

THE BASILICA OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

THE SERVANT OF GOD, FR. PATRICK RYAN AWARD

OCTOBER 6, 2019



THE SERVANT OF GOD, FR. PATRICK RYAN AWARD IS GIVEN EACH YEAR TO MEMBERS OF THE PARISH WHO EXEMPLIFY THE THEOLOGICAL VIRTUE OF CHARITY IN IMITATION OF THE HEROIC WITNESS OF FR. PATRICK RYAN. INSPIRED BY HIS EXAMPLE TO THAT SAME MEASURE OF CHARITY TOWARD ALL OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN NEED, THE RECIPIENT OF THIS AWARD HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED FOR SELFLESS SERVICE, ESPECIALLY TOWARDS THE POOR AND NEEDY.

SATOKO THEL

Satoko married and came from Japan to the U. S. in 1989. Attending Mass with her husband and four children on Sundays drew her to the Catholic faith, and she converted. Besides taking care of her family in the U. S. and in Japan, Satoko devotes the rest of her time to serving God and His people in various ways, such as by visiting the homebound, bringing Holy Communion and spending time with them. She serves as our parish representative at the Community Kitchen, volunteering there often to feed the hungry. She refreshes the holy water every week as her service to the Church and the people of God who visit our parish. Through charity work, Satoko says that she has met many wonderful people and it has changed her way of seeing the world. She truly appreciates opportunities to serve and hopes to always continue charitable work. Satoko's quiet but generous gift of self exemplifies the virtue of charity that the Servant of God, Father Patrick Ryan showed to the City of Chattanooga, and therefore, she has been chosen as one of the 2019 recipients of this award.



OLEGARIO CARDONA

Olegario Cardona is married to Delia and is the father of five children. He exemplifies the virtue of Father Patrick Ryan by his aid to the needy in the community, both spiritually and materially. For the past four years he has been the Coordinator of the Santa Cruz House of Prayer, an evangelical outreach of the Basilica. In this role he takes initiative to reach out to people who are far from God. He invites others to gather food to share with the needy who are arriving from Guatemala or have lost their job or are sick. He organizes visits to the sick in hospitals and in homes. The group also raises funds for the families of people who have been deported or have died in an accident. Olegario is Coordinator of our Hispanic Ushers, and he leads this group in receiving people with kindness and joy. He teaches music to our parish children. He has produced a program to transmit the faith through the media and frequently livestreams events at the Basilica. Last year he was appointed president of the Hispanic Pastoral Council. He encourages the community to live their faith with love, charity and service. For these reasons, he has been chosen to be one of the 2019 recipients of this award.



In Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Rev. J. David Carter'.

Rev. J. David Carter, JCL, Pastor and Rector