



May 2019

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY[®] OF CLEVELAND

WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

CHAPTER AND VERSE

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

At this point I can't remember if March flew in like a lion or a lamb or how it ended because it's been such an array of CCS of CLE activities, all strengthening and evolving our chapters mission. March was filled with just that...member ACTIVITY, and so much excitement, I only wish you were ALL here!

Provisional Coffee = NEW INTRODUCTIONS
Agency Inquiry = NEW COMMUNITY DISCOVERIES & NEEDS
Showcase 'Change Over' = NEW SEASON
Installation Mass & Legacy Luncheon =
NEW MEMBERS & THE HONORING OF CURRENT MEMBERS

SPRING = A NEW START

Members, THANK YOU! Thank you for all of your commitment, input and hope in our mission. Thank you for being so kind and loving in your approach in the execution of our projects.

Please know we are listening. Please know ALL opinions matter and please feel free to fill our ears with your thoughts and ideas. We have so many new and exciting ideas, plans and future ideas that we would love for all who can, to PARTICIPATE!

The 'Take-Away' comments from our Agency and Community Inquiry Q & A last month, is that our mission is a success, our mission is needed in our community and our approach to our mission is one of love and compassion.

With the approach to our future in the Greater Cleveland area that we serve...
"Do what you can with the what you have, wherever you are."

- Theodore Roosevelt

Thank you members for all that you do for our mission and the person(s) YOU ARE! May Mary Virginia Merrick bless our push forward to our future successes in serving as many of the disadvantaged children in our community as we possibly can serve.

Fondly,
Cathy Caruso

CCS CLE NEWS!

News You Need To Know

NOW!

- **RED WAGON - DATE CHANGE!**

Wednesday May 29, 2019 Doors open 9:30AM
Embassy Suites in Independence OH
Reservations via web or mail must be made by May 17th.
Reservation form is in this issue.

- **SPRING BUSINESS MEETING & LUNCHEON**

June 26, 2019, Meeting at 10:30A followed by Luncheon
ACACIA RESERVATION of the Metroparks
Cedar Road, Lyndhurst OH
Catered by Dino's Catering.
Reservations via web or mail must be made by June 12th.
Reservation form is in this issue.

- **SAVE THE DATE! - November 2, 2019**

Starlight Soiree

Western Reserve Historical Society
(The Starlight Ball is now **Starlight Soiree**)

FUTURE postings, please submit to **Cathy Caruso

REFLECTING WITH FR. RALPH

May is a month specially dedicated to Mary, and June is dedicated to her Son as the Sacred Heart. What a great time to open our hearts to Mary and Jesus and ask them how we can truly touch the hearts of others, especially those who look to the Christ Child Society for encouragement and strength. So many of Christ Child's good works provide exactly for those needs.

Fr. Ralph

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

May - July 2019

Layette Packing

First Monday, 10:00-12:30
May 6, June 3, July 1
Contact: **Jean Boldt**

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

May 23, June 27, July 25
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
May 21, No sewing for June-August
Contact: **Irene Chalko**

Highland Heights Sewing Group

No sewing until further notice.
Contact: **Patty Welsh**

Independence Sewing Group

Second Wed. & Thurs., 10:00-2:00
May 8, 9; No sewing for June-August
Contact: **Laura Cengic**

Merrick House Pre-School Reading Enrichment

First, Third and Fifth Tuesdays 9:30-11:00
May 7, 21; June 4, 18; July 2, 16, 30
Contact: **Stephanie West**

"My Stuff" Packing

Third Monday, 10:00-12:00
May 20, June 17, July 15
Contact: **Kathy Moehring**

Parkview HeadStart Reading Program

First and Third Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00
May 7, 21; No reading for June-August
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.**

Remembrance/Endowment Report

February 12 – April 11, 2019

Memory

Gail Cataldo (8)
Cheryl Ann Collova (6)
Flora DeCrane (11)
Anthony Dome
Teresa & James Giarelli
Sue Janasek
Lawrence M. Janowicz
Myles Ketterer
Charlotte Killian
Bernard J. Maccora
James Malone
Theone McDonald
Ralph Meluch
Dorothy Mitchell
Elsa Pavlik (2)
Suzanne Pearson
Allen Pesano
E. Jeanne Printy (3)
Marlene Quiggle
Abby Sammon (8)
Doris Tainer
Marie Terrell
David Walrod
Carol Ziegler (12)

Honor

Jean Boldt – Happy 40th CCS Anniversary
Joan Bryan – Happy Birthday
Irene Chalko – Happy 50th CCS Anniversary
Lynne Della Donna (2) - Speedy Recovery
Lynne Della Donna – Happy 45th CCS Anniversary
Cindy DeStefanis – Happy 5th CCS Anniversary
Dr. William Francis – Appreciation
Mary Mackert (2) – Happy 35th CCS Anniversary
Kathy Marsh-Wintour – Happy 5th CCS Anniversary
Terri Parker – Happy 20th CCS Anniversary
Kathleen Printy – Happy 25th CCS Anniversary
Susan Ferraro Smith – Happy 15th CCS Anniversary
Mary Tracy – Happy 55th CCS Anniversary
Anthony Zeszut – Achieving Rank of Eagle Scout 2019

In Our Thoughts

The Family of Gail Cataldo
The Family of Cheryl Collova
The Family of Flora DeCrane
The Family of Elsa Pavlik
Kathleen Printy – death of mother-in-law (E. Jeanne Printy)
Elaine Chimo – death of sister (Mary Columbro Rodgers)
Patricia Ferry – death of sister (Marie Terrell)
Diane Zawadski - death of father (John B. Francis)
The Family of Carol Ziegler

Mother's Day & 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.

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

Friday, May 24, Noon

Tuesday, June 25, Noon

Thursday, July 25, Noon

Donations this report period

Feb. 12, 2019 – Apr. 11, 2019

\$4,825

Total for fiscal year to date

\$24,480

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

RED WAGON INFORMATION

Wednesday, May 29, 2019

Embassy Suites in Independence Ohio

Vendor Boutique opens at 9:30 AM • Lunch seating is 11:30 AM

Thank you for supporting our efforts to raise funds to continue our many projects that provide service to under-resourced children in our area. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you on May 29, 2019 at the Embassy Suites in Independence.

Since this date will quickly be upon us, now is the time to contact our Committee Chairs to offer referrals or donations:

Vendor referrals - Karen Bush, **Raffle Basket Donations** - Carol Gedeon or Cindy DeStefanis, **Country Kitchen Donations** - Marsha Gleine or Sharon Skotko, **Jewelry Donations** - Marlene Rydzewski, **Volunteering at the luncheon** - Ann Chorba

Please contact **Carol Janas** with any questions.

We are looking for vendors for the 2019 Red Wagon Luncheon. Please send your recommendations and/or contact information to **Karen Bush**.

Current list of vendors:

Annie's Decadent Delights	LuLaroe Jackie Passerell
Bling Fashion	Pinless Posies
Creatively Yours	Sheer Joy Jewelry
Floral Accents	Simply Silver
Fashion Flair	Sophia's Boutique
Fifth Avenue Collection	StreamlineCLE
Mixed Bag Designs	Susan's Signature Creations

REMINDER:

Hats and Mittens for Winter Jacket Program

Please remember to bring hats and mittens for the Winter Jacket Program to the Red Wagon Luncheon. There will be a special collection basket set up for your donations. If the items were purchased, you are entitled to one hour of service. If the items are handmade, please keep track of the hours spent on the project. There will be a sheet at the donation site to record your hours.

COUNTRY KITCHEN

ATTENTION ALL BAKERS

We are requesting your homemade bakery treats to sell at the Country Kitchen. We look forward to all the delicious items that will be donated. The Red Wagon event will open at 9:30 A.M. The earlier you can get your items to the Embassy Suites that day, the better. The most popular items in the past have been banana, pumpkin, and zucchini bread loaves, cakes, pies, muffins, cupcakes, kolachky's, lemon bars, cookies, chocolate covered pretzels or surprise us with something NEW! Gluten free items are in demand!

A few helpful suggestions:

- Bring items that are easy to transport and carry home
- Use plates or containers, that you don't want back
- Package items in Saran wrap or see through bags
- List the ingredients of your baked goods

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR TASTY DONATIONS

Please call **Sharon Skotko** or **Marsha Gleine**.

THE RAFFLE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

BASKETS

Raffle Baskets are needed for the Red Wagon Luncheon. The possibilities are endless! Contact **Carol Gedeon** or **Cindy DeStefanis** for donation forms and drop off information.

TICKET SALES

Volunteers are needed to sell Raffle Tickets at the luncheon. It's a fun way to be part of the event and meet and greet everyone attending. Contact **Anne Chorba** to sign up.

RED WAGON LUNCHEON

Wednesday, May 29, 2019

EMBASSY SUITES - ROCKSIDE



5800 Rockside Woods Blvd., Independence, Ohio 44131
Self-Parking

9:30 A.M. Boutique Begins – 12 Noon Luncheon
Fashions presented by *Chico's* at Crocker and South Park Malls.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: Friday, May 17, 2019

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PLEASE RESERVE:

____ Tickets: \$55 each (\$20 tax deduction) • ____ Silver Patron Tickets: \$75 each (\$40 tax deduction)
____ Gold Patron Tickets: \$100 each (\$65 tax deduction)
Total enclosed: \$ _____ I cannot attend, but would like to make a donation of \$ _____

NO REFUNDS

Payment Options: Check made payable to **Christ Child Society** or
 Master Card **Visa** **Discover** **American Express**

Cardholder Name _____ Account Number _____

Signature _____ Expiration Date _____

SEATING REQUEST (Tables of 10) PLEASE PRINT your name and the names of those you have contacted and have agreed to share your table.
Only paid reservations will be considered for seating. Incomplete tables will be filled with other Christ Child members and their guests.

I have no seating preference. Feel free to seat me anywhere. • I prefer the vegetarian option

Indicate: (M) for Member • (G) for Guest • (O) for Member - Other Chapter

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

Send Reservations to: Christ Child Society, Attn: Red Wagon, 7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300, Cleveland, Ohio 44102

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Spring Luncheon & Annual Business Meeting

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Acacia Reservation Clubhouse

26899 Cedar Road, Lyndhurst OH 44124

Annual Business Meeting 10:30 a.m.

Luncheon immediately following the Annual Business Meeting, catered by Dino's
Self-Parking/Cash Bar

Reservation and Payment Deadline: Wednesday, June 12th

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

If you have any questions, contact **Carol Janas**.

2019 SPRING LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Reservation and Payment Deadline: Wednesday, June 12th

Reservations can be made online via our website.

Please Reserve: _____ Tickets @ \$40 each

_____ Silver Patron Tickets @ \$65 each (\$25 tax deductible)

_____ Gold Patron Tickets @ \$90 each (\$50 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

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Mary Virginia Merrick Award 2019

For the past 36 years, our Chapter has recognized one of its own whose spirit, values, and service exemplify those of Mary Virginia Merrick. This year, the prestigious Mary Virginia Merrick Award will be presented at the Spring Luncheon on Wednesday, June 26.

Who do you believe is deserving of this award? Who do you believe has given of herself in the name of the Christ Child Society of Cleveland, either publicly in the "front lines" or quietly and consistently "behind the scenes?" Please consider nominating the member you believe deserves this special recognition. Your nomination is important...your opinion matters...your thoughts count!

NOMINATIONS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING
AND RECEIVED BY MAY 24

Please include your nominee's name and why you believe she deserves the 2019 Mary Virginia Merrick Award. All nominations are confidential and are due by May 24. For a list of past recipients, please refer to page 1-5 in the Christ Child Roster. If you have any questions or need additional information, contact **Katie Camaglia**.

Mail to: Christ Child Society – MVM Award
7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Or email to: **Katie Camaglia**
(Email address is in the Christ Child Society membership directory)

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Thank you to everyone on the committee and to all the volunteers who helped at our Community Needs Assessment on March 21st. In attendance were 45 representatives (from 36 organizations) and 33 Christ Child Society members working diligently to make the day run smoothly. We learned how our six service projects (layettes, beds, portable cribs, coats, "My Stuff" bags, and uniforms) are vital, what impact they have, and how we might improve them. We also learned about additional needs of the children and their families. It was a wonderful day of sharing and community.

April and May activities will include:

- a gathering of information from the schools and preschools where we have literacy programs;
- a compilation of all the information gathered about all of our service & literacy projects; and
- a meeting of all of our Christ Child Society members. At that meeting, we want to share what we have learned and hear your feedback. We also want to hear about how we are doing in meeting the needs of our members - and about your vision for the future of our organization.

Along the way, the committee members will study the information, assess our projects, and consider a strategic path forward. Whenever that process is completed, the committee will make a recommendation to our President and Board, who will make the final decisions about our path forward.

Thank you again to everyone involved in this process.

Susan Ferraro Smith

SHOWCASE RECAP

The Showcase Bag sale ran on March 16, 19 and 20. It was a huge success. 181 bags sold for a total of \$1288.00 profit!!!

The removal of winter apparel, spring cleaning of the store and restocking with the spring items from the basement storage was a huge job accomplished over a 3 day period. 19 volunteers totaling 124 hours got this accomplished (hours for changeover are doubled)

Thank you ladies for all of your volunteer hours at Showcase, we could not do it without each and every one of you. All for the little children of Cleveland!!!

LEGACY BRUNCH AND PROVISIONAL INSTALLATION MASS

"Where love leads to action" or in the case of March 27, 2019, our chapter's love led us to a morning of prayer and fellowship. The beautiful Spring morning was enhanced by celebrating the Annunciation at Mass in the St. John the Evangelist Cathedral officiated by Fr. Ralph Wiatrowski. Our Cleveland Chapter welcomed ten new members during the Installation Mass. Following Mass, new and current members enjoyed the Legacy Brunch at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at Playhouse Square. Recognition of longtime service was celebrated for 67 members who acted on their love for children. These milestone anniversaries ranged from 55 to 5 years. Thank you to all the dedicated ladies for generously contributing their time, talent and treasure to the mission of the Christ Child Society of Cleveland. With the addition of the 2018 Provisional Class under the mentoring of **Jane Donovan** and **Kathy Bush**, Chair and Co-Chair, we will be all that much stronger to continue Mary Virginia Merrick's legacy.







Christ Child Society of Cleveland

7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

www.christchildsocietycleveland.org

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DATED MATERIAL: Please deliver by April 26th.

Articles for the newsletter

Please contact **Kate Toma** if you have any special needs or volunteer requests for the newsletter.
Articles for the June issue will be due by Monday, May 13th.

Cathy Caruso
President

Mary Herrick
President-Elect

Liz Niehaus
Service VP

Carol Janas
Organization VP

Sue Simon
Recording Secretary

Jo Ann Lamb
Corresponding Secretary

Meg Kearns
Financial Secretary

Terri Parker
Interim Endowment/
Remembrance

Kate Toma
Newsletter Editor

Rev. Ralph E. Wiatrowski
Spiritual Advisor