

**Corpus Christi Parish  
2011 Social Ministry Report**

*“Parishes are called to reach out to the hurting, the poor, and the vulnerable in our midst by concrete acts of charity. Just as the gospel tells us our lives will be judged by our response to the “least of these”, so too our parishes should be measured by our help for the hungry, the homeless, the troubled, and the alienated in our community and beyond.”*

**-U.S. Catholic Bishops, “Communities of Salt and Light”.**

**Projects Sponsored on a Monthly or Weekly Basis**

- Prepared and served seven meals October through April at Immaculate Conception Shelter, Inc.
- Provided sandwiches prepared by Corpus Christi & Sacred Heart parishioners, the Women’s Club, and Corpus Christi children to Immaculate’s Emergency Services Program & Immaculate Shelter’s Outreach Van every month and juices boxes every third month.
- Delivered snacks on a monthly basis to the Habitat for Humanity work site.
- Continued the weekly food drive for the Town of Wethersfield’s food pantry and for St. Peter’s food pantry.
- Contributed \$250 per month to help support our sister parish, St. Anne/Immaculate Conception in Hartford.
- Participated in the CT Catholic Conference Legislative Network to respond pro or con to legislation affecting hunger, housing, the poor, children & families, the elderly, the disabled, the environment, & International issues.
- Provided transportation for two handicapped parishioners to attend weekly Mass.
- Continued the weekly Children’s Liturgy Program held at every Sunday 9:00 a.m. Mass.
- Donated \$300 per month to the Cooperative Parish Sharing Fund, which distributes grants to low income parishes.
- Provided free dental care to Immaculate Conception Shelter and South Park Inn.

**JANUARY**

- Received \$1900 for the Catholic High Schools collection.
- Donated \$11,750 to Catholic Relief Services for Haitian earthquake relief.

**FEBRUARY**

- Donated \$1000 to Habitat for Humanity.
- Lenten Giving Crosses program occurred during Lent to encourage parishioners to donate their time, treasures, and talents to social justice programs. 360 cards were put out, 342 taken, consisting of 120 cards for donations, 62 for helping with Social Action projects, 138 people praying for peace, the homeless, etc, and 32 people helping the environment.
- Donated \$600 to Haitian Health Foundation for two families.

**MARCH**

- Held a drive for snack items and juice boxes for Habitat for Humanity and Y-US (Youth United for Survival) and St. Martin de Porres. Two carloads were delivered to Y-US and St. Martin de Porres and a 5 month supply was given to Habitat.
- Coordinated efforts by Corpus Christi School, CCD children, and parishioners to collect non-perishable food items for the Easter food project. A carload of food was distributed each to St. Martin de Porres, Immaculate Conception Church/St. Ann’s, St. Peter’s Church, & the Town of Wethersfield. \$1246 was donated through parishioner’s generosity, and divided amongst the four programs noted above.
- Received \$300 from the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal Vicariate Outreach Program, which was divided between the Wethersfield Food Bank and the Wethersfield Fuel Bank.
- Corpus Christi CCD children collected socks for Immaculate Conception Shelter.

**APRIL**

- Parishioners contributed \$1610 to the Lenten Rice Bowl.
- Parishioners donated \$800 to the Peter’s Pence collection on Good Friday.
- Served the last of 7 meals at Immaculate Conception’s Shelter, which provides for 90-120 indigent men in Hartford each night from October through April. Over 40 parishioners prepared or provided food, or helped serve each meal.
- 506 Parishioners generously donated an astounding \$162,087.50 to the Archbishop’s Annual Appeal.

**MAY**

- Participated in HomeFront Day where about 50 people from Sacred Heart Church, Church of the Incarnation, and Corpus Christi helped to provide much needed repairs, painting, and yard work for one house in Wethersfield.
- Collected \$1200 for the Catholic Communication Campaign through the generosity of Corpus Christi parishioners.

**“A key of a parish’s ‘Catholicity’ is its willingness to go beyond its boundaries to serve those in need and work for justice and peace.” (U.S. Catholic Bishops, Communities of Salt and Light”)**

**JUNE**

- Sponsored a collection of food for the Town of Wethersfield Social Services. Two car loads of supplies were delivered.
- Received \$3930 in donations from parishioners and Corpus Christi Women’s Club for St. Martin de Porres to sponsor children for their summer camp.
- Collected \$1600 from parishioners for the Catholic Relief Services.

**JULY**

- Social Action and Social Justice Information can be found on Corpus Christi’s website, which is [www.corpuschristiparish.net](http://www.corpuschristiparish.net), the school can be found at [www.corpuschristischoolct.com](http://www.corpuschristischoolct.com).

**AUGUST**

- Collected and delivered three car loads of school supplies & backpacks to Y-US, St. Anne/Immaculate Conception's CCD program, Town of Wethersfield's Social Services, St. Peter's Church, and St. Martin de Porres. \$ was received and distributed to St. Peter's and St. Martin de Porres.
- The generous donation by the parishioners to the Missions Co-Op amounted to \$3800.

#### **SEPTEMBER**

- Parishioners donated \$3525 to the Hopes Collection, which helps our parish elementary schools.
- Parishioners donated generously to the Dominican Sisters' fund-raiser. A total of \$1416 was raised.
- Donated \$100 to The Office of Catholic Social Justice Ministry.

#### **OCTOBER**

- Began serving the meals at Immaculate Conception Shelter.
- Parishioners donated \$5400 for the Propagation of the Faith.
- Three parishioners traveled to Honduras with Cure International to provide much needed dental and medical care to 2000+ Hondurans. Due to the generosity of the parish, \$7332 was donated to Sr. Teresita who oversees 2 orphanages and several medical clinics. The Women's Club donated \$500 and the Knights of Columbus donated \$250 to Sister Teresita's ministries. \$1000 was given to Ruth and Daniel Castros for their ministry to those in need in Honduras.

#### **NOVEMBER**

- Sponsored a Turkey and a \$20 drive for the Town of Wethersfield's food bank and Foodshare. Over 200 Turkeys were divided between the three programs and \$3430.50 was collected and distributed as follows: \$2000 to Foodshare, \$1000 to the Town, and \$430.50 to St. Peter's.
- Corpus Christi school children & CCD children collected non-perishable food for the Town of Wethersfield's food bank.
- Supported the Campaign for Human Development, which netted \$6300.

#### **DECEMBER**

- Held a Fair Trade fundraiser and raised \$1200 for Father Frechette's Hospital in Haiti.
- Fulfilled about 500 Christmas wishes through the Wish Tree Project that benefited the programs of St. Martin de Porres, Mercy Family Center, Y-US, Hartford Interval House, Town of Wethersfield Social Services, Covenant to Care, and St. Anne/Immaculate Conception's Three Kings Day Celebration, and St. Peter's Church.
- Received \$1434 through the Wish Tree Project for seven of the eight programs listed above and \$1542 in donations for Sister Teresita's orphanage, Copprome, in Honduras.
- CCD children collected toys and other gifts for Immaculate Conception/St. Ann's Three King's Day Celebration.
- Parishioners generously donated \$5200 to the Retirement Fund for the Religious.
- Donated \$400 to each of the following organizations: Tabor House, Friendship House, Immaculate Conception Shelter & Housing, Inc., Mercy Housing and Shelter, Y-US, Jubilee House, Family Life Education, St. Gerard's Center for Life and St. Peter's Church.
- Donated \$200 to Haitian Health Foundation and St. Martin de Porres.
- Prepared and served a meal at Catherine's Place in Hartford and brought gifts for all of the women.

**The Social Action Committee is especially grateful for the continuous and very generous support of parishioners, the Women's Club, Corpus Christi School, CCD, the ushers, and Sacred Heart Church.**

**The Social Action Committee meets the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in Our Lady's Hall.**

**For more information, please call Nancy Kiely at 721-0197.**

#### **Catholic Social Teaching: A Prayer for Social Justice**

*“Almighty and eternal God, may your grace enkindle in all persons, a love of the many unfortunate people whom poverty and misery reduce to a condition of life unworthy of human beings. Arouse in the hearts of those who call you Father, a hunger and thirst for social justice and for fraternal charity in deeds and in truth.*

*Grant, O Lord, peace in our days, peace to souls, peace to our community and peace among nations. Amen.”*

**Pope Pius XII (“A Justice Prayer Book”, U.S. Catholic Conference. 1998**