NEWSLETTER JULY 2020





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: <u>https://tinyurl.com/stchris-scc</u> (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

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,

Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.

We fly to you today as your beloved children.

We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,

as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother,

and gain for our nation and world,

and for all our families and loved ones,

the protection of your holy angels,

that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted,

we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.

Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,

wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

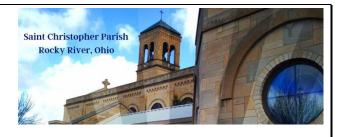
In this time of trial and testing,

teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be





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patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts. We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy. Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

--From the US Conference of Bishops

JULY 2020 VOLUNTEER AND CHARITABLE OPPORTUNITIES

ST CHRISTOPHER PARISH

THE ROSARY AT ST. CHRISTOPHER

The rosary will be recited at 10:30 am on Tuesdays and 7 pm on Thursdays in the Mary, Queen of Peace Courtyard. Please remember to wear a mask and bring your own chair. We hope you consider joining us!

ROCKY RIVER ASSISTANCE PACK AND SORT

Due to the COVID-19 public health crisis, the RRAP has limited the July monthly Pack & Sort to Rocky River Women's Club members only.

The RRAP needs monetary donations so they may continue assisting our neighbors in need. Tax-deductible donations can be made online via PayPal: <u>http://www.rrwc.org/do-nation</u> or by checks made to Rocky River Assistance Program, 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.



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SAINT COLMAN PARISH

The Neighborhood Meal is scheduled to begin again on Saturday July 18, with a to-go meal.

All meals will be to-go for the foreseeable future. We thank our dedicated volunteers who have worked hard to plan for a safe reopening of this vital program for our Parish and our neighborhood.

To donate, please send checks to St. Colman Church, 2027 West 65th 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.

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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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 <u>www.mealsonwheelsrr.org</u>.

WEST SIDE CATHOLIC CENTER

Important update regarding COVID-19:

Due to the changing situation, please check out the West Side Catholic Center at the following sites to keep informed of the status of their programs:

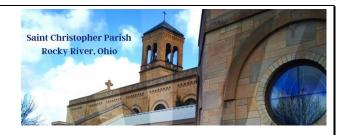
https://www.wsccenter.org/

https://www.facebook.com/pg/westsidecatholiccenter/posts/?ref=page_internal





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SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY



Due to the changing situation, please check out Saint Vincent DePaul at the following site to keep informed of the status of their programs:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/svdpcle/posts/?ref=page_internal

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



Due to the changing situation, please check out the Greater Cleveland Food Bank at the following site to keep informed of the status of their programs:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/ClevelandFoodBank/posts/?ref=page_internal

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.greaterclevelandfoodbank.org/.

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ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITIES

CATHOLIC CHARITIES USA (CCUSA)

CCUSA Advocacy and Social Policy team advocates for policies that uphold human dignity and promote integral human development. Informed by the experience of local Catholic Charities agencies, we urge policy makers to see the faces of those in need in their communities and to create policies which assist and support them.

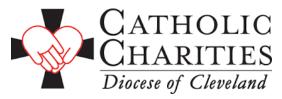
Sign up for Washington Weekly and receive Advocacy Alerts:

https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/advocacy/

SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE OF THE DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND

The Social Action Office of the Diocese of Cleveland seeks to shape a more caring society and a more peaceful

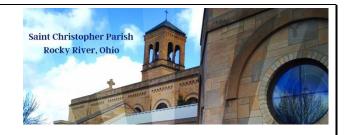
world through justice education, advocacy, community development and organizing. Our work is based on the call of the Gospel to work for the respect and dignity of all human life, the elimination of poverty, to speak out against injustice, and to promote the common good. The office is composed of County-based social action offices,



and office for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and Catholic Relief Services.

https://ccdocle.org/social-action

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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.

CURRENT ACTION ALERTS FROM THE CATHOLIC CONFERENCE OF OHIO:

• The U.S Supreme Court (SCOTUS) has ruled on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. While SCOTUS allowed DACA to continue, the Administration can still attempt to end DACA at a later date. As a result, DACA immigrant youth are safe for now, but could be at risk for deportation in the future. We must not allow this to happen.

As Catholics, we affirm the inherent dignity of every person. The U.S. Catholic Bishops urge you to express solidarity with Dreamers and ask you to contact your Senators requesting that they support the bipartisan DREAM Act of 2019 and encourage the Senate to introduce a companion bill to H.R.6, the American Dream and Promise Act. Please click below

<u>https://justiceforimmigrants.org/action-alerts/jfi-action-alert-to-the-u-s-senate-please-protect-daca-recipients/</u>

• On June 3, 2020 the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee passed <u>HB 136</u> that prohibits the death penalty for persons with severe mental illness. The bill now goes before the full Senate.

The Catholic Conference of Ohio strongly <u>supports passage</u> of this legislation.

Persons are encouraged to <u>contact</u> their Senator asking for their support.