



CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY[®]

OF CLEVELAND

WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

CHAPTER AND VERSE

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Moving on...

It is hard to believe this is my last President's message...how time flies when you are having fun!! Over these past two years, I have constantly been in awe of the energy that you all have as you approach the work you do on our projects and fundraisers. Long time members have continued to work with enthusiasm and have welcomed newer members into our fold, and all have shared in the rewards of working to make a difference in the lives of the children we serve. Two years ago, we were going into the second half of our Centennial celebration, and now we have moved strongly into our second century. In fact, there was a lot of moving in these past two years!!

We moved our office from Parmadale to Detroit Road – a wonderful, organized locale for our Layette, "My Stuff", and Portable Crib Programs, as well as two successful Make-a-Difference days. We welcomed a new office manager who moved into the cubicle corner of our packing room. Our Head Start Early Literacy Program moved from Parmadale to its new location at the old Parkview Elementary School, and the children attending that program have received books of their own after hearing them read by our dedicated volunteers. The St. Rocco library moved to a new location in the school, and the children are enjoying their new dedicated library room. St. Francis library moved to computerization and the children, teachers and volunteers will start learning the new system to find and check out books. Our Winter Coat program moved to a new distribution area at the Center for Pastoral Leadership on the east side, and our School Uniform program distribution moved to the Woodland Data Center. Our Starlight Ball location moved to the Hilton Cleveland Downtown and our Red Wagon Luncheon moved to Landerhaven. Whew!

Thank you to all of you who helped move us forward in these past few years. I am so thankful for the hard-working executive committee and board who helped me by contributing wonderful ideas, initiating great discussion, and offering support in so many ways. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with so many kind and dedicated members, and I look forward to following your example of service. Thank you for letting me serve as your president!

Janie Nickodem

REFLECTING WITH FATHER RALPH

The Marian month of May leads right into the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in June: Jesus and Mary, what an unbeatable combination! With a long and seemingly endless winter past and now moving into spring and summer, what a pleasant time of year this is. So many things about this time can give us a 'second wind' and a renewed sense of energy not only to do go and apply our efforts for those we are blessed to have close to us in our families and relationships but especially for those who may not have families or others to count on. This is the opportunity that the Christ Child Society presents to us to do good to others who are children of Jesus and Mary just like the rest of us, but who may not experience the support and help they need that the rest of us so easily take for granted.

With God's blessings,
Fr. Ralph

"Nothing is ever too much to do for a child." - Mary Virginia Merrick, Founder

2018 DATES TO REMEMBER

Spring Luncheon/Business Meeting and Installation of Officers at Shaker County Club.....	June 20
Day of Recollection at St. Barnabas	July 25
Deadline for membership renewal.....	August 15
Red Wagon Luncheon at Landerhaven	September 5
National Christ Child Society Convention in Milwaukee	September 27-29

SHOWCASE HELP WANTED

Do you enjoy treasure hunts? If you do, please consider joining the Showcase team as a pricer. Pricers sort through donations received and price items that are suitable for sale. Help is needed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Training provided.

Contact **Pat Givens** or **Bernardine Kaniecki** if you are interested in more information.

TRIP TO THE HOLY LAND

Join Fr. Ralph on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Jordan (including Petra), October 1-12, 2018. Mass will be offered daily at many wonderful and deeply spiritual sites. Cost is \$3,995 plus airfare. For more information, contact Magi Travel at www.magitravelinc.com, trip #1825 with Fr. Ralph Wiatrowski; call Magi Travel at 952-949-0065; or call Fr. Ralph at St. Barnabas Parish 330-467-7959. You won't be disappointed!

2018 STARLIGHT BALL

Call for Committee Members

Which of you, our members, is interested in working on, contributing your talents and past experiences, or hearing more about the Christ Child Society of Cleveland's LARGEST fundraiser of the year?

We look forward to hearing from you! Please contact **Janie Nickodem** or **Cathy Caruso**.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

May - July 2018

Layette Packing

First Monday, 10:00-12:30
May 7, June 4, July 2
Contact: **Donna Kelly**

Euclid -St. John of the Cross Sewing Group

Fourth Wednesday, 12:30-3:30
May 23, June 27, July 25
Contact: **Andrea Dean**

Grandmothers' Program Merrick House

Note: Volunteers must wear socks.
Contact: **Kathy Yoakum**

Heights-St. Dominic Sewing Group

Third Tuesdays, 10:00-2:00
May 15, June 19, July 17
Contact: **Irene Chalko**

Highland Heights Sewing Group

Third Friday, 10:00-2:00
May 18, June 15, July 20
Contact: **Patty Welsh**

Independence Sewing Group

Second Wed. & Thurs., 10:00-2:00
May 9, 10; June 13, 14; July 11, 12
Contact: **Laura Cengic**

Merrick House Pre-School Reading Enrichment

First, Third and Fifth Tuesdays 9:30-11:00
May 1, 15, 29; June 5, 19; July 3, 17, 31
Contact: **Kathy Yoakum**

"My Stuff" Packing

Third Monday, 10:00-12:00
May 21, June 18, July 16
Contact: **Rose Dziak**

The HeadStart Early Literacy Program

First & Third Tuesdays
9:30-11:00/1:30-3:00
May 1, 15; June 5, 19; July 3, 17
Contact: **Sue Simon** or **Marlene Suchma**

St. Francis Library

Tues. during the school year 9:30-2:00
Wed. during the school year 9:30-2:30
Contact: **Irene Fitzgerald**

St. Rocco Library

Wed. during the school year 8:45-12:00
Contact: **Paula Conrad**

Showcase

Shifts available on Tuesday-Saturday:
10:00-2:00 / 10:00-4:00 / 12:00-4:00
Contact: **Joan McAuliffe**

*Contact information can be found in our Chapter roster.

Remembrance/Endowment Report

February 14 - April 19, 2018

Memory

Mary Jane Cole (14) Michael Fink
Carolyn Meder (4) Irene Hartsig
Patricia Ann Melhuise (3) Vincent Kelleher
Kitty Webster (2) Jeff Meditz
Dave Bergstrom Ted Poulos
George Blaha Mary Eileen Reusser
Mary Castrigano Tony Vehar
Jan Wedo

Honor

Elsa Pavlick - Happy Birthday
Fran and Art Schartner

In Our Thoughts

Family of Jan Wedo
Family of Carolyn Meder
Mary Ann Leonard-death of brother (George Blaha)
Sue Pryor-death of father-in-law (Walter)
Mary Lou Mathews-death of son-in-law (Gary Nos)
JoAnn Lamb-death of brother (Jeff Meditz)
Family of Mary Jane Cole
Beth Rymont-death of mother (Patricia Melhuise)
Mary Jo Dailey-death of mother-in-law (Geraldine)
Elaine Chimo-death of sister
(Sr. Madeline Columbro SND)

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

Friday, May 25, Noon
Monday, June 25, Noon
Wednesday, July 25, Noon

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
Attn: Abby Sammon

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.

Donations this report period	\$1,635.00
Previous fiscal year to date	<u>\$10,275.00</u>
Total for fiscal year	\$11,910.00





Mary Virginia Merrick Award, 2018

For the past 35 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 20.

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 18**

Please include your nominee's name and why you believe she deserves the 2018 Mary Virginia Merrick Award. All nominations are confidential and are due by May 18. 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 **Mary Herrick**.

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

Or email to: **Mary Herrick**



SAVE THE DATE

The Red Wagon Luncheon
September 5, 2018

It's not too early to mark your calendar to attend the Red Wagon Luncheon at Landerhaven Event Center on Wednesday, September 5. It's also not too early to mark your "To Do" list to come up with a donated gift basket to represent you, you and your BFF's, or your provisional class for the Chinese Raffle. Be creative....theme baskets are endless. Contact **Katie Camaglia** for donation forms and/or information on how you can become involved in this raffle.

We are looking for vendors for the 2018 Red Wagon Luncheon. Please send your recommendations and/or contact information to **Karen Bush**.

ATTENTION ALL BAKERS

Once again, the Red Wagon luncheon will be welcoming your delicious bakery donations for the Country Kitchen.

The most popular items in the past have been: cakes, pies, muffins, lemon bars, kolachky's, sweet breads (banana, pumpkin, and zucchini), or any favorite specialty treats.

A few helpful suggestions:

Need items that are easy to transport and carry home.
Try to wrap everything in saran wrap. Use plates/containers, etc. that you don't want back. Label your donations including ingredients, i.e. nuts or gluten free, etc.

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



Legacy Luncheon and Provisional Installation Mass

Our chapter welcomed 23 new members during the Installation Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist on March 21. Following Mass, new and current members attended the Legacy Luncheon at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at Playhouse Square. The Christ Child Society of Cleveland was thrilled to have 23 of the 58 women celebrating 2018 anniversaries (ranging from 5-55 years!) join us at this year's Legacy Luncheon. We thank all of our members for so generously contributing their time, talent and treasure, allowing our Cleveland chapter to remain strong and continue to share the love of the Christ Child with under-resourced children in our area.



MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our chapter's membership dues have remained the same since 2007, while over that 11 year span, our administrative costs have risen. While we cannot ask members to increase dues enough to fully cover these costs, it was felt that a small increase would help offset them. At the April Board meeting, the Board of Directors approved a \$15.00 increase in membership dues. Per our by-laws, the membership must also approve the change. This will be brought to the membership for approval at the 2018 Spring Luncheon/Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, June 20. If approved, it will take effect for the 2018-2019 Membership Renewal Cycle. Look for renewal forms in the July Newsletter.

The current and revised Membership Dues Schedule is as follows:

Membership Classification	Current Dues	Revised Dues
Active	\$60.00	\$75.00
Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sustaining	\$85.00	\$100.00
Silver Sustaining	\$60.00	\$75.00
Supporting	\$120.00	\$135.00

Spring Luncheon & Annual Business Meeting

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

Shaker Country Club

3300 Courtland Boulevard, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122

Annual Business Meeting 10:00 a.m.

Luncheon immediately following the Annual Business Meeting

(There will be a microphone at the business meeting)

Cash Bar – Complimentary Valet Parking

Reservation and Payment Deadline: Wednesday, June 7 th

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

If you have any questions, contact **Liz Niehaus**.

2018 SPRING LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Reservation and Payment Deadline: Wednesday, June 7

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

Day of Recollection



Wednesday, July 25, 2018
St. Barnabas Parish – 9451 Brandywine Road, Northfield, Ohio
Parish of our Spiritual Advisor Fr. Ralph Wiatrowski
9:15 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.



The day will begin with registration and coffee at 9:15 am. Presentation will start promptly at 10:00 am. Between the presentation and Mass, we will have the opportunity to enjoy St. Barnabas' Rosary Walk and gardens. The celebration of Mass will be at noon and we will conclude the day with lunch. We look forward to seeing everyone on July 25th.

Day of Recollection Reservation Form

Guests are welcome
Reservation deadline: Monday, July 16, 2018

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Guests: _____

attending _____ @ \$25.00 each \$ _____ total enclosed

Payment options: Check made payable to Christ Child Society

or MasterCard _____ VISA _____ American Express _____ Discover _____

Cardholder Name as it appears on the card: _____

Account Number (print clearly): _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please send reservation form along with payment to:
Christ Child Society of Cleveland
7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102
Attn: Day of Recollection



Christ Child Society of Cleveland
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Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL: Please deliver by May 3rd

Articles for the newsletter

Please contact **Kate Johns** if you have any special needs or volunteer requests for the newsletter.
Articles for the July issue will be due by Monday, June 11th.

Janie Nickodem
President

Stephanie West
Service VP

Liz Niehaus
Organization VP

Terri Parker
Recording Secretary

Lynne Gerace
Corresponding Secretary

Cathy Caruso
Financial Secretary

Abby Sammon
Endowment/Remembrance

Kate Johns
Newsletter Editor

Rev. Ralph E. Wiatrowski
Spiritual Advisor

**Please direct questions,
information & articles to:**

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