



# Christ Child Society Newsletter

April, 2011

308 South Scott Street, P.O. Box 1286, South Bend, IN 46624 (574) 288-6028 (fax) 288-4282 (e-mail) officer@christ childsb.org

## Mission Statement

The South Bend Chapter of the Christ Child Society is a not-for-profit organization of volunteers dedicated to the personal service and clothing of all needy children and infants in the love and spirit of the Christ Child.

## Executive Board

President:

Linda Brammer

President Elect:

Norma Villanucci

Vice President (Fundraising):

Kay Houser

Vice President (Membership):

Ann Riley

Vice President (Clothing):

Norma Cherry

Recording Secretary:

Kelly Ghyselink

Corresponding Secretary:

Madeline Gaughan

Treasurer:

Pat Hillebrand

## Calendar

April 6,13,20,27 ..... Restock/  
Inventory  
Clothing Center 9:00 AM

April 18 .....Board Meeting  
Clothing Center, 9:30 AM

April 27 ..... In Memoriam Mass  
St. Patrick's 12:15 PM

## Annual Mass Followed by Center Tour, Luncheon/Meeting at Gillespie Center

Christ Child members were again honored to have Bishop Kevin Rhoades as the celebrant and Father Leonard Chrobot as concelebrant at the annual Spring Mass on March 16. This Mass is always beautiful at St. Patrick's and well attended and a wonderful way to welcome spring. Many thanks to those who donated Offertory gifts of infant clothing and layette items and to those who helped make the Mass so special.

Immediately after the Mass, Linda Brammer escorted the Bishop on a tour of the Center. Bishop Rhoades was very impressed with our departments and it was a great way for him to better understand how the Christ Child Center works.

Shamrocks were flowing on the tables at the Gillespie Conference Center at the luncheon following the Mass. The 77 member attendees were treated to a great menu that included butternut squash soup and a pecan chicken salad. President Linda Brammer conducted a short meeting, noting that we served over 4300 children this past fall. She also announced a new fall fundraiser, "Shine the Light," and a Mother's Day tea for May of 2012

## Members Assemble 3000 Layettes of Hope For Women's Care Center Clients

The layette room at the Center was a very busy scene from January through March as members worked on the 2011 Layette of Hope project. 3,000 onesies and socks, along with prayer cards asking for a successful pregnancy and delivery, were assembled into a packet and given to a grateful Woman's Care Center staff. A Layette of Hope is given to every woman who has a positive pregnancy test in the hope of her visualizing her unborn child.



Members working on layette packets include Gay Eades, Sheila Emge, Joan Biltz, Bev Brunneel, Anne Eme, Catherine Thurin and Joan Stanley.

## From the President . . . . . Linda Brammer

I can hardly believe that April is finally here. Has spring ever been more eagerly anticipated? My tulips and daffodils are poking their heads out from under the dead leaves looking for the sun. New life! The sun was shining the day of our Annual Mass and Spring Luncheon as we welcomed Bishop Kevin Rhoades to celebrate with us. After Mass, and before we rushed off to the Gillespie Center, a few of us invited Bishop to come to the Center for a quick tour. At this point, I must say something. Have you ever had unexpected company stop by your house and wished that you had known in advance so that you might have cleaned and organized better? You know, made a better impression? That thought crossed my mind as we showed the Center to the Bishop. Except, my reflection was that this Center is ALWAYS ready to welcome the Bishop, or any visitor, for that matter. The volunteers need to be commended on the impeccable condition they leave their rooms. I was proud of the way everything looked, and let me tell you, Bishop Rhoades was impressed. He is a huge fan of the Christ Child Society.

New members of the Board of Directors are Sue Walsh, Judy Kuzmich, Peg Riggs, Sandy Krizmanich and Anne Watson. This is a very talented and dedicated group of women who will make outstanding members of the Board. Without exception, they are all very active members of Christ Child Society. A vote was taken at the Spring Luncheon to accept the slate of nominees, and I'm glad to say it was unanimous! At the next Board meeting we will announce the new officers of the Board which will be under the leadership of Norma Villanucci, the next president.

Expect to see the membership renewal form this month. Please fill them out promptly and return your dues, along with the National fees, before May 1. Our fiscal year ends in June and it is helpful to have all the dues and fees paid and deposited before we close the books. And as a reminder to all those who signed up for Old2Gold, don't forget to attend your training session this month! Thank you for helping with this project.

Until the next time, I wish you all the joy of Our Lord's Resurrection.....and lots of jelly beans!

## The Spotlight is on . . .

### *Dick Riel*

Bishop Kevin Rhoades, looking around the room at the spring luncheon, asked, "Is the Christ Child Society for women only?" To which I replied, "It's not for women only, although our membership is primarily made up of women." He then asked, "Are men allowed to join the Christ Child Society?" It kind of took me by surprise, and I said, "Well, yes, men are allowed to join." He persisted with, "Do you have any members who are men?" I took a quick glance around the room, and then I spotted him. "Bishop, we most certainly have members who are men.....and there he is!"

A couple tables away sat Dick Riel, our faithful volunteer and supporter (and husband of Vicki), who is a MAN! Bishop Rhoades was quite satisfied with that answer, and as I glanced back at Dick, he was lifting his fork, and eating his lunch just like all the other members! He shows up every Wednesday, and does whatever is asked of him. He regularly works the intake room, interviewing clients during clothing season. We not only appreciate him, we depend on him! Dick you are just one of us, and we're real happy about that. Thank you for all you do for the Christ Child Society!

### **Book Club Selection**

*Spoken from the Heart*  
by Laura Bush  
April 20  
Judy Kearns (273-9850)

## Board Meeting - March 21

Beth Barrett gave details of the new September evening fundraiser. The theme "Let Love Shine" will be carried in the décor and entertainment. All members are invited to a meeting and lunch Wednesday, March 30, at the Center to discuss plans. The more volunteers, the better we can make this event.

The Board voted on a new counter for the coat room. With the donated labor and discounted materials, we should be able to do this for a very reasonable amount.

The donor "thank you" reception in August is close to the new fall fundraiser. After discussion, it was decided to keep it as is.

Mary Beth McGrath brought up and agreed to chair the idea of collecting books to give to the children in our Center. She has seen firsthand how the children love the books and how great it would be to give books to them. We decided that book drives for new and gently used books would be a great avenue for us to pursue.

## New Member Coffee To be Held in May

Mark your calendars for May 25, the date of the New Member Coffee. This represents a change from the date of the last New Member gathering in August, always an extremely busy time at the Center. May, on the other hand, is a quieter time of year, and is the time of year when we all renew our membership. It would seem to be consistent to focus on new members at that time as well. This timing will also ensure that new members names be included in the next annual directory listing.

Please think about any friends of yours who you think might be interested in learning more about the Christ Child Society. Invite them to come with you to the Center on May 25 at 9:30 AM for coffee and pastries. They'll be given a tour and hear brief presentations about the many rewards of working for the Christ Child. Please RSVP to Ann Riley, [XXann@aol.com](mailto:XXann@aol.com), or 273-9913, so we can make enough coffee!

Deadline for next newsletter  
April 18

Ann Korb (277-6443)  
[ack339@aol.com](mailto:ack339@aol.com)

## Gifts and Memorials

The beautiful Gold Christ Child Remembrance Card is a convenient way to send donations in any amount to the Christ Child Society, as an In Memoriam or in recognition of a special occasion or accomplishment. A donation can be made in memory of deceased friend or relatives who will also be remembered in a perpetual monthly Mass. The card also makes it possible to celebrate happy occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries in the same way. When requesting a Remembrance Card, members are asked to print legibly since the names will be printed in each newsletter with the donor's name in parentheses. Extra cards are available in the office or from Jane Horning (272-4160).

### In Memoriam

Mary Cecilia Bauters (Becky, Al, Courtney Jeff Conn, Toots Thiern, Tom/Joan Frank, Pat/Teresa Biggs, Pauline B Koszyk, Catherine, Lin, David Couch, James Couch, Ellen Shafer Dettmer, M/M J. Pairitz, Dave/Mary Lou Pairitz, Fred/Marge Couch-Family, Doris Bergeron, James/Lisa Fulton, Margaret Couch Mark, Elizabeth E Goeller, Tee/Cal Miller, Mr. Tom Bauters, Bette/Pat O'Malley, Helen Diltz, Velmer Gene Epler, The Stender Family, M/M Mark Brzezinski, Bruce/Heidi Burnett, Kevin McGrath, Tom/Mary Lehman, Scott/Sara Leslie, Indiana Trust & Investment Management Co., Mick/Carol Lannoo, John S Frizzo, J. A. Whitmer, Susan/Jim Naus, Peter/Wilma Veldman, Bob/Nancy Egierski, Jenny/Bruce Micinski, Robin/Jim Diller, Karl/Margaret King, Dwight/Diana Gipson, Glenn Meden/Barbara Dudzinski, Marie Szucs, Mrs. Lisa Steinbarger, Katie Screes, Shirley A Laudati, Marc/Linda Brammer, Ms. Erin Lehmann, Marc/Bernice Shaffer, Fred/Kathleen Bauters Family, Connie/Mike Joines, JoAnn/Jim Wittenbach, Mary Ann/Monte Middlestadt, Bob/Dianne Humprey, Edward/Joan Hardig, Richard/Pamela Marx, Mr. Lawrence Spring, Steve/Sharon Smith, The Tim McCaffery Family, Mr./Mrs. Stephen A Seall, Rosemary/Fred Crowe, Bob/Barbara Herr, Christ Child Society)

Henrietta Bilinski (Toni Pikuza)  
Keith Brubaker (Marijo Martinec)  
Dorothea Davis (Katie Screes)  
Emily Diltz (Patti/Lowell Paschke)  
Noel Dolan (James/Carol Holt)  
John Earl (Pat Syrek/Earl Syrek)

Ed Trubac's Brother (Rosemary Shafer)  
Paul V Finch (Bill/Marian Bickel)  
Jane Haas (Marilyn Andrzejewski)  
Dorothy Hambidge (Mary Tice, Katie Screes)  
Aaron Huguenard (Catherine Sergio Ramenda)  
Margarita Humphrey (Linda/Jeff Niespodziany, Susan Bower)  
Wilber W Mell (JoAnn K Axelberg, Winifred VandenBossche Family)  
Alice Miller (Kay Weber, Shirley/Montey Holloway, William/Lois Berry, Joan Jaworski, Phyllis/Dan Cochran, Linda Waggoner, Christine Berger, Ted/Anita Garland, Stephen Simmons/John P Miller Assoc. at LKQ Corp, Robert Stich, M/M Phil MacGregor, Maurice S Hahn, Leslie Gunner Losh, David L Allen, Bill/Marian Bickel)  
Edward V Minczeski, Sr. (Christ Child Society)  
Renee Moore (The Bridge Club, Louise Anella, Marie Genencher, Paula Miller, Carol Nemeth, Maureen Conboy, Beverly Leader, Mary Lou Mullen, Mary Wisniewski, Dennis/Barbara Norkus, Jim/Pat Short, Barbara Horvath, Philip Horvath, Rudy/Donna Leutzinger, Bill/Maureen Jones, University of Notre Dame, David/Sharon Biek, Mr./Mrs. Stephen A Seall, Mr/Mrs Robert W Robison, Ron, Pat, Kathy Weber)  
Liz Mrockiewicz (Karen/Darrell Barnett)  
Margaret (Mardy) O'Hagan (Katie Screes, Carol/Jim Holt, Frank/Ginger O'Hara, Mary Haugseth, Margaret O'Neil, Sparky/Lee Tavis, Bill Killilea, David/Margaret Hosinski, Christ Child Society)  
Mary Ann Parrino (Rosemary

### In Memoriam

#### Members:

Mary Cecilia Bauters  
Margaret (Mardy) O'Hagan  
Suzanne Sheehan  
Helen M Wostmann

#### Husbands:

Edward V Minczeski, Sr  
John Redden, Sr.  
Robert Strantz

Shafer)  
John Redden, Sr. (Ron/Dottie Wallace, Joan Fahey, Sonny/Dee Tepe, Mary Tice, Christ Child Society)  
George Resnik, Sr. (Linda Brammer, Katie Screes, Ron/Dottie Wallace, Paul/Kathy Schoenle, Dr. John/Marilyn Toepp, Pat Hillebrand, Esther Cyr, Kathleen Welsh, Frank/Andrea Incropera, Pat Corcoran, Hersh/Ann Riley, Frank/Marti Moriconi)  
Nat Sharp (Mary Haugseth)  
Suzanne Sheehan (Ginger/Frank O'Hara, Mary Haugseth, Kathleen M Ward, David/Margaret Hosinski, Christ Child Society)  
Doris Eckstein Shoemaker

(Elizabeth E Goeller)  
Elizabeth Steffen (Dan/Beth Barrett, Patricia Hillebrand, Deb/Mike Low, Kathy/John Seidl)  
Walter/Elizabeth Steffen (Katie Screes)  
Robert Strantz (Renee Hochstetter, Jane Horning, Katie Screes, David/Margaret Hosinski, Marilyn Andrzejewski, Theresa Van Nevel, Christ Child Society)  
Cynthia Suran (Sheila Emge, Ron/Dottie Wallace)  
Georgina Voll (Mary Tice)  
Barbara Walters (Esther Cyr)  
Helen M Wostmann (Christ Child Society)

### Special Occasion

Alyson Barnes - complete recovery of cancer (Dave/Jeanine Wideman)  
Happy Birthday Friend (Carol V Bauer)  
Anne Killilea Hurley - Happy Birthday (Bill Killilea)  
Chris Killilea - Birthday (Bill Killilea)  
Mary Mackin - complete recovery (Dr. John/Marilyn Toepp)  
Joyce McNarney - Health filled recovery (Deb/Mike Low)  
David Woods - complete recovery (Dr. John/Marilyn Toepp)



At the annual Mass on March 16, members presented gifts of layette items.

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 1286  
South Bend, Indiana 46624



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April, 2011

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## *Happy Mother's Day!      Happy Father's Day!*

You can give a Christ Child layette to a needy newborn baby or clothe a child in honor of your Mother or Father. A special card will be sent to each Mom or Dad to announce a gift. This can also be in memory of a parent or loved one. Their names will be printed in the newsletter.

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Mother's or Father's Name - Please Print

- Send a Card  
 In Memory of

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Address

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City/State/Zip Code

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your check for \$60 or \$75 for your gift to:

Happy Mother's Day! Christ Child Society, P.O Box 1286, South Bend, IN 46624