MISSION STATEMENT

Responding to the call of the Gospel, Christopher Homes, Inc. strives to provide decent, affordable housing to vulnerable members of our community. All who are associated with Christopher Homes, Inc. have the right to respect, dignity and a sense of well being. Therefore, through the service and commitment of our staff and volunteers, we will enable our residents to grow spiritually, socially, and intellectually, empowering them to develop their optimal potential.

Christopher Homes is a senior living ministry of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.
COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) makes it hard to breathe. When you breathe in air, it travels down your windpipe into tubes that carry the air to your lungs. These tubes branch out into smaller tubes that end in tiny air sacs. Oxygen in the air you breathe is absorbed into the blood through these air sacs. When you have COPD, the lungs don’t work as well as they should because they’re damaged in some way.

COPD refers to a group of lung conditions. The two most common are chronic bronchitis and emphysema. Most people with COPD have both conditions, and many who are at risk ignore the warning signs. That’s why it’s important to take notice of any COPD symptoms you might have. These include:

- Chronic cough
- Smoker’s cough when waking up
- Expelling mucus when coughing
- Shortness of breath that gets worse with activity
- Wheezing (whistling or squeaking when breathing)
- Chest tightness
- Fatigue
- Frequent colds or flu
- Lung infections (more than one per year)

If you have these symptoms—especially shortness of breath—see your doctor right away. There’s no cure for COPD, but finding it early can help you slow it down and manage it. Work with your doctor on a treatment plan to ease your symptoms, help you stay active and improve your overall health.
ST. JOSEPH’S ALTARS

ROUQUETTE LODGE ALTAR

On March 9th, Rouquette Lodge hosted a St. Joseph’s altar. The altar was well attended as many of the staff and residents turned out.

METAIRIE MANOR ALTAR

Thousands of cookies and breads shared an altar with statues honoring the Blessed Family. The Metairie Manor resident guild spent months planning the altar that opened to the public on March 14th.

The altar was placed in the large dining room at the facility. It served as a meeting place for some of the residents to come together to talk about traditions, many mentioning several superstitions that come with the St. Joseph’s Altar.

Metairie Manor guild president, Janice Nicholas, says that it took the residents more than a week to bake the 3,000 cookies that lined the altar. The breads that were creatively shaped were purchased from a local bakery. They came in many shapes, like that of an alligator, a saw and even a ladder among other things. Those breads were meant to represent Louisiana and the history of St. Joseph, the foster father of Jesus, who spent his life as a carpenter.

There were fancy cakes that were also baked by the residents or donated. Metairie Manor resident and guild treasurer, Frances Munaco, says the best part of the altar is a statue of the Blessed Mother. She says that the statue is donated to the altar every year by a resident.

Mrs. Frances says that while she’s not of Italian descent, she married into an Italian family. Frances says that they hold the tradition of the St. Joseph’s altar sacred.

The Metairie Manor guild says they hope to expand the altar next year and invite additional Christopher Homes sites to attend.
On March 12th, Villa St. Maurice celebrated the patron saint of Ireland with a host of green treats. The residents were treated to green cookies and punch.

ROUQUETTE LODGE CELEBRATES ST. PATRICK’S DAY WITH A PARADE

Sunshine was abundant as the residents and staff at Rouquette Lodge took part in their annual St. Patrick’s parade. About a dozen residents were lined up at just before 1 p.m. on March 15th to celebrate the occasion.

They were ready to throw beads and give away festive foods like cabbage, carrots and potatoes.

Liz Doran, one of the community managers at Rouquette, says this is one of the most popular events at the facility. She says it has been going strong for about 10 years.

A bagpiper led the way for the parade which featured some festive “floats” made by the residents themselves.

Many residents came out of their homes to see the parade and make sure they got some of the tasty throws.

In true Louisiana fashion, the bagpiper even entertained the crowd to the tune “When the Saints Go Marching In”.

WYNHOVEN - ST. PATRICK’S HAPPY HOUR

The staff at Wynhoven in Marrero turned a monthly event into a reason to celebrate St. Patrick’s day. Denise Batiste, the activity coordinator at Wynhoven, put together the event. It came complete with music as well as snacks and drinks (non-alcoholic of course). Residents could pick from red or white sparkling juice as a number of different mixers. More than a dozen people showed up for the event.

PLACE DUBOURG - ST. PATRICK’S DAY SCAVENGER HUNT

On March 14th Place DuBourg Residents teamed up to participate in a scavenger hunt. They searched for items located on a treasure map. The hunt consisted of five teams of two. The two winners were Enola Morvant and Joycelyn Thomas. The residents also competed in St. Patrick’s day trivia.
NEWS

“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.”
- C.S. Lewis

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Please congratulate Debra Stepter for her appointment to the LeadingAge Gulf States Board of Directors. This organization represents providers that focus on the issues and challenges facing long-term care professionals and the populations they serve. They work for us locally and in Washington DC through advocacy, grassroots action, coalition work and with partnerships with our national affiliate Leading Age. Debra brings expertise in the HUD housing industry and has been an employee of Christopher Homes since 2010 and is currently working as a contract administrator. Debra has assisted in planning the HUD sessions for the annual conference each year.

Debra was part of the 2017 Leadership Academy Fellows and is now a Leadership Academy Alumni.

The fellowship was a large time commitment as Debra met throughout the year to explore diverse perspectives from aging services leaders, learn from innovative care and service models, enhance leadership skills and core competencies and advance person-centered programming in aging services.

THANK YOU!

We want to thank property accountant Andrea Logan for her 10-plus years of service and employment at Christopher Homes. Andrea started at Christopher Homes in November 2007 after graduating from Loyola University. She recently earned her MBA and was married. Andrea has been a dedicated and conscientious employee at CHI. Most recently she was the property accountant for Annunciation Inn, Christopher Inn, Mater Dolorosa, Place DuBourg, Villa St. Maurice and Wynhoven I. Andrea will be missed by her colleagues here at Christopher Homes, but we wish her the best in her future endeavors.

MASS FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE INFIRMED AND THOSE WHO SERVE THEM

Archbishop Gregory Aymond presided over a mass sponsored in-part by Christopher Homes at St. Louis Cathedral. The Mass was held on March 11th at 11 a.m. and was well attended. Christopher Homes provided bus service for those residents who wished to attend the mass.
SAINT BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS

Saint Bernadette Soubirous
January 7th, 1844- April 16, 1879
Feast Day April 16th

O Saint Bernadette, who, as a meek and pure child, did eighteen times at Lourdes contemplate the beauty of the Immaculate Mother of God and received her messages, and who afterwards wished to hide yourself from the world in the convent of Nevers, and to offer thyself there as a victim for the conversion of sinners, obtain for us the grace of purity, simplicity and mortification that we also may attain to the vision of God and of Mary in Heaven. Amen.

SAINT BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS

RECIPE

It’s festival season and that means that people will be looking for good music... and good food. One of the most popular festival dishes is “Crawfish Monica”.. a creamy crawfish sauce served over pasta.

CRAWFISH MONICA

INGREDIENTS:
1 pound rotini pasta
1 stick butter
1 cup chopped yellow onions
2 cloves minced garlic
1 bunch fresh parsley, chopped
2 teaspoons Cajun/creole seasoning
(I like Tony Chachere’s)
2 cups heavy cream
1 pound crawfish tails
1 bunch green onions, chopped
1 cup grated parmesan cheese
French Bread

DIRECTIONS:
Cook pasta according to package directions; drain thoroughly melt butter in large pot and saute onions, garlic and parsley until onions turn translucent. Add crawfish and saute for about 3 minutes. Add heavy cream and seasoning. Taste to make sure it’s seasoned enough. Cook for 5-10 minutes over medium heat until sauce thickens. Add pasta to sauce and toss well. Add green onions and parmesan cheese. Serve with French bread.
APRIL EVENTS

New Orleans Council on Aging

19th Annual Senior Fest
Friday, April 20, 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM
Location: UNO Lakefront Arena

Christopher Homes is a sponsor of the 19th annual Senior Fest Event & Expo

St. Tammany Council on Aging

Senior Prom
Friday, April 27th, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Cost: $5, includes admission, beverages and snacks

Christopher Homes is a sponsor

Tricentennial Interfaith Prayer Service

St. Louis Cathedral
Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 7 p.m.

The service will be an opportunity of various faiths of New Orleans to come together in thankfulness and unity.

French Quarter Festival

April 12-15th
FREE
11 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily

2018 New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival

April 27-29th
May 3-6th
Fair Grounds
Dear Residents and Staff,

“their eyes were opened and they recognized him.” Luke 24:35

Our Gospel reading for Easter Sunday evening is taken from St. Luke’s recording of two disciples walking toward Emmaus, a village seven miles distant from Jerusalem, following our Lord’s passion, death, and burial. They do not understand that Christ was to rise from the dead and they are suffering from despair and disillusionment over the events of the past three days. The disciples had believed that the Lord was the long promised Messiah but now it seems that they have witnessed the total failure of his mission.

As they walk along Jesus appears but “their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.” When Jesus asks of what they are discussing, they relate what had transpired in Jerusalem during Passover. “Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures.” Later as they approached the village they urged him to remain with them. During their meal “they recognized him in the breaking of the bread.” The two disciples rejoiced and said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?” In the course of an afternoon, the disciples’ mood changes from sadness to joy; their hope returns and they are compelled to share their joy with others.

Where are we on our “road to Emmaus?” Are we able to recognize Jesus in our daily life? Do we regularly spend time with our Lord in the scriptures such that we understand how the New Testament is concealed in the Old and the Old Testament is revealed in the New? Do we desire to share Christ with everyone we encounter? How deep is our relationship with our Lord?

Our response to these questions can reveal where we are on our “road to Emmaus.” This Gospel is meant to be an image of each of our faith journeys. It shows Christ’s zeal for our soul; his desire to touch each of us with his loving mercy. The story begins on the road with the two disciples searching to understand the past three years of traveling with our Lord and ends with their finding fulfillment in their faith through belief in his passion, death, and resurrection. We too can reach that fulfillment of faith if we strive to understand our Lord’s teachings, reach out to accept his call to each of us, and then share our faith with others. On the Road to Emmaus, Jesus searched out his disciples; he continually searches out each of us, calling us to himself through the Scriptures and the Sacraments.

“He is risen” (Mt. 28:6) He is risen, indeed!

With God’s Blessings,

Deacon Dennis F. Adams
Executive Director, Christopher Homes