 2017 Red Wagon Luncheon and Style Show, this year taking place on Wednesday, September 6 at Landerhaven in Mayfield Heights.

Many exciting events are being planned for this year's Red Wagon Luncheon. Help is always needed and much appreciated. If you are interested in helping with the Country Kitchen, centerpieces, fashion show, baskets, vendors and much more, please join us at the planning meeting on Wednesday, May 24, 10:00 a.m. at Landerhaven in Mayfield Heights.

If you have any questions, please contact **Mary Graves**.

Remembrance/Endowment Report

February 23 - April 20, 2017

Memory

Josephine Bernard	Maurice Norris
Hermine Cech	Ruth Peres
Mary Ann Celebrezze (17)	Loretta Pfiel
Mary Cinor	Lud Pugel (44)
Mary Carmel Cooper	Anne Riley
Tom Harrison	Mary Lou Spies
Thomas Ianiro	Wally Votteler (11)
Jim Kazel	Mary Whitworth
Doyle Marino	Mark Zuzek

Honor

Kathe Bartel - happy birthday
Jean Canestraro - 25 years as a member (2)
Kathy Gonella
Janie Nickodem
The 2016 Ball Committee
Terri Parker
Julie and Bob Paulus - 70th anniversary

St. John Cathedral Mass
For Christ Child Members, Living and
Deceased and for their families.
Thursday, May 25, Noon
Monday, June 26, Noon
Tuesday, July 25, Noon

Mother's Day and Father's Day Cards

For Mother's Day and Father's Day, a card in honor or in memory of a designated mother or father can be purchased for \$30. Each card states that it provides a layette for a needy newborn. Cards can be mailed either to you or the address of your choice.

Please notify the Christ Child office regarding deaths of CCS members or their immediate family members.

Send Remembrance/Endowment checks to:
Christ Child Society of Cleveland
7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102
Attn: Abby Sammon

Donations this report period	\$4,085.00
Previous fiscal year to date	<u>\$16,185.00</u>
Total for fiscal year	\$20,270.00

2017 DATES TO REMEMBER

Starlight Ball Planning Meeting.....	May 19
Red Wagon Meeting.....	May 24
Spring Luncheon.....	June 14
Day of Recollection (St. Barnabas Church)	July 26

Fundraising Committee

It's official! We have a Fundraising Committee, and **Meg Kearns** has generously agreed to be the committee chair. This group will meet periodically to evaluate our current fundraising activities as well as come up with new, exciting ideas. All ideas and opinions are welcome! Please let Meg know if you are interested in joining.

St. Francis School Library Volunteer Request

If you love children and feel reading is an important part of our lives, you have an opportunity to enrich the lives of the students at St. Francis School. The atmosphere of the school is all about loving, caring, and respect. Many of our current volunteers have been involved for over 6 years and feel a sense of fulfillment as they see the children excited about finding the next book to read. We are in need of committed volunteers to volunteer at least one day a month. We are also looking for volunteers who can substitute. The library is open on Tuesdays (grades K-3) from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Wednesdays (grades 4-8) from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. I would be happy to answer any questions, or you may decide to spend a day with us to see first hand the routine of how the library works. Thank you for your consideration. Please contact **Irene Fitzgerald**, St. Francis School Library Coordinator, if you would like to volunteer or have any questions.

REMINDER
Mary Virginia Merrick award nominations must be made in writing and received by May 12

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

May, June & July 2017

Layette Packing

First Monday, 10:00-12:30
May 1, June 5, July 3
Contact: **Donna Kelly**

Euclid –St. John of the Cross Sewing Group

Third Wednesday, 12:30-3:30
May 17, June 21, July 19
Contact: **Mary McKown**

Grandmothers’ Program Merrick House

Note: Volunteers must wear socks.
Contact: **Kathy Yoakum**

Heights-St. Dominic Sewing Group

Third Tuesdays, 10:00-2:00
May 23, June 20, July 18
Contact: **Irene Chalko**

Heights-St. Dominic Sewing Group will NOT sew on May 16, but on May 23, 10:00-2:00, small meeting room at St. Dominic School.

Highland Heights Sewing Group

First Thursday, 10:00-2:00
May 4, June 1, July 7
Contact: **Patty Welsh**

Independence Sewing Group

Second Wed. and Thurs., 10:00-2:00
May 10, 11; June 14, 15; July 12, 13
Contact: **Laura Cengic**

Merrick House Pre-School Reading Enrichment

First, Third and Fifth Tuesdays
9:30-11:00
May 2, 16, 30; June 5, 19; July 18.
Contact: **Kathy Yoakum**

“My Stuff” Packing

Third Monday, 10:00-12:00
May 15, June 19, July 17
Contact: **Rose Dziak**

Parmadale Head Start Reading Enrichment

First and Third Tuesdays
9:30-11:00 / 1:30-3:00
May 2, 16; June 5, 9; July 18
Contact: **Sue Simon** or **Marlene Suchma**

St. Francis Library

Tues. during the school year 9:30-1:30
Wed. during the school year 9:30-2:30
Contact: **Irene Fitzgerald**

St. Rocco Library

Mon. during the school year 8:45-12:00
Contact: **Paula Conrad**

Showcase

Shifts available on Tuesday-Saturday:
10:00-2:00 / 10:00-4:00 / 12:00-4:00
Contact: **Joan McAuliffe**

***Contact information can be found in our Chapter roster.**

Day of Recollection

Presented by

Mary Lou Beers
"The Greatest of Gifts is Love"

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

St. Barnabas Parish – 9451 Brandywine Road, Northfield, Ohio

Parish of our Spiritual Advisor Fr. Ralph Wiatrowski

9:15 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.



The day will begin with registration and coffee at 9:15 am. Mary Lou Beers' presentation will start promptly at 10:00 am. Between the presentation and Mass, we will have the opportunity to enjoy St. Barnabas' Rosary Walk and gardens. The celebration of Mass will be at noon and we will conclude the day with lunch. We look forward to seeing everyone on July 26th.

Day of Recollection Reservation Form

Guests are welcome

Reservation deadline: Monday, July 17, 2017

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Guests: _____

attending _____ @ \$25.00 each \$ _____ total enclosed

Payment options: Check made payable to Christ Child Society
or MasterCard _____ VISA _____ American Express _____ Discover _____

Cardholder Name as it appears on the card: _____

Account Number (print clearly): _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please send reservation form along with payment to:
Christ Child Society of Cleveland
7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102
Attn: Day of Recollection



Christ Child Society of Cleveland
7901 Detroit Avenue
Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cleveland, Ohio
Permit No. 3046

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL: Please deliver by May 1st

Mini Mart Revisited

Back in the day (1976-mid 1990's to be exact), Christ Child members donated handmade items/handicrafts to be sold at certain luncheons, creating Mini Marts. We are planning a "mini" Mini Mart at this year's Red Wagon Luncheon – one table for members to showcase their talents. Interested in donating one (or more) of your creations? Contact **Mary Graves**.

Service Chairman

Please contact **Kate Johns** if you have any special needs or volunteer requests for the newsletter. Articles for the July/August issue will be due by Monday, June 12th.

Janie Nickodem
President

Stephanie West
Service VP

Liz Niehaus
Organization VP

Terri Parker
Recording Secretary

Lynne Gerace
Corresponding Secretary

Cathy Caruso
Financial Secretary

Abby Sammon
Endowment/Remembrance

Kate Johns
Newsletter Editor

Rev. Ralph E. Wiatrowski
Spiritual Advisor

**Please direct questions,
information & articles to:**
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