



NATIONAL CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY
WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

The Correspondent

Winter 2022

President's Welcome



Happy (almost) Spring and Happy New Year!

I know many of us have some trepidation about the upcoming new year after the two we've just lived through, but I am optimistic about the future! Pope Francis said in his new year's message: "Peace demands concrete actions...being attentive to the least among us" and that he believes one should have a positive attitude: "one that sees, in the church as well as in society, not the evil which divides us, but the good that unites us". How true! And how appropriate for our times!



The Christ Child Society of Pasadena always engages in concrete action. In the last few months of the year, we allocated over \$19,000 to the Christmas Stocking program to provide Target gift cards to families experiencing difficulties so they could buy presents for their children. We additionally allocated over \$47,000 to children in the neediest parish schools in our community to help them stay in Catholic education. Well done ladies! This could not have happened without your continued amazing generosity!

Soon we will call on that generosity again as our Annual Auction and Fundraiser is approaching. We have planned a gift gathering party on March 26th in the backyard of Becky and Jim Sarni's lovely home. This year the auction will be held immediately following the Memorial Mass and Luncheon on May 19th at Annandale. This gift gathering party will be a late afternoon affair with appetizers and wine. Spouses and friends are welcome to attend. Please join us and bring your donations, items or monetary, to help our auction effort. The Annual Auction is our primary fundraiser and is critical in helping us fulfill Mary Virginia Merrick's motto of "nothing is too much to do for a child". I encourage you to get involved, help us plan and execute the event, and join us at the gift gathering party as well as the auction in May.

Also, in a couple of days, we will be sending out our annual Easter Shoe appeal. Again, I ask you to keep in mind the needy families we serve and contribute to this very worthwhile cause. I thank you in advance for your generosity.

President's Welcome continued

Our wonderful former president, Angel Throop, will soon be assembling a nominating committee and nominating ladies to serve on our board for the coming fiscal year, starting in July. Many feel they are too busy, or traveling, or working and don't have time for a board position. But there are many different positions, many that need very little time commitment and many that are done in partnership with someone else to share the duties. The reward is immense! Please consider serving. We need and value new faces and ideas to help our organization function and succeed in our mission. Contact Angel if you are interested or if you have questions, and she can give you all the information that you need.

I wish you and your families a most blessed, prosperous, and healthy coming year, and a blessed Easter, and I thank you, and God, once again, for you all and for your contributions to our organization.

Upcoming Informational Session

THE TALK OF A LIFETIME

True or False – My family will make the right decisions for me in a medical crisis.



In today's world we hire all types of experts and tutors. We plan for our kids' education and our own retirement. Yet at the most important time of life – when facing a new and difficult diagnosis, or at the end of life, we have nothing planned. Why do we wait?

As advanced practice nurses, with extensive backgrounds in hospice and palliative care, we help you start these end-of-life conversations, and to think about what is best for you or your loved one within the context of Catholic teaching.

- **Guests Welcome**

Join
Drawing Near Nurse Consultants
Colleen F. Roohan (CCS member) and Ann J. Brady for an
informational session

Monday, March 7, 2022
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

St. Philip the Apostle Parish Center (Landa Room)
151 South Hill Avenue, Pasadena

For questions contact Coleen Roohan
colleen.roohan@gmail.com

General Board Meeting



Working hard to continue Christ Child Society's mission of helping children and those in need in our community, General Board Members met via Zoom for their first meeting of the new 2022 year .

Calling all Christ Child Members!!

WANTED BOARD MEMBERS



It's that time of year when we are looking for precious Christ Child Society Members to volunteer to be part of our Board for the upcoming 2022-2023 year! It's a great way to volunteer your time, meet lots of other fun members, share your talents, and get some extra gold stars in Heaven!!

Please consider positions that you might enjoy so we may continue our mission of helping the less fortunate. You can always grab a friend and co-chair a position together so it's extra fun!! Please contact Angel Throop if you are interested at angelthroop@gmail.com or call 626-233-9993

Layettes

LAYETTE OPPORTUNITIES



If you haven't helped with layettes in a while, PLEASE come give us a try!! You can bring a friend you have been encouraging to join Christ Child Society. It's the perfect introduction to our organization and one of our service projects! With Covid still clinging on, we are keeping the groups small, vaccinated, and mask so reservations to olga_cast@mac.com or text to 818-427-6608 are needed. Whether you can join us at a meeting or not, we still would appreciate your help. **We need help making deliveries. If interested, please contact Monica Walsh.**



If you knit, crochet, or sew, you can help us put a handmade item into each of the 500 layettes. If you do any traveling, "collect" the hotel toiletries and bring them back. We use them to put together care packages for the mothers. Donations can be dropped off at the front desk of the Pastoral Center or feel free to contact one of us to assist you.

The remaining meetings this year are:

- Tuesday, April 5th from 4 to 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, April 6th from 9 to noon

We meet on the 2nd floor of the St Andrew's Pastoral Center, 140 Chestnut St., Pasadena.

For questions contact: Olga Castellanos olga_cast@mac.com, Eileen Cameron ecameron@pacbell.net, Debi Lee dalee225@yahoo.com, Sharon McTigue sharonmctigue@me.com, Monica Miller Walsh sambamonica@gmail.com

Please remember, We are "Challenging Poverty: One Child at a Time."

Provisionals



Our Layette team is grateful for every opportunity to work on our projects. A special evening assembly was held for the Provisional class. Mary Marthe was on hand to instruct and help.

Although we have a small class of Provisionals this year, with the help of their sponsors and past provisional chair, Cheryl Newell, we were still able to provide 8 Thanksgiving Dinners for the current families at the Good Shepherd Shelter as well as a meal for the sisters residing there. Angel Throop donated the beautiful wooden turkey feathers and head for the pumpkins we provided as centerpieces. Due to the current pandemic, only a few of us were able to deliver our goodies to the Shelter. We're hoping next year all will be back in full swing!



Shopping for a Cause at Savor the Flavor



Savor the Flavor, an adorable shop located in Sierra Madre, opened their doors the evening of November 29th just for Christ members. Madeline Roma, the owner, and her staff made the

evening fun, special, and best of all relaxing. While members shopped, they were treated to champagne, wine, and samples from many of the products throughout the store. **Gifts and items totaling \$2000 made way to a \$200 donation from Savor the Flavor to CCS of Pasadena.** The feedback from the 15 – 20 members able to attend was overwhelmingly positive. Savor the Flavor is moving to a new space directly across the street at 34 North Baldwin in Sierra Madre. We look forward to doing this again next Christmas!



Save the Date: Backyard Gift Gathering Party

CCS Backyard Gift Gathering Party

Saturday, March 26, 2022

4:00 PM to 7:00 PM



Join CCS members, spouses, and friends for wine and appetizers, and bring your monetary donation or gift to help support our annual auction.

Hosted by

Becky and James Sarni
588 Woodland Road
Pasadena, CA 91106

Evite to follow

We are very excited to announce our Backyard Gift Gathering party to support the wonderful work of the Christ Child Society of Pasadena. Due to the pandemic, the needs in the community we serve have vastly increased, so we ask for your help to make our Annual Auction a huge success.

In addition to your annual dues, all of our active members and provisional members have a \$100 auction obligation. You may satisfy this obligation by:

- Making a \$100 donation
- Donating a quality item(s) valued at \$100 or more, or by
- Becoming a Patron Donor. As a Patron, your generosity will help us get that much closer to fulfilling the needs of many parish school children, and our upcoming scholarships.

Thank you for your continued support for this wonderful and fun event that raises funds for the precious children we serve. Your generous donations are a blessing and very much needed and appreciated.

For questions or donations, contact Mary Baxter at 626-260-4100 marybaxter123@me.com,
Angel Throop at 626-233-9993 angelthroop@gmail.com,
or Gloria de Olarte 626-437-3171
doctorgloriao@gmail.com.

Auction Item Ideas

for

March 26, 2022

CCS Backyard Gift Gathering

We ask that the items be NEW items, or valuables such as desired antiques or jewelry. Examples include:

Religious items	Tea Parties	Gift
Garden statuary	Rounds of golf	cards/certificates
Planted baskets	Vacation homes	(shops, restaurants,
Decorative items	Condo stays	spas, movies,
Theme dinners	Unique &	concerts, sport
	interesting	events)
	experiences	Any other items

Please consider reaching out to local businesses for donations for our auction,

Bring your donation to the party or drop off at the following locations:

Mary Baxter	Angel Throop	Laura Aguirre
2045 Brigden Rd	622 Valle Vista Drive	140 Club Road
Pasadena, CA	Sierra Madre, CA	Pasadena, CA
91104	91024	91105

From our Spiritual Advisor....



Dear Members of the Christ Child Society of Pasadena,

Greetings in Christ! I hope you all had a joyful Christmas and New Year, and are healthy and staying strong.

Soon after you receive this letter, we will be celebrating Ash Wednesday (on March 2nd) and the beginning of Lent followed by the joyous Season of Easter. It is truly a time for spiritual renewal. March of 2022 is also the 2-year mark since the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic. It is truly hard to believe that we have lived with this for 2 years now. I recall well March of 2020 and the terrible pain of being forced to close the church and school for weeks. Then we were allowed back in briefly only to **then** be told we had to worship outside for months until December when that order was declared unconstitutional, and we were allowed back indoors for regular worship. It is truly amazing to think of what we have all endured these last two years. But, as a people of faith, we always have hope, and now it seems like we are slowly coming out of the latest of the viral surges.

As we have all heard many times, what doesn't destroy us makes us stronger. I truly believe that, and I think it is very true regarding the experiences of this pandemic. Our daily Mass attendance, for example, is now so large that we no longer have daily Mass in the chapel. All Masses are held in the church in order to accommodate the bigger crowds. Sunday Mass attendance is actually higher now than it was pre-pandemic, and this is especially true of young large families. All this is an inspiration and a great sign of hope that we as Christians must be resilient in the face of multiple challenges.

It is this resilience which is also a characteristic of the founder of the Christ Child Society, the Servant of God Virginia Merrick. I marvel at the witness of this woman, who although faced with numerous limitations and challenges, rose above all of them in her determination to help poor children. It is that same spirit that must live in us today as members of this wonderful organization.

As we begin Lent, I recommend to you to follow the Church's traditional practices of penance, prayer and good works to assist in your spiritual renewal. The primary purpose of these, of course, is to help us become truly holy and pleasing in God's eyes. In addition to the customary abstinence on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays as well as fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, it is also a time to take a good look at our spiritual lives and see where we can improve.

I would especially recommend during Lent cutting down on frivolous entertainment, online surfing, etc. and give more attention to our life of prayer. This would be an excellent time to pray the daily rosary, come to daily Mass, do the Stations of the Cross on Fridays, make a good Confession, and increase our spiritual reading.

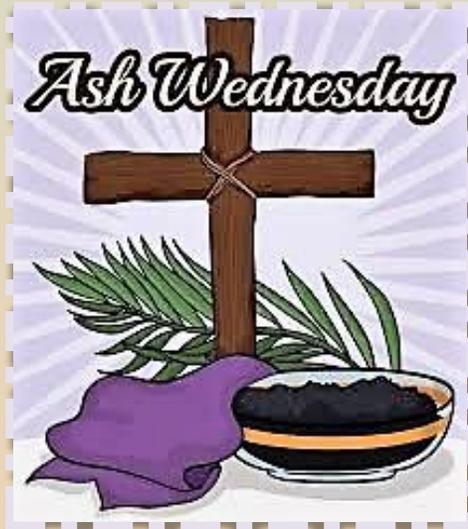
As members of the Christ Child Society, you are already involved in wonderful works of charity but perhaps, we can go a little beyond the usual in this time and renew our dedication more fully.

Please be assured of my prayers for each of you this Lent. May you be spiritually renewed and thus come to the full celebration of Easter joy.

May the love of the Holy Child Jesus always compel us to serve!

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Rev. Marcos J. Gonzalez
Pastor

Please Join Us..... Ash Wednesday Mass



St Bede the Venerable Catholic Church in La Canada Flintridge is
hosting a special Ash Wednesday Mass for CCS members
on
March 2, 2022.

*The Mass will begin sharply at 11:00 AM as Saint Bede's has another service
at 12 noon. Saint Bede's requests CCS members arrive at 10:45 AM.*

Enjoy an informal lunch together following mass at
Mijares Mexican Restaurant at 12:30 PM.

Please RSVP to the evites that have already been sent.

Saint Bede the Venerable Catholic Church
215 Foothill Boulevard
La Canada Flintridge, CA 91001

Mijares Mexican Restaurant
145 Palmetto Drive
Pasadena, CA 91105

Easter Shoes

Christ Child Society of PASADENA *Annual Easter Shoes Campaign*

February 5, 2022



Dear fellow Christ Child Society members,

As the Easter season is upon us, we are asking for your generosity once again, to financially support our annual Easter Shoes campaign. Each year, the funds raised through your generosity, provide \$25 gift cards for each child in a needy family. The families are part of the 18 Parish schools that Christ Child Society assists throughout the San Gabriel Valley. Your donation allows these families to purchase new shoes for the children, or fill other needs to make their Easter special.

Your gift, whatever it's size, is need now more than ever. Sponsorship levels for the Easter Shoes Campaign are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| \$25 - Easter Shoes | \$100 - Holy Disciple |
| \$50 - Easter Blessings | \$250 - Guardian Angel |
| \$75 - Carry the Cross | \$500 or more - Blessed Mother |

In this season of giving and renewal, please share your blessings with the children. We ask to receive your donation by **March 3rd**, in order to purchase and distribute gift cards in advance of the holiday. We are now accepting electronic donations through **Zelle**, or checks can be mailed in the envelope provided.

Every gift is deeply appreciated, and we thank you for your continued generosity.

God bless,

Elsa Beheny
President

Brigid Brahos
Vice President Programs

Eileen Milnes-Collins
Easter Shoes Chair

----- Please cut here and return with your check in the envelope provided -----

Name: _____

2022 Easter Shoes Donation Enclosed: \$ _____

Check Payable to: Christ Child Society of Pasadena
Mail to: Mary Guzman | 3121 Peters Circle | Glendale, CA 91208

Electronic payments can be made through **Zelle**. ID: treasurer@christchildpasadena.org
In the Notes line, please say "Easter Shoes"

Annual Christmas Stocking Fund

“Thank you for opening your hearts and sharing the joy of Christmas with 238 children and their families.”

We would like to extend our most sincere appreciation for your participation in the annual CHRISTMAS STOCKING FUND. Your generous donations allowed us to surpass our goal of fulfilling every request for financial assistance to the underserved families of the 18 San Gabriel Valley parish schools. You made a difference in the lives of 83 families. Thanks to you, 238 children each received a \$75 Target gift card this Christmas. Thank you, once again. for your support.

Aline Cacho-Sousa 2021 Christmas Stocking Fund Chair

Nativity Level

Annette Brandin
Patti Brugman
Sallie Buckle
Holly Caruso
Tillie Collins
Tess Crabtree
Therese Davitt
Christine Dietrich
Kay Fitzpatrick
Mary Elizabeth Galt, BVM
Margaret Greco
Marie Gibbs
Grimes
Courtney Hotchkis
Mary Marthe
Nancy McDonald
Patti Pascale
Claire Slaughter
Karen Sweeney
Mary Vanis

Father Christmas Level

Karen Wick
Elita Balfour
Mary Baxter
Fran Buckingham
Peggy Friese
Alison J. Gamble
Stephanie Ginn
Clarita Gustafson
Jacqueline Halpin
Nancy Hoffman
Mary Loftus
Annette Madden
Karen Maguire
Valerie
McAndrews
Cecilia Miles
Betty Monteleone
Jeanne Muir
Ann Nader
Mimi O'Keefe
Maria Sarry

Poppy
Seastrom
Jayne Sullivan
Pamela Hillings
Tegtmeyer
Gloria
Vessadini
Barbara Voors

Gifts under the Tree Level

Laura Aguirre
Agnes
Centurioni-Daws
Cathy Coleman
Jennifer Gowen
Lyle Bayle Hanf
Angela
Hawekotte
Nora Heinen
Judith Henderson
Rosy Horwath

Nancy Kerckhoff
Alison Knoll
Sara Law
Beverly McCord
Stella McEvoy
Cathy Nese
Kelly Rouse
Charlene Seley
Joanne Smith
Laurie Smith
Mary Snider
Meg Symes
Mary C. N. Ternan
Monica Miller
Walsh
Ann Ward

Stars in Heaven Level

Olivia Evans
Sharyn Godfrey
Catherine
Alexander
Mary Jane
Alexander
Lydia Banales
Heather Banis
Barbara Baptie
Eileen Benson
Fran Biles
Babette Black
Susan Boken
Dee Dee Moffat
Brewer Jane Cappai
Brunello
Victoria Rodeno
Calderon
Eileen Cameron

Mary Guzman
Connie Harding
Mary Henderson
Maureen
Hollingsworth
Olga Castellanos
Jan Clifford
Dianna Clougherty
Margaret Collins
Julianne
Coppersmith
Delia Cotter
Gloria de Olarte
Mary Anne
DeBriyn
Mary Lin Dedeaux
Jacqueline Dolan
Kathleen Dwyer
Bridget Floyd
Joanne Geraci



National Day of Service Project

A Successful Book Drive - Over 500 books to distribute!



In Early December past presidents gathered to sort the over 500 books collected during the Book Drive. Our successful book drive will help “Foster the Love of Reading” for so many children.



Funding update

Impacting the Lives of Children - Your Support Makes a Difference



Through your generosity, Christ Child has been able to positively change the lives of many children throughout our parish community. **Last fall we funded \$47,249 for the following:**

- \$38,917 to assist 126 students with books, registration, and technology fees.
- \$1940 to feed 12 students lunch.
- \$5300 to help 51 students with religious education
- \$1092 for uniforms for two students.

Our separate Emergency Grant program funded the following:

- \$1780 for vision exam and therapy by a developmental optometrist for one student.
- \$2045 for tuition and fees for one child who witnessed a profound tragedy and became an orphan.

Covid 19 has overwhelmed our parish schools and the needs of their families. Thank you for helping us make a difference in the lives of almost 200 children this past fall.

If you are interested in joining our team as a “Parish Ambassador” and experiencing how Christ Child makes an impact throughout our parish community, please reach out to either Leah McCrary (mccraryl@me.com) or Mary Ann L Smith (MaryAnnLSmith@gmail.com).

Christmas Open House



Celebrating the Season



The Christmas Open House was a beautiful day of reconnecting and rejoicing with Christ Child members and friends. Almost 100 guests gathered to enjoy a wonderful brunch and to share stories, laughter, and smiles with friends we have not seen for too long. We were once again blessed by the creative talents of Kathy Boyadzhy from Carmody for the invitations and Mary Pat Brandmeyer for holiday brunch favorites. We are so grateful to all who generously gave to the Layette program. With an amazing \$6,800.00 in donations, and 478 diapers, this has been our most successful collection yet. Thank you to all those who volunteered their time to make this event happen and to Julianne Coppersmith and Tina Fogliani for co-chairing and hosting this special day.



Christmas Open House continued



Save the date



Memorial Mass, Luncheon, and Annual Auction

May 19, 2022

**Lunch and Annual Auction, our most important fundraiser of the year, will follow mass at
Annandale Golf Club**

**It's
BUNCO
TIME!**

ROLL on DOWN!



**Spring Bunco Night
Thursday, April 21, 2022**

Christ Child Society of Pasadena Board 2021-2022

Executive Board

President: Elsa Behney

VP Programs: Brigid Brahos

VP Fundraising/Events: Mary Baxter

VP Membership: Jane Hawley

VP Communications: Margaret Quigley

VP Finance: Mary Guzman

Recording Secretary: Diana Eisele

Past President: Angel Throop

Board Members (Voting)

Annual Auction and Luncheon: Mary Baxter, Angel Throop, Gloria de Olarte

May Mass/Luncheon:
Ana Nader, Mary Vanis

Layettes: Olga Castellanos, Sharon McTigue, Nancy Madden, Monica Walsh, Debi Lee, Eileen Cameron

Pair and Learning Session (PALS): Greta Andre

Service Projects: Leah McCrary, Mary Ann Smith

Provisionals: Barbara Mitchell, Sara Nowak

Christ Child Treasures: Maureen Dinius

Chapter Event Cashier: Sara Law

Hospitality: Cheryl Newell

Newsletter: Maria Sarry

Website: outside resource

Board Members (Non-Voting)

Fall Mass: Mary Lea Carroll

Christmas Open House: Julianne Coppersmith, Tina Fogliani

Ash Wednesday: Terry Mitchell

Aces and Faces: Patty Smith, Terry Clougherty

Fall Bunco: Julieta Bennett, Rossana Cacho-Sousa

Spring Bunco: Jennifer Gowen

Connections: Michele Coudures, Lorraine Reaume

Christmas Stocking Fund: Aline Cacho-Sousa

Easter Shoes: Eileen Milnes Collins

National Day of Service: Past Presidents

Corresponding Secretary: Sara Towne-diCicco

Handbook: Anamaria Palffy

Talent Bank: Michelle Moreth

Assistant Treasurer: Patricia Anderson

Public Relations: Gloria de Olarte

Mailing: Mary Fitzgibbons

Historian: Ann Sanders

Social Media: Jennifer Hemming

Guests of the Board

Advisor /Past President: Becky Sarni

National CCS President: Carol Pickle

National CCS Board Member: Rebecca Sarni

NCCS Canonization Advisory Board Chair: Roseann Anderson

Spiritual Advisor: Rev. Marcos J. Gonzalez

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2021-2022

2021	2022
Friday, August 20 th - The Correspondent articles due	Wednesday, January 12 th -Executive Board meeting
Thursday, August 26 th -Layette meeting	Wednesday, January 19 th -General Board meeting
Wednesday, September 8th - Executive Board meeting	Wednesday, January 19 th - Layette meeting
Wednesday, September 15th-General board meeting (and Provisional Orientation)	Thursday, January 20 th -Layette meeting
September 16-18- National Conference	Tuesday, February 8 th -Correspondent articles due
Tuesday, September 21 st - Layette meeting	Friday, February 11 th – Layette meeting
Sunday, September 26 th - Fall Mass	Saturday, February 12 th – Layette meeting
October 25 th -31 st National Day of Service (week)	March board meetings TBD
Wednesday, October 27 th -Layette meeting	Tuesday, March 22 nd – Spring Allocation meeting
Wednesday, November 3 rd - Fall Bunco Night	Friday, May 8 th - The Correspondent articles due
Monday, November 8 th -The Correspondent articles due	Auction TBD
Thursday, November 11 th -Fall Allocation meeting	Memorial Mass, Luncheon and Annual Meeting TBD
Tuesday, December 7 th - Christmas Open House	

Looking forward to seeing you at one of our events or program meetings.



CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY
OF PASADENA
WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

PO BOX 50914
PASADENA, CA 91115

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Pasadena, Calif.
Permit No. 140

Visit our website at
www.christchildpasadena.org

THE CORRESPONDENT

2021-2022 Executive Board

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VP Fundraising/Events: Mary Baxter
VP Membership: Jane Hawley
VP Finance/Treasurer: Mary Guzman
Recording Secretary: Diana Eisele
Past President: Angel Throop

Guest(s) of Board

Advisor: Becky Sarni

The Correspondent

Editor: Maria Sarry
Public Relations: Gloria de Olarte



Christ Child Society of Pasadena is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

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<http://nationalchristchildsoc.org> email: office@nationalchristchildsoc.org