



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.

October, 2025

Notes ~ General Christ Child Society Meeting, Saturday September 20, 2025

CCS members were briefed on how meetings can only be held on Saturdays in the CCS room, according to the new rules of the building. It was discussed that CCS general meetings will be there on Saturdays or at Eat'n Park on Banksville Road in their room on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. ***Please be vigilant as to where the meeting is being held when attending.***

MARLENE MACDONALD, Treasurer, disseminated the Treasurer's report. There was a discrepancy, and it is believed that the profit for the Red Wagon is \$9,343.98 instead of \$14,343.98. She will investigate and verify this figure. Marlene would like to be replaced as Treasurer.

MOLLY KELLEY, Chair of Angels' Closet, expressed concern for parking when children pick out coats. After 12: 00 it is likely more parking will be available. There will be two options. Coats can be picked up by agency social workers or children can pick them out. After the meeting, two dates were given for the Angels' Closet committee. The dates are Saturday, October 25, 2025, (10 AM to 3 PM) and Saturday, November 1, 2025, (also 10 AM to 3 PM).

JUDY KERN was unable to attend but is starting the newsletter on September 25th and needs dates and information to include in the newsletter from CCS members.

CHARLOTTE COLLINS, Layette Chair, reported 60 layettes were packed in July and a future packing will be done later in the year.

PATTI SMITH, Membership Chair, was not in attendance but wanted to inform members that a list of members was compiled and sent out to members.

Continued. . . .

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

REVEREND JAMES GRETZ

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

MARIA KITAY, Publicity Chair, reported that she had contact with someone at LaRoche College who can help with publicity digitally and work on graphics. She inquired if our CCS pamphlets can be added to church bulletins or placed in churches. She will investigate as to which churches will give permission, and other members can help by seeking permission from their churches. Maria is willing to go to churches and add pamphlets.

CAROLYN GREEN, Chair of Diaper Bank, reported that it is going well. Diapers are delivered 4 times a year to St. James, Birthright – 3 times a year, Catholic Charities —3 times a year, and Genesis —3 times a year. St James is the neediest.

PAM DIULUS suggested a Foster Love Project. The project for the year was voted on and accepted, stuffing 10 diaper bags for infants and 10 duffel bags for toddlers for the Foster Love Project in Wilkinsburg. The bags and items will be bought by CCS and packed on sight at CCS. Dates will be forthcoming for the packing of the bags.

An additional project being considered is going to a tagging day at the Foster Love facility. Information is also forthcoming.

Another project voted on and okayed is fulfilling some of the Bradley Center tags for Christmas time, (like an Angel tree). These tags will need to be fulfilled by December 17th. The Conroy Angel Tree tags will still be fulfilled.

Another project suggested by Maria is the Mother of Mercy Fund. This organization provides scholarships to children to attend Catholic schools.

Pam mentioned how Mary's Place may also be a link to projects and getting new members. NCCS has initiated this project.

MARY ANN GONOT has called to be accepted and given a date to have the CCS group for the Charlie Batch Christmas wrapping project, a project we participated in last year.

The Christmas party for CCS is Wednesday, December 3 at Cucina Vitale (formerly Scoglio's) in Greentree, where it was held in the past years. A short general meeting will be held at the CCS Christmas Party.

Other general business meetings have been set for October 15, 2025, at Banksville Eat'n Park, 11:00 and November 15, 2025, at the CCS room, 11:00.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS COMMITTEE

At the Christ Child Society meeting on October 15th at Eat'n Park, the members decided to set up a committee to look at various organizations to which we can send financial donations for the good of children. The committee members are **Charlotte Collins, Diane Donovan, Carolyn Green, Maria Kitay** and **Janet Mascaro**. We will set up a date to meet to research and discuss various organizations which may benefit from our donations. These suggestions will then be brought to the general membership meeting and voted upon. We are trying to establish greater outreach in the Pittsburgh area for our needy children. In many organizations, financial donations are a necessity, and we hope to be a part of fulfilling this need.

ANGELS' CLOSET

... *From Molly Kelley*

The Angels' Closet will open for distribution Saturday, **October 25th** from **10 AM to 3 PM** and the following **Saturday, November 1st** also **10 AM to 3 PM**. We hope to add more dates as the season progresses. The agencies may just be picking up the coats to distribute to their clients. Hopefully some of the children will come in for try-ons. Please pray for a successful season keeping the children warm. Happy Fall to all!

BLESSING IN A BACKPACK

... *From Gerri Orr*

There is no news for **Blessing in a Backpack** at this time. Updated information will be included with future newsletters as it is received.

DIAPER PROGRAM

... *From Carolyn Green*

Updates on our **Diaper Program** will be included with our next newsletter.

LAYETTES

... *From Charlotte Collins*

July 12, 2025 the committee packed 60 Layette Bags. All the ladies did a great job.

Stacy Doepken delivered 25 bags to Magee Hospital in July.

In September, Ellen O'Brien delivered 15 Bags to Genesis of Pittsburgh. They were very grateful.

September 25, 2025, I delivered 5 bags to Mary's Place and 10 bags to St. James. This is also known as Mary Magdalene Parish in Wilkinsburg.

We will do another packing sometime in December or January. I will email all committee members an exact date.

MEMBERSHIP

... *From Patti Smith*

Our current membership for the Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh includes 33 members (25 active and 8 sustaining). As always, we are very interested in welcoming new members. If you know of someone whose name you can share that may like to become involved in helping children in need in our area, *please contact Patti Smith* (pattiwishesupeace@yahoo.com).

NEWS ~ NATIONAL CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY

The National Christ Child Society Biennial Conference was held September 12 & 13, 2025 in Bethesda Maryland. The theme of the conference was "Be The Light". The conference took place at the Marriott Hotel on Pooks Hill Road in Bethesda. The schedule included a DC tour—highlighting the Basilica, Smithsonian Museums, National Mall, Georgetown, and the Opportunity Shop—followed by seminars and a keynote from Dr. Ben Carson at the Bethesda Marriott. Dr. and Mrs. Carson also helped pack layettes. Members enjoyed good food, fellowship, and new insights.

PUBLICITY

... *From Maria Kitay*

Ellen and I attended the Italian Night for the Knights of Columbus at Saint Mary's Campus of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Glenshaw and passed out some of our CCS flyers at the party.

Please contact Maria if you are in need of flyers or presentations about our group.

(mudz1111@gmail.com)



September

Patti Smith
Molly Kelley
Jean Lombardi
Carolyn Green

October

Marlene MacDonald

November

Lisa Gaydos
Ellen O'Brien
Maria Kitay
Pam Diulus
Mary Jo Kelly

December

Gretchen Coyne
Mary Ann Gonot

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

Reservation info will be sent in November....

Christ Child Society of Pittsburgh



Wednesday, December 3, 2025

Cucina Vitale in Greentree



This year our Christ Child Society will again help to wrap toys collected for the Charlie Batch Annual Holiday Toy Drive. Please mark your calendar for . . .

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025 9:00—11:30.

More information will be forthcoming.

DONATIONS TO THE CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

From: **Gretchen Coyne**
St. Matthew Christian Mothers Organization

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

DONATIONS, TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS FORM

This form is also available on our website: www.christchildsofittsburgh.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

P.O. Box 11324
Pittsburgh, PA 15238-1324
www.christchildsofittsburgh.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Dates to Remember

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

2025	October 25 and November 1	~ Angels' Closet Opens - 10 AM -3 PM (CCS room)
	November 15	~ CCS General Meeting , (Saturday) CCS room - 11:00 AM
	December 3	~ Christ Child Society Christmas Party <i>Cucina Vitale in Greentree</i>
	December 16	~ Charlie Batch— Batch-A-Thon (Gift Wrap) 9—11:30
2026	April 18	~ Red Wagon Luncheon , Pittsburgh Field Club

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

NOTEWORTHY:

- Just a reminder....Our next *Christ Child Membership Handbook* will be published in July of 2026.
- **Please remember** . . . **our phone number (412-719-1066)**
. . . **check our website** www.christchildsofittsburgh.org *for news and updates,*
including General Meeting minutes and newsletters
. . . **follow us on Facebook**
- *Minutes of the October 15 General Meeting held at Eat'n Park will be emailed to our members as soon as they are available and approved.*
- Please **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** and submit all information for our next newsletter to Judy Kern by **Monday, January 5, 2026.**