

SAINT CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CONCERNS

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2020

Volume 4 Issue 4

Thank you for signing up to receive information from the Saint Chris Social Concerns Committee (SCC). We appreciate your continued interest in the Social Concerns Committee and looking for ways to help others.

The best way to keep informed of ongoing activities and social concerns issues is via our Facebook page. Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/stchris-scc>

(St. Chris Social Concerns Committee) to join. Just click on the box: **Join Group** on the main picture. If you have a problem, let us know.

We value your input regarding this newsletter. Please send ideas and comments to John Hosek: jjudehosek@gmail.com.

Prayer for the Month

February 26 is Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. As we think about fasting, it may be useful to reflect on these words from Isaiah:

*Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.*

Isaiah 58: 6-9



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FEBRUARY 2020 OPPORTUNITIES

SAINT CHRISTOPHER CHURCH

- The **Social Concerns meeting** will be on **Tuesday February 4** at 1 pm in the Prayer Room.
- **THE ROCKY RIVER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (RRAP) FOOD COLLECTION** is the weekend of **February 15-16**. Requested items include pasta, spaghetti sauce and rice (brown or white).
- The **Annual Lenten Soup Supper** will be on **Wednesday March 25 at 6 pm** in the Parish Center. The focus this year will be St. Colman, our Church in the City Partner.

ROCKY RIVER ASSISTANCE PACK AND SORT

Volunteers are needed each month to help sort and pack food for the RRAP clients. Consider joining them at the Adult Activity Center (20120 Detroit Road) from 6:30 to 8:00 pm on **Tuesday February 18**. You do not need to be a RRWC member to volunteer. Families are welcome!



SAINT COLMAN PARISH



The Next Neighborhood Meals will be on **Saturdays February 29**. Doors open at 3; volunteers welcome! Volunteers needed at 2 pm on any of our Neighborhood Meals days.



SAINT JAMES PARISH



St James Church (17514 Detroit Ave) has a *Community Meal* on **Wednesday February 12**. They provide a free hot meal to guests from Lakewood and surrounding communities.

Serving at 5:00 pm. Help is needed with set-up, clean-up, and meal preparation. CONTACT: Corky Sullivan at cosullivan@westonhurd.com.

SAINT RAPHAEL PARISH

Serve a Meal

Families and friends and other groups are needed to help a meal at Saint Augustine's. dates are **February 9 and March 15**. Please call Fred Bangeman (440)933-6686 for more information.



serve
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ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ROCKY RIVER/LAKEWOOD MEALS ON WHEELS



Meals on Wheels operates out of the Good Soil Lutheran Ministry Church, 20300 Hilliard Boulevard, delivering meals to those who find it difficult to purchase or prepare food. If you can help, please call 440-333-6298 weekdays between 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.

For more information about Rocky River Meals on Wheels visit www.mealsonwheelsrr.org.

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SAINT COLMAN PARISH

Outreach Ministry Help Wanted:

The Computer Outreach Program is seeking volunteers. Give Sister Marilyn Nickol CSJ a call ((216) 651-0550 Ext 101), and she can give you details. In the meantime, join volunteers on Monday nights) from 6 to 8 pm to get acquainted with the students, teachers and equipment.

Child Care Volunteers for Jennifer's Room:

Tuesday 6:00-7:30 PM and Wednesday 10:-11:30 AM. If you would like to help with childcare and are Virtus Trained or are willing to take the free Virtus training the Diocese of Cleveland requires, call Sister Nickol at (216) 651-0550 Ext 101 for details.

Adult Volunteers for the ID/BC Clinic:

Wednesday 11:30AM to 1:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to help with the application process for State ID's and Birth Certificate's Voucher Program. We will train you on how to complete the application for the clients. Call 651-0550 for further details.

WEST SIDE CATHOLIC CENTER

The West Side Catholic Center (3135 Lorain Road) offers volunteer opportunities for young and old, individuals and groups, primarily Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm:



(3135)

- Cooking and serving meals
- Sorting, folding, and distributing clothing and household goods
- Playing with children



Saint Christopher Parish
Rocky River, Ohio

- Tutoring adults - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 to 3:30 pm
- Mentoring, Resource Center greeter
- Answering phone calls, morning and afternoon shifts
- Sharing other talents or skills
- Assisting with Creative Arts Program

If you are interested in learning more about volunteering or offering your time, please contact Veronica Favela, Advancement Manager, by [email](#) or phone at 216-631-4741 x122. Information session required.

[You can also fill out our volunteer application here.](#)

All volunteers of the West Side Catholic Center are required to read the [Volunteer Manual](#) and complete the organizational volunteer training process.

MALACHI HOUSE



Malachi Center is always looking for new volunteers. Whether you have an extra hour a month or several hours every day, Malachi Center can benefit from your

time.

Caring, concerned people are at the heart of what we do each day. There are many opportunities for getting involved at Malachi House. For information on how to become a volunteer, please contact: Koula Callas, Volunteer Coordinator at (216) 621-8831 or complete the application online at: <http://www.malachihome.org/transfer/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/VOLUNTEER-APPLICATION-FORM-9.12.18.pdf>

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SAINT STEPHEN PARISH FOOD PANTRY



St. Stephen Food Pantry (1930 West 54th Street) needs help distributing the food to the poor. Looking for a volunteer activity? Help is needed to distribute food at our Community Kindness Pantry every Thursday at 9:30 AM. If you would like to help out please call Paula at: 440-668-0693.

TWICE BLESSED FREE STORE

Twice Blessed is a Free Store Ministry, at West 65th and Bridge Ave, in the near west wide community of Cleveland.



We welcome anyone to become a volunteer and join in our ministry. Saturdays from 9:00am to 1:00pm. From check-in to check-out, our volunteers offer helping hands to shoppers. Please contact Ben Weisbrod at BWeisbrod@rrumc.org or (216) 961-6968 ext 17 to sign up on Saturdays. Mondays from 10:00am to 1:00pm to help sort donated items and re-stock the shelves.

SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY



We Love our Volunteers! Help us continue to help others. Whether it's assisting at our hunger centers, helping at our Central office by answering phones, assisting with data entry, researching and compiling lists and helping with mailings, serving on our [Young Professionals Board](#), starting a food drive or responding to disasters, ***we have the need for your time and talents.*** To join our dedicated volunteer corps, complete the online [Volunteer Corps Application](#) and e-mail it



to Volunteers@svdpcle.org, or mail the completed, printed form to SVDPC, Attn: Office Manager, 1404 East 9th Street-Third Floor, Cleveland, OH 44114.

THE MAY DUGAN CENTER



Whether its packing boxes of food for a family or helping clients prepare of their GED exam, a person's time and dedication to the May Dugan Center (4115 Bridge Avenue) center assists us in providing the help, hope and the promise of a better tomorrow to our clients. The commitment of our volunteers is a testament of the positive impact people can make on their community!

There are several ways you can help: Many of our volunteers help with our monthly food/clothing/produce program, landscaping, tutoring, painting, holiday decorating, receptionist, and have served on our Health & Wellness Advisory Committee.

For more information on the May Dugan Center:

<https://www.maydugancenter.org/volunteer-page/>

FRONT STEPS

Front Steps Housing and Services is an organization passionate about affecting change in our community by ending the cycle of homelessness.



Through our facility, programs and services, we are able to provide critical resources needed to establish security and stability. From there, our residents can begin the healing process and rebuild their lives with a goal of achieving their personal best.

Front Steps has relied on the generosity of volunteers since its inception.

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We hold **Volunteer Orientation** meetings on the **second Saturday of each month** from 9 - 11 am. For more information contact Jane at jamata@frontstepsservices.org or 440-360-9010.

If you are interested in volunteering or need more information about how you can get involved, see:

<http://www.frontstepsservices.org/volunteer/>

GREATER CLEVELAND HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

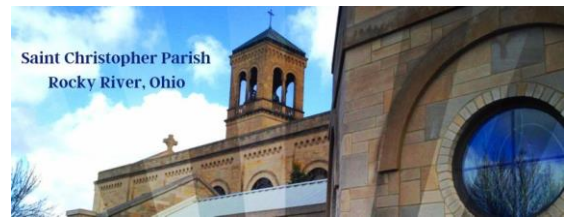


Volunteers are the heart of Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity. Our volunteers provide countless hours of service working in construction, at the ReStore, and helping in our Administrative Offices.

Helpful links to become a Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity volunteer:

- [Getting Started](#)
- [Group Opportunities](#)
- [Habitat Young Professionals](#)
- [Community Service](#)
- [Faith Partnerships](#)
- [Apostles Build Project](#)
- [Internships](#)
- [Download: Volunteer Handbook](#)

Volunteer orientation sessions are on the first Saturday of the month at 11 am and the third Thursday at 1:30 pm. To sign up for an orientation session go to: <https://clevelandhabitat.volunteerhub.com/>



SAINT MALACHI PARISH



St. Malachi Parish

Saint Malachi is located at 2459 Washington Avenue in Cleveland.

Backdoor Ministry

The Back Door Ministry, which provides food to anyone who comes to the window between 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM daily, 365 days a year. To learn more about this volunteer opportunity, click [here](#).

Monday Night Meal

This ministry is completely volunteer-driven and provides a hot meal on every Monday of the year (including Holidays). Volunteers are needed to work the meal and are asked to arrive between 5 & 5:30 and stay until clean-up at 7:15 pm. Volunteer activities include cooking, serving, set-up and clean-up. Volunteers are welcome from the community and the parish. [Click here](#) for more info on this ministry.

Clothing Ministry

There is a clothing ministry for individuals in need of clothing. Volunteers are needed; for more details about this ministry and information about volunteer skills needed, [click here](#).

Samaritan Ministry

The Samaritan Ministry provides an annual workshop to educate and develop understanding and awareness about alcoholism and substance addiction, causes, effects, treatment, recovery and prevention. This workshop is provided to area church ministers, social workers and others involved in the care of people. [Click here](#) for more info on this ministry.

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SAINT AUGUSTINE HEALTH MINISTRIES



Volunteers are family members and friends, students and professionals, retirees and young adults. They are people who donate their time, skills and talents to support our programs and services. They provide an extra pair of hands wherever help is needed and they make a difference in the communities we serve. Volunteers complement the efforts of our staff in assuring that the special needs of each person are met in a way that is personal to that individual.

Volunteers can match their skills and interests with meaningful assignments either in our nursing home, assisted living facility or hospice. To begin your volunteer service, please complete the [online Volunteer Application Form](#).

REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF CLEVELAND

Every year, volunteers lend us their greatest gifts of time, talent and resources to help us meet critical human service needs in the Diocese of Cleveland. We have a variety of volunteer opportunities for individuals, families, businesses and groups of all faiths and ages. We work with volunteers to find opportunities that match your skills, talents and interests.



Join us as we work together to provide help and create hope to all of Northeast Ohio.

Email Lori Sheets at lsheets@ccdocle.org or call 216-334-2932.

GREATER CLEVELAND FOOD BANK

Volunteers are crucial to all operations of the [Greater Cleveland Food Bank](#), whether in traditional roles (collecting, sorting, and repacking food that comes through our warehouse every day) or using special skills to support with administrative functions or special projects.

In 2018, more than 18,000 volunteers contributed more than 85,000 hours of service to the Food Bank, a savings of over a million dollars in salaries and benefits, allowing for additional food to be provided to our agencies and clients.

Reach Volunteer Services by phone at 216-738-2069.

Get started by clicking on one of the options below:

- To register for a traditional volunteer role (Repack, Community Food Kitchen, Produce Distribution or Special Events), [click here](#).
- To explore Special Skills Based Volunteer Opportunities, [click here](#).
- To register a group of volunteers, [click here](#).
- [Click here to read volunteer Frequently Asked Questions](#).

FILL THIS HOUSE



Fill This House is a faith based non-profit organization dedicated to improving the living conditions of local youth aging out of the foster care system. By providing household needs for transitioning youth in independent housing, Fill This House is able to deliver support, comfort, and provide a fresh start...all in a manner that maintains dignity and encourages growth. To volunteer please email at info@fillthishouse.org or call at (216) 633-2448.

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HANDSON NORTHEAST OHIO

HandsOn NORTHEAST OHIO

Our mission is to make it easy for people of all ages to volunteer in meaningful

projects, led by fellow volunteers that build stronger communities.

At HandsOn Northeast Ohio, we offer a place for individuals to begin their journey to make a difference and become effective volunteers. We make it simple for volunteers to choose from a variety of projects that connect community needs with their time and interests. Individuals



are screened and trained to ensure a capable, informed direct service volunteer force, and through this network, we build the capacity of area nonprofits, schools and municipal agencies. The volunteer opportunities we create, manage, and lead produce reliable, measurable results that meet critical community needs.

We seek to build stronger communities where all people can discover the power to make a difference through service. We serve as an agent for community collaboration; helping individuals take action and organizations further their missions. We believe that each member of the community has the power to do enormous good by promoting the change they wish to see in their community.

To see current volunteer opportunities, check out our calendar at:

<https://www.handsonneo.org/calendar>

IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORP



The Ignatian Volunteer Corps is unique in offering an integrated Jesuit spiritual program. Volunteers live the gospel in a new way at this time in their lives, and reflect personally and with others on this experience. They are open to deepening their understanding of and experience with those who are materially poor and marginalized.

To find out how to become an Ignatian Volunteer, please [click here](#).

NORTHEAST OHIO COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

NEOCH needs the time and skills of volunteers to help us implement programs and achieve our mission to break the cycle of homelessness. As a note,

NEOCH has many opportunities for volunteers, from clerical work to assisting with our Street Chronicle to planning meetings and events. We are happy to work with volunteers to find something engaging and meaningful for you to assist in our advocacy work.

- If you are interested in volunteering with NEOCH, fill out the volunteer form at <https://www.neoch.org/become-a-volunteer> or call us at 216.432.0540 to discuss your skills and interests.
- If you are interested in learning about in the many different approaches to addressing homelessness in Cleveland, [click here](#).

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GREATER CLEVELAND VOLUNTEERS

**Greater
Cleveland
Volunteers**
Connecting you with opportunities to serve



- **Option A:** Find an On-Going Opportunity

We have regular, ongoing volunteer opportunities with over 100 local, nonprofit organizations. Greater Cleveland Volunteers connects you with the opportunity to serve.

Whatever your schedule, we can find an opportunity for you. Apply on-line or download a pdf file of our enrollment form to get started.

[ENROLL ON-LINE](#)

- **Option B:** Special Events

If a regularly schedule volunteer position doesn't fit your schedule, we still need you. Greater Cleveland Volunteers can connect you to one-time special events.

To view the special events and/or register on-line to volunteer [click here](#).

FAMILY PROMISE

Family Promise of Greater Cleveland connects people who want to help with opportunities to make a difference. Volunteers, individuals, families, congregations, companies and community groups can all help to transform the lives of homeless families.



Even one hour of volunteering can work wonders, for both volunteers and the families that receive help. We'll find a meaningful opportunity that's a good fit for each volunteer.

Following are some needs we currently have:



- General Volunteers - Sort and Organize Donations. Organize Storage Areas.
- Boutique Helper - Maintain, Sort, Organize Clothing Boutique.
- Childcare
- Organize Donation Drives (Prior to hosting a drive, please contact Lisa Fritz for more details.)

Interested in getting involved?

Contact Lisa Fritz, Coordinator, Volunteer & Donor Engagement, at 216-325-1390, or lfritz@familypromisecle.org
Thank you!

FROM IGNATIAN SOLIDARITY NETWORK:

Be strong and take heart, all who hope in the LORD.

Psalm 31:25

We are living in tumultuous times.

But we hear God's call to "be strong and take heart"—to work with **radical hope** toward the promise of peace and justice, the vision of equality and dignity.

