



CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY[®]

OF CLEVELAND

WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

CHAPTER AND VERSE

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

We are entering the time of year when we take time to reflect on all we have to be thankful for. I would like to say how thankful I am for all of you who do so much for our chapter. We have members who have been with us for many, many years working alongside our newest members, and all are encouraging to each other. At our "Job Fair", we learned about all the different positions members hold within our organization – positions that are complemented by all of you who work our projects. We "see a need and fill it" by looking for better ways to serve the children in our area who need so much. Our Head Start Early Reading Program has started its pilot program which will result in each child receiving 3 books to call their very own by the end of the school year. St. Francis Library has started computerizing their collection, hopefully taking away a barrier of uncertainty and inexperience that might exist when students use a public library. St. Rocco has had to relocate its library in a new space which will give students a dedicated library, and they have done so in record time. The Pack-n-Play distribution has been revamped by a dedicated team, and more children are able to sleep safely. Soon, we hope that "My Stuff" bags will contain flashcards to assist children on their path to literacy. Layettes is adding a sleep sack to their bundle so parents can keep their babies warm without the use of a blanket.

Thank you for all you have done and all you will do for our chapter. Wishing you and your families many blessings during this Christmas season.

Janie Nickodem



REFLECTING WITH FATHER RALPH

As we come to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas, it is good to remember that the season of Advent is in-between. Advent often gets overlooked in our enthusiasm to celebrate Christmas, and yet making good use of the preparation time of Advent can make the celebration of Christmas so much more meaningful. Too often people forget that the Twelve Days of Christmas are the twelve days AFTER Christmas. One way to counteract the over-commercialization of Christmas is to make a point of celebrating those twelve days that lead us from Christmas to the Epiphany. The Lord chose to become one of us and then manifested Himself to all the nations. How important it is that the true meaning of Christmas not be lost among all the wrappings and gifts and celebrations!

Fr. Ralph

FUNDRAISER
Lunch or Dinner at



**20% of food purchase will go to the
Christ Child Society of Cleveland.**

NOVEMBER 6TH - 11TH

Please bring this coupon and let your server know you are at Bistro 83 for the fundraiser.

440.353.2828

11:00 AM - 10:00 PM

36033 Westminister Avenue, North Ridgeville, Ohio
(at the roundabout)



THE STARLIGHT BALL

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017 • HILTON CLEVELAND DOWNTOWN

Reservation Deadline - November 15th!

IT IS NOT TOO LATE

- Consider an individual or Corporate Sponsorship table or donation. Contact: **Terri Parker** or **Jean Canestraro**
- NEW - Underwriting sponsorships available. Individuals or businesses can offset the ball expenses by underwriting ball expenses at different levels. Contact: **Kathy Marsh**
- Invitations have been mailed. Plan to come, plan a singles table, dress up and celebrate our 101st year at the 2017 Starlight Ball. We can help coordinate your table if needed. Contact: **Jean Canestraro** or **Terri Parker**
- Place or secure an individual or business ad in the ball program. Contact: **Karen Kirk**
- Purchase \$5,000 cash raffle tickets! 1/\$25 or 5/\$100 Drawing the night of the ball & winner need not be present to win! Contact: **Mary Mackert, Diane Anker, Marilyn Palisin** or **Mary Jane Miller**
- Donate to the Silent Auction (form can be found in the September/October newsletter) . We are in need of sport and entertainment tickets, restaurant (dinner) gift cards, experiences, trips, fine wine or anything that you think will entice bidding. Silent Auction deadline is here. *Contact the Silent Auction committee ASAP if you have a silent auction item to donate.*

Thank you for your support! If you have any questions, please contact Ball Chairmen: **Cathy Caruso** or **Stephanie West**

JEWELRY RAFFLE DIAMOND TENNIS BRACELET

The bracelet totals over 5 carats of diamonds set in 14-karat white gold.

A stunning must have for any event - day or night!

Retail Value: \$15,000

Tickets: 1 for \$100 or 3 for \$200

Winner will be drawn the evening of the Ball.

Winner must be present

Contact: **Mary Graves, Melanie Close** or **Mary Jo Dailey**



Spend the night! The Hilton Cleveland Downtown is offering a special Starlight Ball room rate of \$139. Use Group Code Christ Child Society when calling 216-413-5000, or book online using Group Code CCS at - <http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/ohio/hilton-cleveland-downtown-CLEDOHH/index.html> or Direct Reservation Link: <https://aws.passkey.com/e/49062846>

JOB FAIR

A job fair was presented at our Fall Business Meeting on September 20. Members spoke about 69 different "jobs" that they do within our chapter. Many members commented that they didn't know some of these jobs existed! As we move toward the 2018-20 term of service, you are encouraged to look at all these different positions, and think about taking one on. If you are interested, please contact **Janie Nickodem**. Thank you to all who presented, and thank you to the large group of members who attended our first "Job Fair"!

- President
- President-elect
- Service VP
- Organization VP
- Financial Secretary
- Recording Secretary
- Corresponding Secretary
- Past-President
- Layette Chairman
- Layette Ordering
- Layette Social Service Agency Coordinator
- Layette Scheduling
- Layette Remembrance
- "My Stuff" Chairman
- St. Rocco Library Chairman
- St. Francis Library Chairman
- Showcase Chairman
- Showcase Scheduling
- Showcase Pricers
- Showcase Hours
- Parliamentarian
- Public Relations
- Mary Virginia Merrick Award
- Provisionals
- Newsletter
- Development
- Fundraising Committee
- Children's Closet Chairman
- Coats
- Uniforms
- Beds
- Pack n Plays
- Pack n Play distribution
- Head Start Early Literacy Chairman
- Membership Chairman
- Membership Hours
- Merrick House Reading and Grandmother Program Chairman
- Ways and Means
- Historian
- Phone messages
- Religious Chairman
- Website and Facebook

STARLIGHT BALL

- Starlight Ball Chairman
- Silent Auction
- Sponsorship
- Underwriting
- Program ads
- Program
- Reservations
- Jewelry Raffle
- Cash Raffle
- Centerpieces
- Photo Booth
- Hospitality

RED WAGON

- Red Wagon Chairman
- Chinese Raffle
- Cash Raffle
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Vendors
- Reservations
- Favors
- Models
- Centerpieces
- Jewelry
- Program
- Country Kitchen

The HeadStart Early Literacy Program

The Parmadale Early Reading Program has a new name and a new home! The program is now "The HeadStart Early Literacy Program". The new site is in the old Parkview Elementary School located next to Parma Senior High School on West 54th Street. The address is 5210 Loya Parkway, Parma 44134. This is approximately 5 minutes from the old site.

We have also enhanced our program. Each session, readers will bring one book of their choice to share with the children. In addition, we will read one book repeatedly to the children over a 5 week period. Each child will then be given a copy of that book to take home. Information regarding the specifics of this program will be given to the readers prior to their assigned reading date.

We will continue to read on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

To sign up to read and learn more about the program, please contact **Sue Simon**.

Sewing Group

The Independence sewing group has a few openings on the second Wednesday of the month. If you are interested, please contact **Laura Cengic**.

St. Francis Library Needs You

Located at the corner of East 71st and Superior Avenue, St. Francis is an amazing school with a fabulous library! Volunteers are needed on Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to work with grades K-3. Additional volunteers are needed on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to work with grades 4-8. Please consider this wonderful opportunity to work directly with the children we serve! Contact **Irene Fitzgerald**, **Anne Mooney** or **Liz Niehaus** for more information or to jump in and join the fun.

Ball Night Volunteer Opportunity

Looking for a fun, easy way to enjoy the Ball's festivities? "Starlight Elves" are needed from 6-8 p.m. to greet guests at the registration table, sell raffle tickets, and assist guests with mobile bidding. Expert training AND service hours are included. If you are interested in joining the "elfin" fun and creating some "Starlight magic", please contact **Liz Niehaus**.

2017 DATES TO REMEMBER

Starlight Ball	December 2
Provisional Christmas Party	December 9
General Business Meeting (7901 Detroit Avenue)	February 21
Legacy Luncheon and Provisional Installation Mass	March 21

GIFT GATHERING DINNER

On September 14, 47 members and guests attended a Gift Gathering Dinner at the home of Bob and **Susan Smith**. Proceeds benefitted purchase of items for the 2017 Starlight Ball's Silent Auction. Susan did ALL the cooking, presenting a wonderful feast of Italian specialties, followed by a dessert display of cheesecake, cookies, and German chocolate brownies. It was truly a special evening, made so because of the wide variety of members in attendance. Of the members attending, 12 have been members since the 1990's or earlier, 15 have been members for 5 years or less, with the rest falling somewhere in between. Everyone mixed and mingled and raised funds, which will be used to benefit our Silent Auction. Thank you to Susan and Bob Smith for hosting a delightful evening, and to Susan for a fabulous meal!



RED WAGON LUNCHEON 2017

Over 460 Christ Child members and guests began their day at Landerhaven on September 6 by shopping at the vendor boutiques, purchasing homemade treats at the Country Kitchen, trying their luck at winning raffle baskets, and taking a chance on winning the cash raffle. Once again, all enjoyed the opportunity to view fall fashions from Toni In Style. Our chapter's video was presented, touching the hearts of all in attendance – the perfect way to end our day!

The annual Red Wagon fundraiser was a huge success, thanks to the diligent efforts of an industrious committee and all those who donated baked goods and baskets, modeled, and contributed their time and talents to the day. Thank you to our members and their guests for your generosity. The profits from the Red Wagon provide funding to the many programs that assist children at risk in our community.

Your continued support allows the mission of our founder, Mary Virginia Merrick, to grow. "Nothing is ever too much to do for a child."

Mary Graves
Red Wagon Chairman



Remembrance/Endowment Report

August 24 - October 23, 2017

Memory

Elaine Ahem
Marion Barrett
Marilyn Miller Bosley
Evelyn Cloherty (7)
Jodi DiNardo
Marlene Fenner

Terri Grzybowski
Al Sabo
Will Tucker
Kitty Webster (3)
Emma Welo
Mary Wolf

Honor

Harper Hocevar - welcome to the world
Elaine and Jeff Parker - thank you

In Our Thoughts

Kathy D'Amato - death of mother (Janet Walter)
Family of Lois Anderson
Pat Givens - death of mother (Evelyn Cloherty)
Mary Herrick - death of mother (Mary Kobb)

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

St. John Cathedral Mass for Christ Child Members,
Living and Deceased and for their families.
Friday, November 24, Noon
Tuesday, December 26, Noon
Thursday, January 25, Noon

Donations this report period	\$825.00
Previous fiscal year to date	<u>\$645.00</u>
Total for fiscal year	\$1,470.00

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES November & December 2017 / January 2018

Layette Packing

First Monday, 10:00-12:30
November 6, December 4, **January 8**
Contact: **Donna Kelly**

Euclid -St. John of the Cross Sewing Group

Fourth Wednesday, 12:30-3:30
November 22, December 27,
January 24
Contact: **Andrea Dean**

Grandmothers' Program Merrick House

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

Heights-St. Dominic Sewing Group

Third Tuesdays, 10:00-2:00
November 20, December 19,
January 16
Contact: **Irene Chalko**

Highland Heights Sewing Group

Third Friday, 10:00-2:00
November 17, December 15,
January 19
Contact: **Patty Welsh**

Independence Sewing Group

Second Wed. & Thurs., 10:00-2:00
November 8, 9; December 13, 14;
January 10, 11
Contact: **Laura Cengic**

Merrick House Pre-School Reading Enrichment

First, Third and Fifth Tuesdays 9:30-11:00
November 7, 21; December 5, 19;
January 2, 16, 30
Contact: **Kathy Yoakum**

"My Stuff" Packing

Third Monday, 10:00-12:00
November 20, December 18,
January 15
Contact: **Rose Dziak**

The HeadStart Early Literacy Program

First & Third Tuesdays 9:30-11:00/1:30-3:00
November 7, 21; December 5, 19;
January 2, 16
Contact: **Sue Simon** or **Marlene Suchma**

St. Francis Library

Tues. during the school year 9:30-2:00
Wed. during the school year 9:30-2:30
Contact: **Irene Fitzgerald**

St. Rocco Library

Wed. during the school year 8:45-12:00
NOTE: Day change from Mon. to Wed.
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.**

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
2018 – 2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD NOMINATIONS

In June, 2016, the outgoing Board of Directors elected a Nominating Committee of five members and one alternate per Article VI, Section 1(a) of our bylaws (which are printed in the Christ Child Society roster). The elected Nominating Committee members are **Susan Ferraro Smith** (Chair), **Ann Ertle**, **Meg Kearns**, **Donna Kelly**, and **Arlene McNamara**. **Lorene Varley** is the alternate.

The application for Executive Board positions can be found below. Please reflect on the leadership roles that are available, the qualities that are necessary for each position – and consider how you can best be of service to our organization. For the duties of each officer position, please see Article V, Section 6 of our bylaws. If you are interested in becoming an officer, please submit a completed application to **Susan Smith** at her home address or via the Christ Child office (see addresses in the roster). The Nominating Committee will review all completed applications and develop a slate of officers for the 2018 – 2020 term. The slate of officers will be published in *Chapter & Verse* in the month prior to the winter business meeting at which the officers are to be elected.

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible for elective office a member must have served on the Board for at least one term, except for the financial secretary, recording secretary, and corresponding secretary who do not need prior Board experience but who must have three years of membership (including the provisional year) and/or the specific qualifications necessary for the job (such as accounting or bookkeeping experience for the financial secretary position). To be considered for any elective office, a member must be active and in good standing.

QUESTIONS: Please contact **Susan Smith** or any member of the Nominating Committee.

APPLICATION FOR EXECUTIVE OFFICE

For eligibility requirements and position duties, please see Article V of the Bylaws which are printed in the roster.

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please indicate any position(s) you are willing to accept.
President - President Elect - Service Vice President - Organization Vice President
Recording Secretary - Corresponding Secretary - Financial Secretary

Please indicate how the eligibility requirements are fulfilled: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit completed application to **Susan Smith** at her home address or via the Christ Child office (see roster for addresses). Please submit by November 13, 2017.



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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL: Please deliver by November 1st

Articles for the newsletter

Please contact **Kate Johns** if you have any special needs or volunteer requests for the newsletter.
Articles for the January/February issue will be due by Monday, December 11th.

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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