



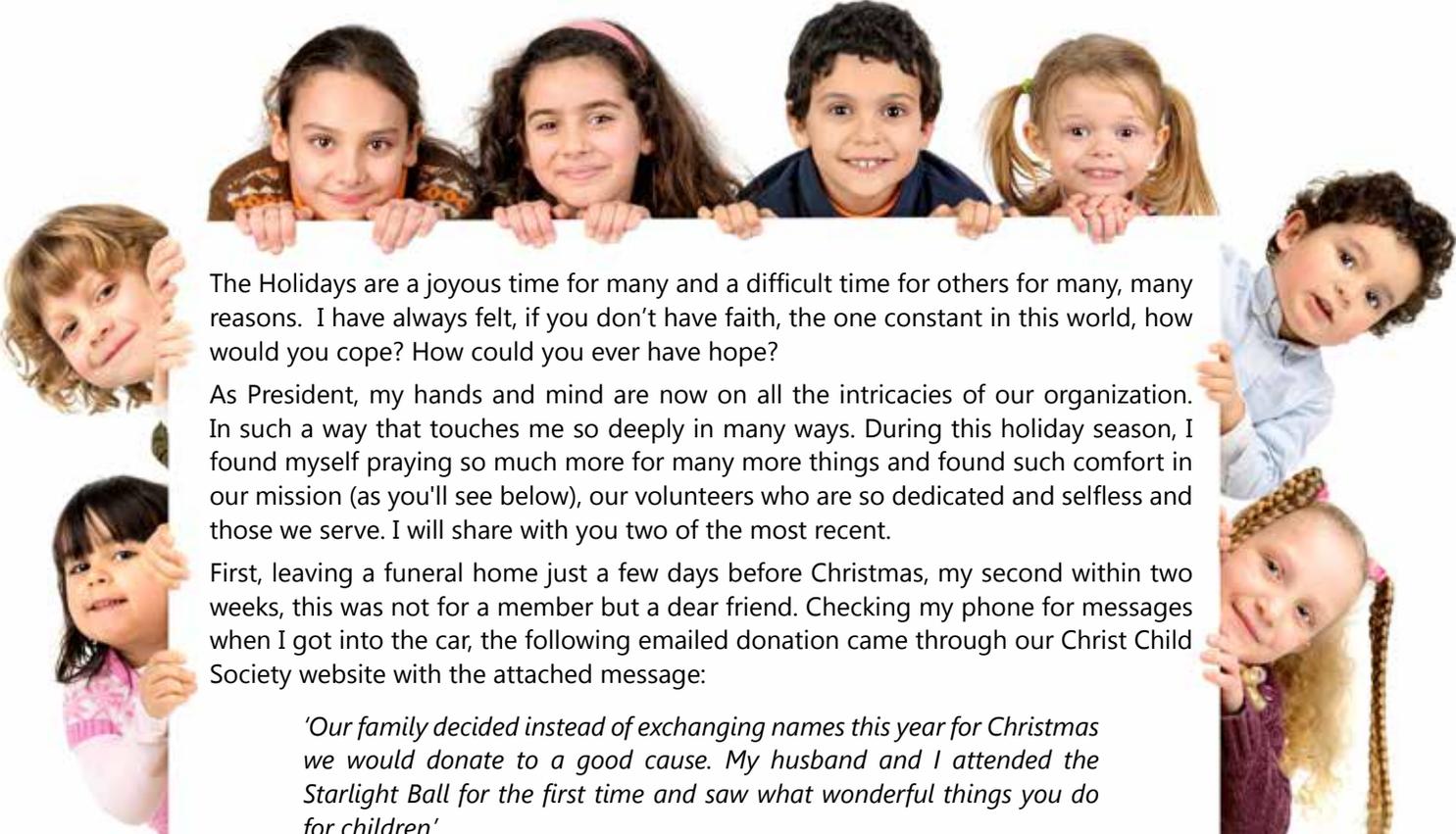
January/February 2019

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY[®] OF CLEVELAND

WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

CHAPTER AND VERSE

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



The Holidays are a joyous time for many and a difficult time for others for many, many reasons. I have always felt, if you don't have faith, the one constant in this world, how would you cope? How could you ever have hope?

As President, my hands and mind are now on all the intricacies of our organization. In such a way that touches me so deeply in many ways. During this holiday season, I found myself praying so much more for many more things and found such comfort in our mission (as you'll see below), our volunteers who are so dedicated and selfless and those we serve. I will share with you two of the most recent.

First, leaving a funeral home just a few days before Christmas, my second within two weeks, this was not for a member but a dear friend. Checking my phone for messages when I got into the car, the following emailed donation came through our Christ Child Society website with the attached message:

'Our family decided instead of exchanging names this year for Christmas we would donate to a good cause. My husband and I attended the Starlight Ball for the first time and saw what wonderful things you do for children.'

The second just came to the office this past week in the mail with many more similar to it (pictured below), The thank you from the Pre-School at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel on Detroit Avenue & W. 69th Street, where the Provisional Christmas Party was held on December 5th.



Faith in our mission! Faith in the children we serve! And faith in Mary Virginia Merrick for showing us the way!

Happy New Year to you and your families!

Cathy Caruso
President

CCS CLE NEWS!

News You Need To Know **NOW!**

- **General Business Meeting**

Calling ALL Members!

Wednesday, February 21, 2019 - 12:30pm - CCS Office Building - Located 1st Floor Meeting Room.

- **Provisional Informational Coffee**

Friday, March 1, 2019

Contact Jane Donovan for more information.

- **Installation Mass & Legacy Luncheon**

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

Details & reservation form are in this issue

- **RED WAGON - DATE CHANGE!**

Wednesday May 29, 2019

Embassy Suites on Rockside Road

- **Ball/Non-Ball (?) 2019**

CHANGES! - Coming.....

(your input and ideas are appreciated)

- **Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary - Kathy L.**

FUTURE Postings, please submit to **Cathy Caruso

CCS on the Radio

The Sunday evening 8:00pm radio show, The Advocate, on AM 1420 with Nick Phillips will periodically be spreading the word on the Christ Child Society Cleveland.

Please tune in, and if you're unable to listen the evening of the show, you can replay podcasts. Download the The Advocate from the AppStore or from the AM1420 website. Our thanks go to **Jane Yurichak** for sharing the Christ Child news with Nick Phillips.

The radio interview was 12/23.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

March - March 2019

Layette Packing

First Monday, 10:00-12:30

January 7, February 4, March 4

Contact: **Jean Boldt**

Euclid -St. John of the Cross Sewing Group Fourth Thursday, 9:00-12:00

January 24, February 28, March 28

Contact: **Andrea Dean**

Grandmothers' Program Merrick House

Note: Volunteers must wear socks.

Contact: **Stephanie West**

Shaker Heights-St. Dominic Sewing Group

Third Tuesday, 10:00-2:00

January 15, February 19, March 19

Contact: **Irene Chalko**

Highland Heights Sewing Group

There will be no sewing during the winter months.

We will resume in May. Contact: **Patty Welsh**

Independence Sewing Group

Second Wed. & Thurs., 10:00-2:00

January 9, 10; February 13, 14; March 19, 14

Contact: **Laura Cengic**

Merrick House Pre-School Reading Enrichment

First, Third and Fifth Tuesdays 9:30-11:00

January 15, 29; February 5, 19; March 5, 19

Contact: **Stephanie West**

"My Stuff" Packing

Third Monday, 10:00-12:00

January 21, February 18, March 18

Contact: **Kathy Moehring**

Parkview HeadStart Reading Program

First and Third Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00

January 15, 29; February 5, 19; March 5, 19

Contact: **Marsha Gleine** or **Sharon Skotko**

St. Francis Library

During the school year Tue: 9:30-2:00 / Wed: 9:30-2:30

Contact: **Anne Mooney**

St. Rocco Library

During the school year Mon: 9:00-12:00

Contact: **Paula Conrad**

Showcase

Shifts available on Tuesday-Saturday:

11:00-2:00 / 11:00-4:00 / 12:00-4:00

Contact: **Marge Ansel**

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

Community Needs Assessment

In an effort to determine whether we are serving children in the Greater Cleveland Area in the best ways possible, we are undertaking a **community needs assessment** by meeting with representatives of social service agencies. Primarily, we expect that this process will provide an opportunity to do the following:

- Better understand the needs of the children we serve.
- Assess our projects vis-à-vis those needs.
- Examine the projects that are most in demand – and determine where we duplicate services that are available elsewhere in the community.
- Determine how we might improve our services to better meet the children's needs.

Please consider whether you would like to serve on the committee that oversees this process. If you have any questions, and/or if you have an interest, please contact **Susan Ferraro Smith**. Thanks so much!

Provisional Informational Coffee

Our Informational Coffee for perspective new members of the Christ Child Society is planned for Friday, March 1 at 10 a.m. at our office. Members, please talk up our organization as we are always looking for new faces to help us in our mission to serve needy children. Please email either **Jane Donovan** or **Kathy Bush** the names and addresses of friends and family who may be interested in joining us. Invitations will be mailed the first week of February.

Make a Difference Day

What a great turnout at our annual "Make a Difference Day" held on Saturday, October 27th! The theme of the National Christ Child's Day of Service was "Read to Me". A recognition award of \$500.00 for the purchase of books will be given to the chapter that best met the spirit of the day.

A crowded room of eager volunteers gathered to work on an activity folder for children in the Head Start Program. The activity folder was made to accompany our donated book, "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?" by Bill Martin, Jr., illustrated by Eric Carle.

The folder consisted of an adorable, brown bag bear puppet; coloring pages of a large bear and various animals (featured in the book); colorful, animal flash cards and a new box of crayons.

We received a grant last year providing 2 books for our Parkview Head Start Reading Program in Parma. The program consists of 60 children. One book, "Brown Bear, Brown Bear" will be read to the children the first 6 weeks, and then given to the children to keep. The second Book, "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" by Michael Rosen, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury will be read the following 6 weeks and also given to the children.

Many thanks to **Marsha Gleine** and **Sharon Skotko** for organizing this wonderful activity for the children!

Joanne Krysh

Remembrance/Endowment Report

*In light of the recent passing of Abby Sammon,
this month report will be included on the following newsletter.*

St. John Cathedral Mass for Christ Child members,
living and deceased, and for their families.

Friday, January 25, Noon
Monday, February 25, Noon
Monday, December 25, Noon

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

Online Remembrance Giving available on our website at christchildsocietycleveland.org

Christ Child Society of Cleveland

The Starlight Ball

With a committee of over 30 members, Co-chairpersons **Mary Herrick** and **Janie Nickodem**, orchestrated the Christ Child Society's annual charity fundraiser, The Starlight Ball, at the Hilton Downtown Hotel on December 1, 2018. On the third floor Hope Ballroom, Betsy Kling, Chief Metrologist of WKYC and longtime supporter of Christ Child Society Cleveland Chapter emceed the evening. This event was also honored with remarks from Auxiliary Bishop emeritus Roger W. Gries, who spoke briefly about our hometown youth. Before blessing the meal, Bishop Gries simply stated that the progress of helping underprivileged children will help them to grow up to be the best they can be and that God is with us all along the path we take.

Newly elected Christ Child Society Cleveland Chapter President, **Catherine Caruso**, showed her leadership skills and charisma to keep the attention of her guests when she touched many heartstrings in her announcement of the 2018 Person of the Year, Mr. Alan Silverman of Silverman's Discount Department Stores and Treasurer of Dunn Hardware. Mr. Silverman's vision, sacrifices and accomplishments in supplying kids with clothing, uniforms, shoes and even undies for over 4 decades had to be announced! Accompanied by his wife, Tammy; his daughter, Abby; son-in-law, Jamie; and three precious grandchildren, Mr. Silverman accepted his well deserved recognition in a most humble acceptance speech. Mr. Silverman spoke of the serious poverty problem for kids. One in five kids live in poverty; and even more outrageous, he mentioned the statistic that there are 2,700 homeless students in Northeast Ohio. His vision to supply children's uniforms has proven to be a huge benefit for our youth as they do better in school. Mr. Silverman's partnership with Christ Child Society encompasses over a decade; and the Society is immensely grateful for his friendship and generosity.

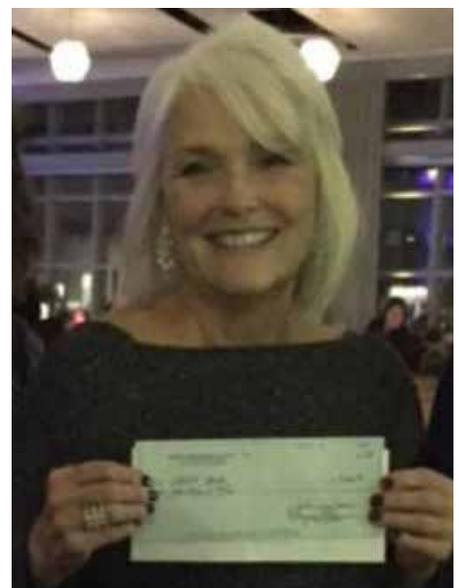
On behalf of the 2018 Starlight Ball committee, we thank everyone who supported the Ball this year. It was a tremendous success. We are greatly appreciative of Marlen Jewelers, who once again supported the Christ Child Society with their donations of exquisite earrings, necklaces and bracelets. Kay Doyle, Marylou Matthews' daughter, won the raffle for the Marlen white and yellow diamond necklace valued at \$9,500. **Kathy Bush** was the lucky winner of the \$5,000 cash raffle. Most of all, the children who are served by the Christ Child Society's programs are the biggest winners of the evening. All of this is possible because of loyal members and generous supporters. Thank you everyone.

Katie Camaglia, Public Relations Chairperson



Co-chairpersons **Janie Nickodem** and **Mary Herrick** with Chapter President, **Catherine Caruso**





THE STARLIGHT BALL

Provisional Christmas Party

On Wednesday, December 5, the 2019 Provisional Class of The Christ Child provided an extraordinary Christmas Party for the Pre-school, Pre-K and Kindergarten classes at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School. The children enjoyed meeting Santa and having their pictures taken on his lap. The classes also participated in games, songs and crafts. All 45 children wore a headband with his/her name on the front, made a picture frame for the Santa picture, won a book during the games and took home a green or red sack filled with many gifts.

The Provisionals then put on a lovely luncheon for the staff: lobster bisque, salad and rolls, pork and chicken sliders, and many lovely desserts. The staff was joined by Fr. Joe, the pastor, as well as some of the Sisters who work at the parish. **Cathy Caruso, Carol Janas** and a few husbands also stopped by to lend a hand.

At the end of our luncheon, Santa presented Christ Child with a check for \$500 from his wife and him. Our Santa (Larry Kennedy), has been doing this every year in recognition of the hard work done by the Christ Child Society. Our sincere thanks to Larry and his wife as well as Jack Ulman, our photographer, who volunteer their time and talent to help us make this event so successful.

This Provisional Class is made up of some very hard working ladies: Irene Bellomo, Christine Dragony, Catherine Houk, Philis Muth, Maureen Overholser, Annette Safran, Nancy Simon, Deb Stasek, Andrea Wendt and Nina Zwolinski. We would also like to recognize those people and companies that donated many of the items they needed to put on this lovely affair: Mission Barbecue, Michael Angelo's, Hospitality Restaurants (Sam and Dave's), Dr. Mark Iaccobelli, St. Raphael, and Petitti's.



Installation Mass & Legacy Brunch

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

A DOUBLE CELEBRATION

Installation Mass

Celebrated at 10:00 a.m.
Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
East 9th & Superior Avenue

Legacy Brunch

Immediately following Mass
Crowne Plaza at Playhouse Square
1260 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland

Please join us for these wonderful events as we welcome the newest Christ Child members and honor those who are marking membership anniversaries.

PLEASE NOTE: Free valet parking is available at the Crowne Plaza. The hotel will offer shuttle service from the hotel to the cathedral and back. Parking at the cathedral is not included.

No separate invitation will be mailed.

LEGACY BRUNCH RESERVATION FORM

Reservation Deadline: Monday, March 11th

Payment must accompany reservation form

Please Reserve: ___ Tickets @ \$40 each
___ Silver Patron @ \$60 (\$20 tax deductible) ___ Gold Patron @ \$85 (\$45 tax deductible)
I cannot attend but would like to make a donation of \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ Phone: _____

Seating Requests (Tables of 8) Indicate Member (M), Guest (G), Other Chapter (O), Provisional (P)

List your name and the names of those you have confirmed will be sharing your table.
Incomplete tables will be filled with other Christ Child members and their guests.

- | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| 1. _____ | M G O P | 2. _____ | M G O P |
| 3. _____ | M G O P | 4. _____ | M G O P |
| 5. _____ | M G O P | 6. _____ | M G O P |
| 7. _____ | M G O P | 8. _____ | M G O P |

_____ **I have no seating preference** _____ **I prefer the vegetarian option**

Checks made payable to the Christ Child Society
MasterCard Visa American Express Discover

Cardholder Name: _____

Account Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Mail reservation form with payment to:
Christ Child Society, 7901 Detroit Ave., Suite 300, Cleveland, Ohio 44102
Attn: Legacy Luncheon



Christ Child Society of Cleveland

7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

www.christchildsofcietycleveland.org

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL: Please deliver by January 23rd.

Articles for the newsletter

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

Cathy Caruso
President

Carol Janas
Organization VP

Meg Kearns
Financial Secretary

Kate Toma
Newsletter Editor

Mary Herrick
President-Elect

Sue Simon
Recording Secretary

Terri Parker
Interim Endowment/
Remembrance

Rev. Ralph E. Wiatrowski
Spiritual Advisor

Liz Niehaus
Service VP

Jo Ann Lamb
Corresponding Secretary