

# SAINT CHRISTOPHER SOCIAL CONCERNS

## NEWSLETTER MAY 2020

Volume 4 Issue 7



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.

As a result of the coronavirus crisis, the newsletter is evolving. Many churches and nonprofits have suspended volunteer efforts for health reasons.

This month, we offer suggestions and ideas for you to consider during these unusual times. **Prayer**, as you might expect, comes first. Listed next are **volunteer opportunities** and charitable actions, followed by **advocacy** involvement and



education.

Please consider keeping informed of the changing situation and social concerns issues 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](mailto:jjudehosek@gmail.com).

## PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

### Pope Francis Prayer During Covid-19 Crisis

*O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.*

*We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.*

*At the foot of the cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.*

*You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.*

*We are certain that you will provide, so that,*

*as you did at Cana of Galilee,*

*joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.*

*Help us, Mother of Divine Love,*

*to conform ourselves to the Father's will*

*and to do what Jesus tells us:*

*He who took our sufferings upon himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.*

*We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.*

*Do not despise our pleas — we who are put to the test — and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.*

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### MAY 2020 VOLUNTEER AND CHARITABLE OPPORTUNITIES

#### ST CHRISTOPHER PARISH

##### SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY!

##### COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS

Governor DeWine announced last week that Ohio's 2020 Census response rate was 52.2%, slightly higher than the national average. Now, let's make that 100%! It is important for residents to respond on behalf of their households for effective and equitable representation; funding for critical programs and projects; infrastructure investment; etc. The results of this once-a-decade count determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. They are also used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.



The results will show where communities need new schools, new clinics, new roads, and more services for families, older adults, and children. The results will also inform how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding are allocated to more than 100 programs, including Medicaid, Head Start, block grants for community mental health services, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as SNAP.

Please take time to complete your 2020 Census form questions can be completed easily online at [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov) or call 844-330-2020 to complete the questionnaire by phone.

#### ROCKY RIVER ASSISTANCE PACK AND SORT

Due to the COVID-19 public health crisis, the RRAP has cancelled the May monthly Pack & Sort community volunteer night and in-person grocery pick-up to ensure the health and safety of community volunteers, clients, and students at the Rocky River Adult Activities Center (RRAAC). The RRAAC is also closed indefinitely, limiting access to the RRAP pantry.



In lieu of non-perishable food items in May, the RRAP needs monetary donations so they may purchase grocery gift cards to continue assisting our neighbors in need. Tax-deductible donations can be made online via PayPal: <http://www.rrwc.org/donation> or by checks made to Rocky River Assistance Program,

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mailed to: P. O. Box 16724, Rocky River, OH 44116. If more convenient, you can also mail grocery gift cards to RRAP. Giant Eagle, Heinen's and Target cards in \$25 increments are the most helpful.

### SAINT COLMAN PARISH

**Neighborhood Meals** have been suspended. However, our parish continues to serve our parish members and neighbors.

Both physical and social support needs are become more demanding. Support of individuals needing food and clothing is continuing from the parish. This need will be increasing due to high unemployment and demands on other sustenance offering agencies exceeding their capabilities.



The parish's assistance to those on the fringes of our society will also be increasing. Many of these individuals and families might escape the governmental aid that is available to those of us in the mainstream of the economic system.

To donate, please send checks to St. Colman Church, 2027 West 65<sup>th</sup> Street, Cleveland, Ohio 441102.

### SAINT JAMES PARISH



**St James Church (17514 Detroit Ave)** has a coronavirus outreach program. You can make a request (for medical, home healthcare items or food) or you can fulfill a request. Great idea.

This outreach is not a physical ministry where anything is delivered by the donor in person. Purchases are made online and professionally delivered directly by the company selling the item, much like an Amazon wishlist. Go to: <https://www.stjameslakewood.com/coronavirus> .



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Saint Christopher Parish  
Rocky River, Ohio



### ROCKY RIVER/LAKEWOOD MEALS ON WHEELS

**Rocky River Lakewood Meals On Wheels** is continuing to deliver freshly made, nutritious meals during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have implemented strict sanitation procedures to protect our meal recipients, volunteers and staff from contact with and transmission of the virus.

Planning ahead, we have given all our recipients a supply of non-perishable food to have on-hand in the event that we are forced to suspend our normal operations at some point in the future.

We currently have the capacity to serve more people who are finding it difficult to purchase or prepare healthy meals. If you or someone you know – friend, relative, neighbor – is in need of our service, please contact us at (440) 333-6298, and browse our website for more information.

We are very grateful for the many new volunteers who have come forward to help us continue our vital service while our regular volunteers in high-risk categories are wisely staying at home. We also extend our sincerest thanks to the generous organizations and individuals who have made donations during this challenging time.

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](http://www.mealsonwheelsrr.org).



### WEST SIDE CATHOLIC CENTER

#### Important update regarding COVID-19:

In accordance with guidelines from our federal and state governments, all of the following changes are in effect through April 30th, with a high likelihood of an extension into May.

Workforce Development classes have been suspended.

Our clothing program has been suspended.

We are unable to accept any in-person donations of clothing or household items during this time. Please note, however, that we are still accepting direct-shipment donations via [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com) and [Target](https://www.target.com). Financial donations are also a big help and can be made [here](#).



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### SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul can continue its mission of serving Northeast Ohio's poor through the **generosity of our donors like you**. The **Care Club** appeal is sent during the Advent and Lenten seasons, requesting that individuals consider a donation to the less fortunate as part of their preparation for the feasts of Christmas and Easter. These donations help individuals and families in need across Northeast Ohio with **housing, utilities, medicine, transportation** and so much more.

Donate safely and securely online today! Or to make a gift by mail, please make your check or money order payable to "St. Vincent de Paul Society" and mail to: St. Vincent de Paul Society Care Club, 1404 East Ninth Street – Third Floor, Cleveland, OH 44114.

Thank You! Click here: [Donate](#)

### THE GREATER CLEVELAND FOOD BANK



Food delivery during pandemic

Throughout Northeast Ohio, one in six people have been food insecure – meaning that they may not know from where their next meal will come. Undoubtedly, this number is rising incredibly quickly as people are unable to work during the COVID-19 crisis. The Greater Cleveland Food Bank seeks to bridge the meal gap, connecting individuals with the nutritious meals they need to succeed. The Greater Cleveland Food Bank is the largest hunger relief organization in Northeast Ohio, having provided, in 2018, more than 57 million meals to hungry people in Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Ashland, and Richland counties. If you need help to get or retain your benefits, find a pantry that serves your area, or to see if you meet the guidelines for assistance, call the Food Bank at call 216-738-7239, or visit <https://www.greater-clevelandfoodbank.org/>.





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### Current Action Alerts from the Diocese:

- [Catholic Charities Employees' Support for a Fourth Stimulus Bill](#)

Existing provisions in the CARES Act were a good first step in supporting charities and nonprofits and people suffering due to the pandemic. But nonprofits are not ab

- [Support for a Fourth Stimulus Bill in the Covid-19 Crisis](#)

Existing provisions in the CARES Act were a good first step in supporting charities and nonprofits and people suffering due to the pandemic. But nonprofits are not ab

- [Ask Senator Portman to Support the Dream Act](#)

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has long supported Dreamers, and we continue to urge Congress to work with all deliberate speed towards a bipartisan legislative solution that includes a path to citizenship for these youth.

### CATHOLIC CLIMATE COVENANT

Catholic Climate Covenant can help you answer the call to care for creation and the poor through the sharing of Church teaching, our resources, and our programs. Loving God's creation and God's most vulnerable is at the heart of who we are as Catholics.



### NEWS AND INFORMATION

[EPA's decision to loosen Mercury and Air Toxic Standards harms human health and the environment](#)

[How does the Catholic Climate Covenant undertake sustainability projects? With Dan Misleh](#)

