



Christ Child Society Of Pittsburgh

April, 2012

MISSION STATEMENT

The Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh is a non-profit Catholic association of lay volunteers embracing members of all denominations, expressing its members' love of the Christ Child through service to God's children regardless of race, color or creed.

RED WAGON FARE TO INCLUDE FASHION SHOW

The annual Red Wagon Fare will be held on Saturday, **October 13, 2012**, at the Pittsburgh Field Club. Suzette Venturini has graciously agreed to be the General Chair of the Red Wagon for the third consecutive year. (Many thanks, Suzette, for taking on the event again!) **New plans** for the Red Wagon include a ***FASHION SHOW presented by Coldwater Creek***. Models for the fashion show will be supplied by Coldwater Creek. Another special thanks to Mary Jo Kelly, Dolly Kelly and Jane Leavy for making these arrangements.

The following members will chair these specific areas:
DORIS DELSERONE and **PHYLLIS DOMBROWSKI**, *Reservations*;
MARY JANE DIAMANTOPULOS, *Registration*;
PATTI SMITH, *Gourmet Delights*;
MOLLY KELLEY, *Basket of Cheer*;
PAT MAIDA, **MARIE LOWRY**, and **JUDY KERN**, *Chinese Auction*;
SYBLE SHADLE will chair the *Purse Raffle* as Cheryl George will be away.

As this newsletter goes to print, we are still in need of the following chairs: **Silent Auction, Table Centerpieces and Door Prizes, 50-50 Raffle, and Grand Prize Raffle.** Please contact Suzette Venturini or Joyce Orr as soon as possible if you are willing to chair or co-chair one of these areas.

Regarding the Purse Raffle and the Chinese Auction,

- Once again, there will be 6 purses available on the Purse Raffle. The following members have committed to donating a purse for the purse raffle: Cheryl George, Marian Flowers and Mary Ann Gonot, Tina Purpura, and Joyce Orr. The following members have agreed to donate to the purse prizes: \$400 (Christ Child Society), Cheryl George, Mary McCormick, Margie Di Domenico, and Suzette Venturini. We still need 2 designer purses for the Purse Raffle and 1 piece of jewelry or theater tickets for a purse prize. If you would like to donate one of the two remaining purses needed for the raffle, please call Syble and let her know what kind of purse you have so that we avoid duplicates.
- Sign-ups are currently underway for the **Chinese Auction**. Gift value is asked to be a minimum of \$100. Please notify Pat Maida, Marie Lowry, or Judy Kern if you are able to donate a Chinese Auction gift.

Updates on the Red Wagon will be sent in the next newsletter or via email.

OFFICERS

President

Joyce Orr

Vice President

Laura Merzlak

Recording Secretary

Marian Flowers

Corresponding Secretary

Margie DiDomenico

Treasurer

Justina Purpura

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy Fitzgibbon
Barbara Fredette
Cheryl George
Mary Jo Kelly
Pat Maida
Ellen O'Brien

Advisor:

Judy Kern

Annual Christ Child Retreat

The Christ Child retreat will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2012 at the *Bigelow Conference and Reception Center, 4338 Bigelow Boulevard*. The day will begin at 9:00 am with registration and a light reception. At 10:00 there will be a presentation on the Miracles of the Eucharist, courtesy of Deacon Toby Gaines. With an extensive assortment of photographs and historical descriptions, the exhibition presents some of the principal Eucharistic Miracles that took place throughout the ages in various countries of the world and which have been recognized by the Church. Fr. Kevin Poecking, our Spiritual Advisor, will celebrate Mass at 11:00 am. A delicious buffet luncheon will follow with plenty of time for fellowship. The Ladies of Charity, Greensburg, will join us to end the event with the recitation of the Rosary. The event is scheduled to conclude at 3:00 pm.

It was decided at the March 15, Christ Child General Meeting that **there will be no charge for Christ Child members, and a \$25 charge for retreat guests**. Reservations are due to Tina Purpura by April 1 or as soon as possible, and guests should make their checks payable to CCS, Pittsburgh, and mail them to Tina Purpura, 30 Rocklynn Place, Pittsburgh, 15228. Any questions regarding the retreat should be directed to Tina (412-889-6538 text/ phone).

NEWS FROM NATIONAL CHRIST CHILD

Planning for *Convention 2012* was discussed at the semiannual National Christ Child Society Board Meeting, in late March. The Biennial convention of the Society will be held in *Detroit Michigan September 21 – 23, 2012 at the Westin Book Cadillac hotel*. Registration information and materials will be included in the NCCS Spring 2012 Newsletter. One of the highlights of Convention 2012 will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Detroit Chapter's charter, and work on behalf of children. There will be an emphasis on networking with other chapters. It will be an ideal opportunity to make new friends with other chapter delegates and to renew acquaintances made at prior conventions and conferences. Each chapter may have two voting delegates; however there is no limit on the number of total attendees from a chapter.

National has revamped its web site and I urge all members to take a look at it. To log onto the chapter information the User Name is chapter, and the Password is redwagon. Some "inside" pages are still under construction, but you will find ideas for Layettes from different chapters, and other programs. The link for the Web Site is www.nationalchristchildsoc.org

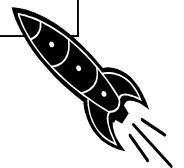
Nominations are being sought for positions on the National Board. If you have an interest, applications are due by April 30, 2012. Forms for nomination are available from the web site. From *Ellen O'Brien*

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH **SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2012-2013**

PRESIDENT	Laura Merzlak
VICE PRESIDENT	Marian Flowers
TREASURER	Mary Ann Gonot
RECORDING SECRETARY	Kathleen Fitzgibbon
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Margie DiDomenico
DIRECTORS	Pat Maida Molly Kelley
	Ellen O'Brien Cheryl George
	Judy Kern Barbara Fredette
	Mary Jo Kelly
ADVISOR	Joyce Orr

New Website To Launch for Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh

In celebration of our 20th year as a CCS chapter, we are moving forward and going green. Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh website is now under construction and will be opening soon. Log in to WWW.christchildofpittsburgh.org. Send in your web, links, and photo contributions to ccspittsburgh@gmail.com



Contributions, donations, event fees and dues can soon be paid via PayPal.

For any questions call Tina Purpura at 412-344-8900 or via email at justina.purpura@gmail.com

LAYETTES

In early February, Doris Delserone and Phyllis Dombrowski packed 40 layettes. On February 27, Mary Ann Gonot and Marian Flowers delivered layettes to Mercy Hospital (24 layettes), West Penn Hospital (6 layettes), Roselia (4 layettes). Our current inventory includes 10 layettes.

ANGELS CLOSET

At the present time the Angels are sleeping at the Closet and nothing is happening other than an occasional great buy on gloves for 25cents. We did get some wonderful black and gold jackets at great prices in January. Committee members will be notified late summer regarding tag, sort, and hang day. Opening day will be late September. Thanks, *Molly Kelley*

CAMP AIM SUMMER CAMP - JUNE 18 THRU JULY 27

It won't be long before 150 special needs children will be heading off each day for six weeks day camp at Carlynton High School. As in the past, I ask for your support, both materially and physically for the kids ranging from age 6 to 21. For many, this is a lifetime chance to attend a wonderful day camp run by Special Ed professionals from all over Allegheny county. **I will collect from this point on, any art materials, old tee shirts, old scraps of material, wallpaper, polyfill, etc., for art projects. Also, the music director at Camp Aim is looking for used musical instruments, even triangles and maracas that the children can use. We especially want to solicit your old fancy clothes, evening dresses, old sports jackets, vests, ties, jewelry, fancy scarves and handbags for the Prom** which takes place the last week of camp. Size doesn't matter, we will adapt clothing to the kids. I also hope that more of our members come out to the camp and enjoy firsthand the company of these very special children of God. They love volunteers.... Call me if you need a pickup of articles... or need more info on volunteering.. Thanks, *Molly Kelley*

VISIT PLANNED TO ST. ANTHONY'S CHAPEL

A private tour of St. Anthony's Chapel, Troy Hill, will take place on Wednesday, May 2, 2012, with Mr. Norman Brown. Marilyn Dabkowski has arranged the tour, and Christ Child members and guests are welcomed. You can learn about the relics of the Saints, browse the gift shop and treasures and savor a delicious lunch at nearby "Billy's Troy Hill Bistro". For reservations, please call Marilyn (412-881-0397) **by April 13**. There is no charge for the tour, but participants will be responsible for the cost of their meal. You can go to www.billystroyhillbistro.com to view entrees, pricing and directions.

CORRECTION FOR CHRIST CHILD DIRECTORY

All members are asked to make note in their Christ Child Directory that the address listed for **Dolly Kelly** is incorrect. The address should be: **129 Spring Grove Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.**

Dates to Remember

- April 19** - Christ Child Retreat
- May 2** - Tour of St. Anthony's, Troy Hill
- September 21-23** - National Christ Child Society Convention in Detroit
- October 13** - Red Wagon Fare 2012 - Pittsburgh Field Club

NOTEWORTHY:

- There will be a Board Meeting on Wednesday, April 11th, at 11:00 am, at Joyce's home.
- Reservations for Christ Child Retreat —were due April 1 (Tina Purpura). If you plan to attend and have not sent in your reservation, please do so as soon as possible.
- Reservations for St. Anthony's, Troy Hill Tour —due April 13 (Marilyn Dabkowski)
- Please remember to contact Molly Kelley if you have any contributions for Camp Aim, 2012.
- Plans are underway for the May Installation Luncheon for new Officers. Members will be notified as details are confirmed.
- The annual Mothers Day Appeal has been postponed until a later date.
- A special thanks to Molly Kelley and Dolly Kelly who provided a delicious (Irish) lunch at our March 15th General Meeting!

Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh

P.O. Box 11324
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TO: