



September/October 2017

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY[®] OF CLEVELAND

WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

CHAPTER AND VERSE



MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

When **Rose Dziak** and **Mary Graves** were doing research for the Centennial Yearbook, they came upon the words of Sister Kenan, O.S.U., then President of Ursuline College, in the 1982 yearbook. I would like to share this with all of you, as I know that as Christ Child Society members, this is what we strive for.

Be a woman of love in a selfish and loveless world;
Be a woman of hope in a despairing world;
Be a woman of joy in a gloomy, sad world;
Be a woman of class in a casual, careless world;
Be a woman of strength in a soft, weak world;
Be a woman of prayer – a woman of God – in a God-less world;
Be a woman who dares to live; who dares to be informed; who dares to build up rather than tear down; a woman who has developed the art of being as delicate as a flower, yet as strong as a tall oak.

When each of us comes to die, let us hope people will not say of us, "Isn't it too bad she died," but rather, "Isn't it wonderful that she lived."

Janie Nickodem

REFLECTING WITH FATHER RALPH

Another school year has begun and that sets in motion a whole series of events that reminds us that life neither stops nor does it wait for anyone! The best we can do is to enter into the process or hop on the merry-go-round at any point that we are able. If any of us chooses to wait until the perfect time to do something that we know needs to be done...well, the perfect time will probably never come! Yesterday has gone and won't come back again, tomorrow may or may not come.

What we have and what we are sure of is TODAY. Making the best use of today is what all of us are called to do. Today is a precious gift of God to us that will never be repeated.

Fr. Ralph

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

2017 DATES TO REMEMBER

Red Wagon Luncheon.....	September 6
Fall Business Meeting (Detroit Road location).....	September 20
Christ Child National Day of Service	October 28
Starlight Ball.....	December 2

An Invitation

General Business Meeting

Mark your calendars and join us for our general business meeting on
Wednesday, September 20, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.

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

Please contact **Janie Nickodem** with any questions.

COVERS, COINS, AND CASH FOR KIDS

"Read to Me" is the theme of the **2017 National Christ Child Society Day of Service**, scheduled for Saturday, October 28. Our chapter will hold its service program from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at our office, 7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite #300, Cleveland. The hands-on part of the program will be making blankets to place in our My Stuff Bags. Material and templates will be provided. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN SCISSORS. To fulfill the "Read to Me" initiative, please raid your coin jars and bring those coins to add to the Christ Child coin jar! Our combined spare change will be used to purchase books for the children in our Head Start Early Literacy Program. No coin jar – no problem! We will also have a container to accept paper money or checks!

We are excited to celebrate with Christ Child chapters nationwide with this "Make a Difference Day" activity and hope you can spend some time making blankets after you drop off your coins and cash!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Volunteer Opportunities for Winter Jackets

New Location: The Center for Pastoral Leadership
28700 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, Ohio

New Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Dates: September 15, 18, 21, 25, 27

For volunteering or any questions about the program
please call **Carole Moran** or **Marge Ansel**.

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 the first and second Tuesdays of the month, 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to work with grades K-3. Additional volunteers are needed on the second Tuesday of the month 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.

2017 Day of Recollection

Fr. Ralph and his Director of Development, Deanna Butler, welcomed over 80 Christ Child members to St. Barnabas parish for our annual Day of Recollection on July 26. "The Greatest Gift is Love" was the topic of speaker Mary Lou Beers' presentation. She spoke of her life with her husband, Jim, who suffered his first stroke at age 29, leaving him paralyzed and unable to swallow or speak. To say that their devotion to each other and to God inspired everyone is an understatement! The day continued with the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine while praying the rosary in the beautiful Rosary Garden. Father Ralph then celebrated Mass, followed by a delicious lunch served by some of the parish's middle school girls.

We were treated to a quite a surprise following Mass. **Annette Gorris**, with some assistance from **Fr. Ralph**, was able to procure an Apostolic Blessing from Pope Francis in honor of our 100 years of service to children in need. Annette and Father Ralph, along with members of the 100th Anniversary Committee, are pictured surrounding the Apostolic Blessing. Many thanks to Annette and Fr. Ralph for their successful efforts!

Thanks as well to **Ann Ertle** for coordinating this special day from start to finish!



Christ Child Society of Cleveland

60th Birthday

The Showcase Resale Store 60th birthday celebration began Tuesday, August 1st and ended Saturday, August 5th. The store was decorated with birthday banners and balloons. Various sales were promoted every day throughout the week. Patrons also were able to "pick a prize" out of a bowl that awarded various promotions. The week's festivities ended with a birthday cake at noon on Saturday.



THE STARLIGHT BALL

GIFT GATHERING PARTY

Remember the gift gathering parties from past Balls? Well we are bringing the idea back! Susan and Bob Smith have generously offered to host one!

Please joins us for a

Gift Gathering Dinner

for The Starlight Ball
Thursday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m.

at the home of
Susan and Bob Smith
29270 Hampshire Place, Westlake Ohio
\$50 per person, non-members welcome

Money raised will be put towards purchasing items for the Silent Auction.

RSVP to **Cathy Caruso** by September 7

Please make check payable to
Christ Child Society of Cleveland and send to
Christ Child Society of Cleveland
7901 Detroit Ave., Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102
Attn: Gift Gathering

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, man the wine-pull table, 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**.



THE STARLIGHT BALL

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2017 • HILTON CLEVELAND DOWNTOWN

Help us make The Starlight Ball a success:

- 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 at different levels. Contact: **Kathy Marsh**
- Place or secure an individual or business advertisement in the Ball program. Ad submission deadline is November 1. Contact: **Karen Kirk** or **Betsy Heil**
- Invitations will be mailed the beginning of October; start planning your tables now! Contact: **Jean Canestraro** or **Terri Parker**
- Purchase \$5,000 cash raffle tickets – 1/\$25 or 5/\$100! Drawing the night of the Ball; winner need not be present to win! A special \$100 pre-Ball drawing will be held September 20 at the General Business meeting. For every \$100 worth of raffle tickets purchased, your name will be entered in the drawing. Tickets must be purchased prior to the drawing. Contact: **Mary Mackert** or **Diane Anker**
- Donate to the Silent Auction. 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. Donation deadline is November 4. Contact: **Cathy Caruso** or **Stephanie West**
- Watch for the reveal of the Diamond Jewelry raffle item donated by Marlen Jewelers! 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>

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

UNDERWRITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE STARLIGHT BALL

This year, for our 66th annual Starlight Ball, we are seeking underwriting to offset some of the expenses for the Ball. If you are interested in participating in one of the Underwriting Opportunity levels, or are able to supply names of individuals, companies, or family foundations who could be approached please contact **Kathy Marsh**, who is heading up this initiative.

The Underwriting Opportunities are as follows:

Cocktail Hour Sponsor.....	\$12,000	Electronic Auction Sponsor	\$2,500
A/V Sponsor	\$7,000	Print Sponsor.....	\$2,500
Entertainment Sponsor	\$5,000	Dessert Sponsor.....	\$2,000
Dinner Wine Sponsor.....	\$5,000	Photo Booth Sponsor	\$1,000
Program Sponsor.....	\$3,500	Other	Specified Donation Amount
Tablescape Sponsor.....	\$2,500		

Underwriting Sponsors will receive special recognition on prominent signage at the Ball, in The Starlight Ball Program, as well as on the Christ Child Society Website.



EXECUTIVE BOARD

Janie Nickodem
President

Stephanie West
Service Vice President

Elizabeth Niehaus
Organization Vice President

Catherine Caruso
Financial Secretary

Terri Parker
Recording Secretary

Lynne Gerace
Corresponding Secretary

Susan Ferraro Smith
Immediate Past President

DIRECTORS

Paula Conrad

Rose Dziak

Irene Fitzgerald

Pat Givens

Mary Graves

Mary Herrick

Carol Janas

Kate Johns

Meg Kearns

Donna Kelly

Arlene McNamara

Susan Simon

Robbie Wolan

Kathy Yoakum

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Rev. Ralph E. Wiatrowski

Dear Member,

For over 100 years, the Christ Child Society of Cleveland has worked to provide children with warmth, security and safety. All children need to know their lives have meaning and purpose and that there is hope for their future. Through your support you can help us share love and bring hope to the children in our communities that are most in need of our support.

Our 66th annual charity event is *The Starlight Ball* which will be held on *Saturday, December 2, 2017*, at the Hilton Cleveland Downtown. We are writing to request that you consider making a donation to a very popular portion of the Ball: *The Silent Auction*. We will note your contribution on the sign next to the auction item as well as in our program.

Our members' commitment to the well-being of children started with providing needy infants with a layette bundle containing clothing and other necessities for a newborn baby. More than 100 years later, we still provide layettes, distributing over 1200 last year. We also provide school uniforms, winter coats, "My Stuff" bags for children in shelters, beds, Pack 'n Plays®, and staff and fund two elementary school libraries and two preschool literacy enrichment programs. Last year, we served over 6400 children, striving to give those children hope for the future.

If you have any questions at all, feel free to contact us. Our office phone number is: 216-939-3859. Our email is: christchildcleveland@yahoo.com We, at the Christ Child Society of Cleveland, deeply appreciate your support and thank you in advance for your generosity.

Gratefully,

The Starlight Ball Silent Auction Committee

Kathleen Beharry

Cathy Caruso

Donna Casey

Kathy Marsh

Kathy Moehring

Kathleen Printy

Mary Ellen Petras

Denise Shafer

Mary Lou Walsh

Stephanie West

Jane Yurichak

Federal I.D. Number: 34-0821251

Tax Exempt Number: 91-20205





SILENT AUCTION DONATION FORM

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

Donor's name/business (as it should appear in the program)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Contact Name/phone number/email if different from above: _____

Donated item(s), description and value:

Please list any specific restrictions/expiration dates/contact information/comments, etc. pertaining to the auction item(s)

Christ Child Society member acquiring donation: _____

Thank you for supporting the Christ Child Society of Cleveland's Starlight Ball!

"Nothing is ever too much to do for a child." Mary Virginia Merrick

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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.

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Remembrance/Endowment Report

July 23 - August 23, 2017

Memory

Marion Barrett (5)
William DiOrio
Donald Fergus
Ken Gruss
Joseph Shannon
Kay Shoemaker
Alfonse R. Valenti
Lilian Zimlich

Honor

Jean Canestraro - happy birthday
Terri Parker - congratulations

In Our Thoughts

Family of former member, Marion Barrett
Mary Fergus - death of father-in-law (Donald)
Lois Anderson - death of husband (Walter)
Kathryn Ditz - death of son (Tony)

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, August 25, Noon
Monday, September 25, Noon
Friday, November 24, Noon

Donations this report period	\$645.00
(new fiscal year)	\$0
Total for fiscal year	\$645.00

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES September, October & November 2017

Layette Packing

First Monday, 10:00-12:30
September 11, October 2, November 6
Contact: **Donna Kelly**

Euclid -St. John of the Cross Sewing Group

Fourth Wednesday, 12:30-3:30
September 27, October 25,
November 22
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
September 19, October 17,
November 21
Contact: **Irene Chalko**

Highland Heights Sewing Group

Third Friday, 10:00-2:00
September 15, October 20,
November 17
Contact: **Patty Welsh**

Independence Sewing Group

Second Wed. & Thurs., 10:00-2:00
September 13, 14; October 11, 12;
November 8, 9
Contact: **Laura Cengic**

Merrick House Pre-School Reading Enrichment

First, Third and Fifth Tuesdays 9:30-11:00
September 5, 19; October 3, 17, 31;
November 7, 21
Contact: **Kathy Yoakum**

"My Stuff" Packing

Third Monday, 10:00-12:00
September 18, October 16,
November 20
Contact: **Rose Dziak**

Parmadale Head Start Reading Enrichment

First & Third Tuesdays (*begins in October*)
9:30-11:00 / 1:30-3:00
October 3, 17; November 7, 21
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

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.**



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 September 1st

DIFFERENT WAYS TO DONATE

United Way Contributions

Although the Christ Child Society of Cleveland is not listed as a United Way Agency, you can write us in and your contribution will come to us.

Employer Match

If your company has employer match for donations, be sure to get the form from your company's HR department.

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.* Every little bit helps!

Articles for the newsletter

Please contact **Kate Johns** if you have any special needs or volunteer requests for the newsletter.
Articles for the November/December issue will be due by Monday, October 16th.

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:**
Newsletter Editor
Christ Child Society
7901 Detroit Avenue
Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

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