



# Christ Child Society Of Pittsburgh

## 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.

March 2023

## Welcome.....New Members!



*The Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh welcomes new member **STACY DOEPKEN** to our organization. Stacy was installed at our October 27 General Meeting, at which time she was presented the Christ Child medal. Stacy is pictured left with our President, Pam Diulus.*

*We also welcome new members **JANE ORRINGR** and **LISA GAYDOS**. Jane and Lisa were officially installed at the Christ Child Christmas party on December 6 at Scoglio's. Pictured at right are Jane, Lisa and Pam. We are very pleased to have three new members to share our mission of helping children in need!*



## Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh Celebrates 30 Years

At the October 27 General Meeting, President Pam Diulus displayed a certificate she received at the National Christ Child Convention held in Tucson, Arizona last September. The certificate congratulates and honors **The Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh** for **30 years** of dedicated service to children in need and for carrying forward the spirit of our founder, Mary Virginia Merrick. A very sincere **thank you** is extended to all members who have put forth so much of their time and efforts over the past 30 years to help the needy children of Pittsburgh!



### SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

REVEREND JEREMY MOHLER

### OFFICERS

President  
**PAM DIULUS**

Vice-President

Treasurer  
**MARLENE MacDONALD**

Recording Secretary  
**SUZETTE VENTURINI**

Corresponding Secretary  
**MARY ANN GONOT**

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHARLOTTE COLLINS  
JOANNE HERRMANN

MOLLY KELLEY

JANET MASCARO

ELLEN O'BRIEN

PATTI SMITH

GERRIE ORR

### NEWSLETTER

JUDY KERN

# RED WAGON, April 29, 2023 UPDATES

## **General Chair:** SUZETTE VENTURINI

- At the March 2nd Red Wagon meeting, it was decided that the menu would include Chicken Crepes, Julianne Apple Salad and a Pecan Ball.

## **Basket Chair:** THERESA MAGNOTTA

- We currently have 14 committed baskets to our auction. If you are able to help in any way, even if it is a gift item we can combine to make a basket, please notify Theresa. We appreciate any help you can give us!

## **Silent Auction:** LISA GAYDOS and STACY DOEPKEN

- We would appreciate any gift cards/certificates, from favorite restaurants, hair salons, boutiques. Other suggestions include Pittsburgh Steeler, Penguin or Pirate tickets as well as theater tickets, paintings, seasonal décor or any unique or specialty items.

## **Purse Raffle:** JANET MASCARO and CAROLYN GREEN

- We currently have 6 purses promised to us from Carolyn Green, Janet Mascaro, Charlotte Collins, Judy Kern, Lisa Gaydos and Stacy Doepken. If you would also like to donate a purse, please bring it to the March 23 meeting. Remember, purses must be a designer brand with a value of at least \$100. You do not have to pay \$100 for the purse but its RETAIL VALUE should be listed as \$100 or more. We also plan on including gift cards in the purses. If you would like to donate a \$25 gift card to a store or restaurant of your choice, that would be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your generosity!!

## **Basket of Cheer:** MOLLY KELLY

- This year's Basket/s of Cheer will include only WINES and LIQUEURS. If you have a donation, please bring to the March 23 or April 13 General Meeting. If you are unable to bring your contribution to a meeting, please contact Molly for other arrangements.

## **Door Prizes:** GERRI ORR

- We currently have 17 door prizes. If you have a door prize to donate, please contact Gerri. We are asking that door prizes have a minimum value of \$15.

## **Centerpieces:** MARIA KITAY and CHARLOTTE COLLINS

## **Invitations, Raffle Tickets, Programs:**

The invitations, response card and raffle tickets will be mailed very soon. **JANET MASCARO** will format all program information and **ELLEN O'BRIEN** will order the finished product.

## **Solicitations:** LISA GAYDOS and STACY DOEPKEN

- Lisa and Stacy have mailed 60 solicitation letters. Extra letters and forms are available if you know of a business or someone who would be willing to donate any service or item. Please contact Lisa or Stacy as soon as possible if you need a letter and form. Lisa would also be happy to send the information to your potential donor if you email (Lgaydos@gaydoslaw.com) or text her (412-303-3435) with the name and address.

## **Money Raffles:** CHARLOTTE COLLINS

- Raffle tickets, 50-50 tickets, and 20 to 1 drawing.


## **Publicity:**

- Red Wagon 2023 information will be included on our website and Facebook. An email will also be sent to all members that will include a Red Wagon informative article that can be included in parish bulletins after contacting your parish Pastor for approval.

## **Volunteers:**

- Student volunteers are still needed. Please contact Suzette if you know of any students who may be interested in helping. Service hours will be earned for those who volunteer.

## ANGELS' CLOSET - 2022 FINAL REPORT

- Our distribution for 2022 (seven week period) was 159 coats, along with hats and gloves. We also gave out 140 books to the children to take home. In addition many of the clients read books while waiting for try-ons. Next year we may go to Saturdays *only* since that seems to be when the largest distributions occurred. Twelve agencies participated, including Knights of Columbus Saint Sebastian Council 14606. Knights of Columbus donated 35 lovely new coats to our inventory. *Thank you so very much....CCS greatly appreciates your donation!*  
Thank you also to my faithful committee who came to warm up the children and to those of you who went out and shopped. A special thanks to **Gerrie Orr** who so expertly repaired coats! You are a wonderful group of ladies. . . HAVE A LOVELY SPRING AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL! *Molly Kelley*  Slainte!

## LAYETTES

- In January, 20 Layette Bags were delivered to Genesis of Pittsburgh. As always, they were very grateful for our donations.  
Boys and girls clothes in sizes 8 -10 were donated to St Vincent De Paul. These were from another service project that we no longer participate in.  
I am trying to make a connection with a group of ladies that call themselves "Crochet, Knit, Sew and Donate." These ladies are in every state that donate their made-with-love creations to organizations that do service projects like ours. More info on this will be given at the next meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP

- At the request of the National Christ Child Office, we forwarded to them in January an updated roster of our membership. This membership currently includes 38 members (27 active members and 11 sustaining).

## BACKPACKS FOR HUNGER

- As noted in the CCS General Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2023 (sent via email to all members on March 17) Debbie McCarthy, the representative from *Blessings in a Backpack* presented her program to us. A donation of \$1000 was made to *Blessings in a Backpack* at the meeting and our level of support to this program will be discussed at a future meeting.

## WORLD YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

- Since we are revising our ministries, we are at this time no longer supporting this organization for several reasons, one of which is that they are already supported by a large national organization.

## PUBLICITY

- We do not have a chair at this time, but we have a Facebook page. Anyone willing to serve as publicity chair is asked to contact Pam Diulus.

## CHRISTMAS APPEAL UPDATE

- When the November 2022 Red Wagon Fare was rescheduled for April 2023, it was suggested that a Christmas Appeal letter be sent to our members, friends of Christ Child, and our Red Wagon supporters. A letter was drafted and mailed in November encouraging those who could to support this Appeal. We are very pleased to report that this endeavor has raised \$3755 to advance our mission of helping children in need! The generosity of so many of our members, friends and supporters is *greatly* appreciated!





## CHRISTMAS PARTY 2022

Our annual Christ Child Christmas Party was held on Tuesday, December 6 at Scoglio's Restaurant. Twenty CC members and five guests attended. The afternoon included a delicious meal along with prizes, a brief general meeting and the installation of two new members, *Jane Orringer* and *Lisa Gaydos*. Our thanks to *Ellen O'Brien* who led us in prayer before our meal since our Spiritual Director, Father Mohler, was unable to join us. A special thank you also goes to PAM DIULUS, MARY ANN GONOT and THRESA MAGNOTTA for planning the lovely event and putting all who were present in the Christmas spirit!





## March

Dolores Butch

## April

- - -

## May

Sandra DaCosta

Judy Kern

Suzette Venturini

## June

Marilyn Dabkowski

Stacy Doepken

Gerri Orr

Jane Orringer

## DONATIONS TO THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

**FROM:** Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh Christmas Appeal  
(December, 2022 and January, 2023)

United Way of Columbus, Ohio  
(February, 2023)

### CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

### *DONATIONS, TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS FORM*

*This form is also available on our website: [www.christchildsofityofpittsburgh.org](http://www.christchildsofityofpittsburgh.org)*

\_\_\_\_ IN HONOR OF \*      \_\_\_\_ IN MEMORY OF \*      \_\_\_\_ IN THANKSGIVING FOR \*

\_\_\_\_ OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY) \_\_\_\_\_

\* NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Donation of: \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATION FROM:** Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Please send an acknowledgement of my gift to:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose this form and  
your check payable to  
"Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh"  
and mail to:

**Marlene MacDonald**  
**642 Pennridge Road**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15211**

Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh is  
a 501(c)3 (non-profit) organiza-  
tion. Your donation qualifies as  
a charitable deduction.

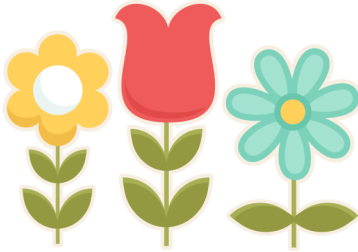
# Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh

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Pittsburgh, PA 15238-1324

[www.christchildsofittsburgh.org](http://www.christchildsofittsburgh.org)

FIRST CLASS MAIL



## Dates to Remember

### CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

March 23	11:00 AM General Meeting
April 13	11:00 AM General Meeting
<b>April 29, 2023</b>	<b>Red Wagon Luncheon 11:00 AM (Pittsburgh Field Club)</b>
June 15, 2023	11:00 AM General Meeting

Committees and Board of Directors will meet on an as needed basis.

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### NOTEWORTHY:

- *Please remember to. . . note our new phone number (412-719-1066)*
  - . . . mark your 2023 calendar for our Red Wagon Luncheon ~ April 29, 2023
  - . . . check our website [www.christchildsofittsburgh.org](http://www.christchildsofittsburgh.org) for news and updates, including General Meeting minutes and newsletters
  - . . . follow us on Facebook
- The updated Christ Child Membership Directory was distributed last December. If you have not received your copy, please contact Judy Kern.
- The 2023 National Christ Child Society Conference will be held September 29-30 in Potomac, MD.
- Please **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** and submit all information for our next newsletter to Judy Kern by Friday, **June 2**.