



Chapter & Verse

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND

Mission: "To foster a personal love of Christ expressing itself in service for needy children regardless of race, color, or creed."

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



"Success in life has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself.

It's what you do for others." ~

Danny Thomas

Oh what a beautiful night we had at this year's Starlight Ball! The combined efforts of so many people made the night spectacular! Special thanks to Joe Cronauer, our witty Master of Ceremonies; Rich Clark, our 2010 Person of the Year; Ball co-chairs **Carol Nuñez** and **Janie Nickodem** and their talented committee. You made the night memorable for everyone who attended, and we really shared what our *Christ Child* Society is all about.

Another thank you to everyone who donated to *Christ Child's* National Appeal. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Our Winter General Business Meeting is Wednesday, January 19th at Parmadale. PLEASE make an effort to attend. It will be the perfect time to share ideas with the Board and discuss ways we can improve our organization. A survey about our monthly newsletter was sent by email, and a copy is included in this issue. Please take the time to answer honestly and return the form to us by January 15th. We want to use your responses for discussion.

I feel truly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful organization! Happy New Year!

Marybeth Bauccho

REFLECTING ABOUT FATHER RALPH

Celebrating his birthday January 15!

"One day my 6-year-old niece said about her favorite aunt, "My auntie was just born nice!" This is how I think of Father Ralph. He was born nice...and kind, caring, and spiritual."

~ **Mary Beth Bauccho**

We do tend to think in positive terms when we reflect ABOUT Father Ralph, Spiritual Advisor to the Christ Child Society since 1984. For 26 years, he faithfully has attended Board meetings, offered spiritual guidance to members, and been a familiar presence at most special events.

"I did not know much about Christ Child until I was asked to be the spiritual advisor! I have never met a more creative or harder working group. The inspiration and encouragement I have gained from the Christ Child Society far outdistance anything that I may have been able to contribute..."

~ **Father Ralph**



The Reverend Father Ralph Wiatrowski was born and reared in Cleveland. He attended Parochial schools and was graduated from St. Mary Seminary. In June, 1974, Father Ralph was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Cleveland. Four years later, he traveled to Italy for graduate study. His decision to savor a leisurely trip on the QE2 rather than flying to Rome meant that he missed the historic moment when Pope John Paul I was elected. Who could have predicted that, six weeks later, the sudden death of the new pontiff would trigger another Papal conclave? This "young man from Cleveland" had the "thrill of a lifetime" as he stood in St. Peter's Square, saw the puff of white smoke rise from the Sistine Chapel, and heard Pope John Paul II introduce himself to the world.

After successfully completing his Doctorate in Canon Law (JCD), Father Ralph returned home to serve in various administrative and pastoral capacities, including Chancellor and Vicar General of the Cleveland Diocese (1981-2007) and Pastor of St. Barnabas Parish in Northfield, his current position. Father Ralph has been a member of the Canon Law Society of America since 1977, Cleveland Rotary (President 2004-2005), the Cleveland Restoration Board, the Executive Council for the Boy Scouts of America, among others. He is a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus. An avid gardener, Father Ralph has participated in the Gardeners of America – Northeast Ohio group for many years.

Father Ralph has a gift for raising flowers. I always think of him when I read Dorothy Frances Gurney's quote: "...You're closer to God's heart in a garden than anywhere else on earth." ~ **Abby Sammon**

WE LOVE YOU, FATHER RALPH. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



DATES TO REMEMBER

- January 1, 2011HAPPY NEW YEAR
Solemnity of Mary
- January 10.....Newsletter deadline
- January 19.....Board/General Business Meeting
- February 16Board Meeting
- February 17Provisional Review Day
- March 2.....Informational Coffee
- March 9.....Ash Wednesday
- March 23.....Installation Mass/Legacy Luncheon

Board Meeting

January 19 – Board/General Business Meeting/Parmadale
February 16 – Board Meeting

Chagrin Falls Sewing Group

Thursday, January 13, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Friday, January 14, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Thursday, February 10, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Friday, February 11, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Contact: **Donna Kelly**

Euclid-Our Lady of the Lake Sewing Group

Wednesday, January 12, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Wednesday, February 9, 12:30-3:30 p.m.
Contact: **Mary McKown**

Far West Sewing Group

Tuesday, January 4, 9:00 a.m. - Noon
Tuesday, February 1, 9:00 a.m. - Noon
Contact: **Connie Kinner**

Heights-St. Dominic Sewing Group

Tuesday, January 18, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 15, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Contact: **Irene Chalko**

Jennings Monthly Social

Tuesday, January 4, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 1, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Contact: **Mary Ann Petrancek**

Layette Packing – Parmadale

Monday, January 3, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Monday, February 7, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Contact: **Jean Boldt**

Little Sisters of the Poor

Monthly Social
Tuesday, January 25, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 22, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Contact: **Pat Coviello**

Merrick House

Pre-School Reading Enrichment
Tuesday, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
January 4 (Hibernation theme)
January 18 (Winter Fun)
February 1 (Love)
February 15 (Dental Health)
Contact: **Stephanie West**

My Stuff Packing

Tuesday, January 11, 10:00 a.m.-Noon
Tuesday, February 8, 10:00 a.m.-Noon
St. Augustine – North, 7800 Detroit
Contact: **Carole Kealy**

Parmadale Head Start Reading Enrichment

EVERY** Tuesday –
9:30-11:00 a.m. & 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Contact: **Jo Dodge**

St. Francis Library

EVERY** Tuesday, 9:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m.
EVERY** Wednesday, 9:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m.
Contact: **Liz Niehaus**

St. John Cathedral Mass

For *Christ Child* Members, Living and Deceased, and for Layette Endowment
Tuesday, January 25, Noon
Friday, February 25, Noon

West Park Catholic Academy Library

Contact: **Judy Votteler** for details

Congratulations

*Grandparents make the world...
a little softer, a little kinder, a little warmer.*

Author Unknown

Richard and **Patricia Welsh** (Provisional) welcomed their third grandchild. Matthew John Ban was born to Ann Welsh Ban and her husband John on December 7th, the first anniversary of the death of Matthew's great-grandmother. The family celebrates the beginning of this new life on a day so filled with memories.



Condolences

*I walked a mile with Pleasure. She chatted all the way
But left me none the wiser for all she had to say.
Then I walked a mile with Sorrow, and ne'er a word said she.
But, oh, the things I learned from her when
Sorrow walked with me.*

Dr. Robert Hibbard

*We extend sincere sympathy to
the family and friends of...*

Lillian Fiorelli
mother of **Rose Dziak**

Carol Harrison (1982)
mother of **Carol Panek** (1986) and **Peggy Harrison** (1992)

John Wilson
husband of **Bernice Wilson** (1967)

For Congratulations & Condolences Announcements,
call or send an email message to **Donna D. Fife**
(donna.d.fife@gmail.com).

Contact information can be found in our Chapter Roster.

Remembrance/Endowment Report

REFLECTING WITH FATHER RALPH

Memorial

Eileen Hacherian (6)
Carol Harrison (11)
Joan Millett
Charles Morrow
Heather J. Panzella
Loretta Rein
George Soucek
Anita Swann
Jan Szorady
Kathy West (5)
John Wilson (4)
Robert Zashin

Merry Christmas

Tim and Jessica McNamara
Michael and Terry NcNamara
Brian and Suzanne Walters
Kathleen McNamara
Tom and Nanci Berman
Michael and Jessica Swank
Joyce Baxter
Eric Townsend
Dr. and Mrs. H.S. Zaytoun
Joe and Thelma Zaytoun
Brother Thomas Rock
Seven Honorees

Honor

Marie Coletto.....Happy Birthday
Mr./Mrs. Gerry Manchos.....60th Wedding Anniversary
Loyola Puin.....Happy 90th Birthday
Frank and Doris Tainer.....60th Wedding Anniversary

In Our Thoughts

Rose Dziak.....sympathy for death of mother
Bernice Wilson.....sympathy for death of husband

Deaths

Carol Harrison
Terry Hartman
Kathy West

Donation

Layette Endowment (1)

Total This Report Period	\$1,910.00
Previous Year to Date	<u>\$3,770.00</u>
Total for Fiscal Year 2010-2011	\$5,680.00

Please send your Remembrance/Endowment check to:

Christ Child Society
c/o Parmadale
6753 State Road, Parma, OH 44134
ATTN: Abby Sammon

The start of a New Year is a good reminder that our lives are filled with endings and beginnings, many of which overlap and blend into one another without much effort on our part. As we look forward to 2011, it is good to take time to reflect and to identify some of the endings and some of the beginnings that we have experienced. The effort to reflect can help us realize that some changes which seemed so difficult or even impossible when they occurred may now be seen in a much different light. Unexpected, challenging experiences can give us courage and confidence to face the new and unknown things that may come our way. Do everything you can to make this a truly blessed new year.

Father Ralph

MINI-LAYETTE PROJECT

"Our families are poor," reports Cecelia Ferreri, LISW. "The receiving blankets and clothing the *Christ Child* Society donates may be the only new things their babies will have." Cecilia is a social worker in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at MetroHealth Medical Center and for many years has distributed the mini- layettes to the neediest families. She is "very grateful" to receive the baby items and to work with the CC liaison **Paulina Molina** who is "so positive and fun."

Each month, Paulina delivers 20 mini-layettes to Metro, and **Sue Schaut** takes 10 to Huron Hospital. Sue, active in *Christ Child* since 1971 and the 1986 Mary Virginia Merrick award winner, created the mini-layette project that she and Paulina coordinate and implement. A mini-layette includes a receiving blanket, an undershirt, pajamas, socks, a hat and a bib. A card in each bundle specifies that the donation is from the CC Society.

PROMISE FOR THE FUTURE

The life of a child is a promise for the future, but for many children, their future is at risk. *Christ Child* volunteers reach out to teach, motivate, clothe, and care for children in their communities through the initiative of *Challenging Poverty: One Child at a Time*.

The Starlight Ball

At the 59th annual Starlight Ball, guests dined and danced in the beautifully decorated Grand Ballroom at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel. Tables draped in gold, fresh greens atop golden stands, and blue stars projected onto the ceiling gave the room a magical and festive glow. **Joe Cronauer**, Master of Ceremonies, held the audience's attention and praised the *Christ Child* Society for the services we provide to the community. The highlight of the night was our tribute to **Richard Clark**, president of St. Martin de Porres High School. Rich has been an important helper and advocate for *Christ Child*. We are honored to designate him our 2010 "Person of the Year".

In addition to being splendid entertainment, the Ball is our biggest fundraiser. Ticket sales, the Silent Auction and the raffles are vital to achieving our charitable goals. They are fun too, and this year's lucky Cash Raffle winner was our own **Laverne Madigan!** **Thank you, Laverne, for returning \$500.00 of your winnings to *Christ Child* for the Layette Project.** Melanie Hanson, an invited guest, won the diamond necklace. We know she liked it because she was spotted wearing it the next day!

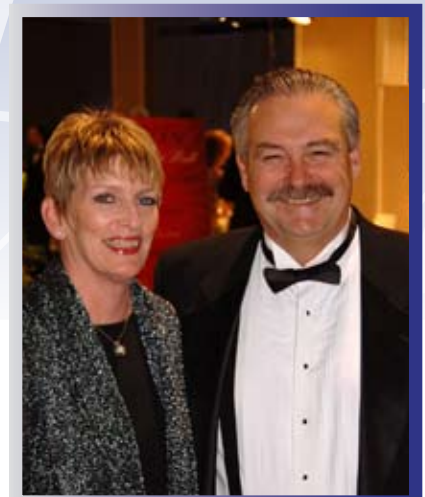
Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Ball by donating, attending, buying raffle tickets, and volunteering. All of you made our jobs much easier. We're grateful to Ted Diadiun, Reader Representative at the Plain Dealer, and Bill Gugliotta, Photography Director, for providing us with copies of Ball photos that appeared in the Plain Dealer on December 13th. We offer compliments to **Stephanie West**, the "official" CC photographer for the event, and give huge thanks to Marlen Jewelers, the Honorary Committee, and the Ball committee. All of you made the evening one to remember.

Starlight Ball Committee

Marybeth Baucio
Melanie Close
Mary Jo Dailey
Jo Dodge
Rose Dziak
Alice Ferfolia
Mary Mackert
Lorraine Muldoon
Terri Parker
Mary Ann Protzik



Janie Nicodem and Carol Nuñez



Moira and Richard Clark

Carol Nuñez & Janie Nicodem
2010 Ball Co-chairpersons



Mary Ann and Robert Warner
celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary

PROVISIONAL “WINTER WONDERLAND” HOLIDAY PARTY

On December 8th, the 28-member provisional class treated 102 pre-schoolers in the Parmadale Head Start Program to a “Winter Wonderland” of fun. The Provisionals were just as enthusiastic as the students and teachers! They read holiday stories, organized games with prizes, and helped the children color wooden tree ornaments and decorate snowman sugar cookies. The Provisionals gave each student a back pack filled with goodies, including hats and scarves, Beanie Babies, and coloring materials. The arrival of Santa proved to be the main attraction of the party when the children learned they could sit on his lap and have their photos taken.

We all know partying for an entire day can be exhausting. The delicious pizza donated by two of the Provisionals, supplemented with goodies prepared by other members of the class, helped sustain everyone. The Parmadale staff were treated to the delicious lunch and received their own gift bags. “All in all, the 2010 holiday party was a blessed event for everyone.”

Leah Funk
Provisional Member



CHRIST CHILD CLASSIFIEDS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Installation/Legacy Luncheon March 23

Consider volunteering for this meaningful and important event during which we welcome new *Christ Child* members and celebrate those who are having anniversaries. We could use your help with: planning and organizing the luncheon, registration, decorations, set-up, and more. Please call **Susan Ferraro Smith** for more information.

MEETINGS

January Board & General Business Meeting

On Wednesday, January 19th, the *Christ Child* Board will meet at 10:00 A.M. in Cottage 11 at Parmadale. The Winter General Business Meeting will follow immediately at 11:00 A.M. It will be a Town Hall (question and answer) format with interactive discussion about issues of interest to the entire membership. Please come prepared with your questions and comments.

WISH LIST

- **SMALL COSMETIC BAGS & SMALL/SAMPLE SIZES OF COSMETICS, LOTIONS, SKIN PRODUCTS** for **Jean Boldt** and her Greenbrier Women's Group. The Group supports The West Side Catholic Center by supplying cosmetic bags filled with lipsticks, soaps, and other items that are distributed to shelter residents on Mother's Day. Call **Jean Boldt** with questions or for delivery options.
- **DISPOSABLE DIAPERS** (small size) for Layettes. Call **Jean Boldt**.
- **ELASTIC HAIR BANDS** and **small, elementary-school-level ACTIVITY BOOKS** (e.g. word search, dot-to-dot, coloring, sudoku, etc.) for the My Stuff Bag Project. Contact **Carole Kealy**.
- **HATS, GLOVES** or **MITTENS** (sizes infant – children's XL) for next year's Winter Jackets Program. Take advantage of the winter sales and store your donations until the Red Wagon Luncheon in September. Call **Carole Moran** for more information.

*Please contact **Donna D. Fife** (donna.d.fife@gmail.com) to add your wish to the list.

NOTICES

New Members for the 2011-2012 Provisional Class

Our annual recruitment of new members is underway. If you know anyone who would like to join with us in our service to the children of Cleveland, please refer her to **Annette Gorris** or **Monica Bruck**. We will send *Christ Child* literature to all prospective members, and they will be invited to the Informational Coffee on March 2nd.

National CCS Scholarship for Graduate Social Work

The National *Christ Child* Society is accepting applications for the Mary Virginia Merrick scholarship for the graduate program in social work at Catholic University of America, Washington D.C. To apply for the academic year 2011-2012, individuals, must:

- Already be accepted in the graduate school of social work at Catholic University
- Apply for the scholarship before January 31, 2011
- Work as an intern in the Washington D.C. Chapter's School Counseling Program during the second year of graduate study

The dollar value of the scholarship varies based upon the student's financial need. Interested individuals should call the National *Christ Child* office (800-814-2149) as soon as possible.

Report: philanthropia

Twelve members paid the admission price of a \$75 check made out to her favorite charity for this special luncheon at Landerhaven on December 13th. Their favorite charity, of course, was the *Christ Child* Society of Cleveland. Unfortunately, because of the wintry weather, many of us could not attend. CCS still benefitted from the donations. Thank you to **Jean Canestraro, Gail Capuano, Melanie Close, Alice Ferfolia, Lynne Gerace, Annette Gorris, Alice Graham, Donna Kelly, Alice Mast, Carol Mrazik, Terri Parker, and Donna Scarcella** for reserving their spot at this "unusual" fundraising event.

Terri Parker

Service Vice President

\$1,000 Donation to Christ Child Society

Terri Parker, Service Vice President, accepted a \$1,000 donation from the Cuyahoga County Mayors' Secretaries & Assistants organization at their annual holiday luncheon. We are pleased to have been selected for the second year in a row from the many worthwhile organizations being considered for this honor. **Mary Ann Petrancek**, assistant to The Honorable Jeffrey A. Lansky, Mayor of Maple Heights, is a member of CCMSA. Mary Ann nominated *Christ Child* for the award. Thank you to Mary Ann and to the Cuyahoga County Mayors' Secretaries & Assistants for the generous gift! Many children will reap the benefits.

Barbara Bryan Contact Information

Barbara Bryan, former member and the first president of the Geauga Chapter of *Christ Child*, has given permission to include her current contact information: Barbara Bryan, 82 Myrtle Bank Road, Hilton Head, SC 19926. Email: barbwillhh1@hargray.com.

Membership Updates

Cathy Mangino: bobsca19@aol.com

Patricia Neff: remove email address

NEW Contact Information for Newsletter

Please use **Donna D. Fife's** new email address for any information or questions about the newsletter: donna.d.fife@gmail.com



Chapter & Verse

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MARYBETH BAUCCO.....President
TERRI PARKER.....Service VP
SUSAN FERRARO SMITH.....Organization VP
COLLEEN WYSZYNSKI.....Recording Secretary
CAROL NUNEZ.....Corresponding Secretary
JANIE NICKODEM.....Financial Secretary
ABBY SAMMON.....Endowment/Remembrance
DONNA D. FIFE.....Newsletter Editor
REV. RALPH E. WIATROWSKI.....Spiritual Advisor

Please direct questions, information & articles to:
Donna D. Fife, Christ Child Society c/o Parmadale,
6753 State Road – Parma, OH 44134
email: donna.d.fife@gmail.com
Extra copies available on request.

CLEVELAND WEBSITE:

<http://www.christchildsocietycleveland.org/>

The Cleveland Christ Child Society is a member chapter of:
National Christ Child Society, Inc.
4340 East West Highway, Suite 202, Bethesda, MD 20814
1-800-814-2149 / fax: 301-718-8822
<http://www.nationalchristchildsoc.org>

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF CLEVELAND

c/o Parmadale, 6753 State Road, Parma, OH 44134
ATTN: Carol Panek

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**DATED MATERIAL:
Please deliver by December 31st**

“CHEER”s for St. Francis School

The new library project at St. Francis School is going well. Teachers and students are gradually getting used to 16 librarians instead of the usual one, and *Christ Child* volunteers are learning students' names while becoming familiar with the library routine. On December 7, the day was anything but routine, however! The Plain Dealer recently had sponsored a contest for grades 3-5. Students were to read the newspaper, find an article about a good-will ambassador, and write an essay about that person. One very happy 4th grader at St. Francis – Tahniyza Johnson - won the contest! The prize? Four front row tickets for Tahniyza and her teacher Miss Anna Shakarian to see the Harlem Globetrotters when they played in Cleveland on December 27 and a school visit by members of the Globetrotters' team. Luckily, the visit was on a day when **Peggy Culp** and **Liz Niehaus** were working the school!

Globetrotters Hot Shot and Hacksaw were the stars of the day. They shared the history their team and told the students that the most important thing in life is to be a great person. One way to be great is to “C.H.E.E.R. for Character”....

C-ooperation; **H**-ealthy mind and body; **E**-ffort; **E**-nthusiasm; **R**-esponsibility

The Globetrotters demonstrated C.H.E.E.R. using humor, student and faculty involvement, and their amazing ball-handling skills. Hot Shot and Hacksaw ended the assembly by fielding questions and delighting everyone with a slam dunk and some signature Globetrotters' basketball moves. The students, faculty and staff, AND two *Christ Child* volunteers left the gym both entertained and inspired.



PROVISIONAL INSTALLATION MASS & WINTER LEGACY LUNCHEON

Wednesday, March 23, 2011
A DOUBLE CELEBRATION

Provisional Installation Mass
Celebrated at 10:00 A.M.
Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
East 9th & Superior Avenues

Please join us for these wonderful events as we welcome the newest *Christ Child* members and honor those who are marking membership anniversaries. Starting at 9 A.M., a **shuttle** will run between the Wyndham and the Cathedral.

Winter Legacy Luncheon
Immediately following Mass
The Wyndham at Playhouse Square
1260 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland

WINTER LEGACY LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

No separate invitation will be mailed.

Reservation Deadline: Friday, March 11, 2011

Payment Options

Payment must accompany the reservation form.

Check made payable to **Christ Child Society** or

Master Card _____ Visa _____ American Express _____ Discover _____

Cardholder Name _____

Account Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

Please Reserve:

- _____ Tickets @ \$35 each
_____ Silver Patron @ \$50 each (\$25 tax deductible)
_____ Gold Patron @ \$75 each (\$50 tax deductible)
_____ I cannot attend but would like to make a donation of \$ _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ Total enclosed: \$ _____

_____ I prefer the vegetarian option.

SEATING REQUEST (Tables of 8)

List your name and the names of those who will be sharing your table. Incomplete tables will be filled with other *Christ Child* members and their guests.

Indicate (M) Member (G) Guest (O) Member – Other Chapter

- | | | | |
|----------|-------|----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | M G O | 5. _____ | M G O |
| 2. _____ | M G O | 6. _____ | M G O |
| 3. _____ | M G O | 7. _____ | M G O |
| 4. _____ | M G O | 8. _____ | M G O |

_____ I have no seating preference. Feel free to seat me anywhere.

Send Reservation Form with Payment to: *Christ Child Society* c/o Parmadale, 6753 State Road, Parma, OH 44134, ATTN: Legacy Luncheon

Chapter & Verse Survey

Results will be reviewed at the General Business Meeting – January 19, 2011

What is the purpose of the *Christ Child* newsletter? (Check all that apply.)

- Inform members about activities & events
- Motivate members to participate/volunteer
- Thank members for their contributions of time and talent
- Foster a sense of community
- "Spotlight" *Christ Child* projects

How much of the newsletter do you read?

- All of it
- Scan but do not read
- None
- Sections I like:
Specify _____

If you do NOT read the newsletter, what is the primary reason?

- No time
- Get the information in other ways
- Not interested in content
- Other _____

What do you like most about the newsletter?

What changes would you like to see?

Please return your survey by January 15, 2011 to:

Christ Child Society c/o Parmadale, 6753 State Road, Parma, OH 44134, Attn: Donna D. Fife.
We shall discuss the responses at the January General Business Meeting. Thank you very much.