

# CALLED TO SERVICE



## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

“We encounter Christ, who is already there,  
when we go to serve the poor of the world.

We encounter Christ, who is already there,  
when we serve the poor in our midst.”

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SAINT MARY OF SORROWS CATHOLIC CHURCH  
5222 SIDEBURN ROAD

FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030  
703-978-4141

## Saint Mary of Sorrows Church

5222 SIDEBURN ROAD • FAIRFAX, VA 22032-2640  
703-978-4141

September 2, 2009

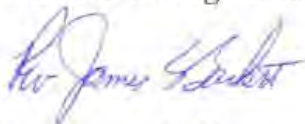
My Dear Parishioners,

Our faith calls each of us to serve those in need and to share our time and talents for the good of all. As we know, the challenges are great. Many in our midst are suffering economic hardship. We witness the degradation of human life and dignity and our political conversation is often rancorous. Yet, the message of the Gospel –love, hope and peace– transcends these problems and urges us to stand up in defense of the poor and vulnerable and to work for justice and peace.

Saint Mary of Sorrows is a community deeply committed to Catholic social teachings and has a long tradition of caring service. The following pages summarize much of the service that is already underway in our parish. However, our faith tells us we must share our rich tradition of social ministry with every member of our parish community. We hope that those who have not been previously involved will find here many opportunities whereby they also may serve.

As your pastor, I thank God for you and for the countless hours you have devoted to the work of social ministry in our parish and beyond. I encourage all parishioners to join in sharing God's love through service of our neighbors in need.

In Christ through Mary,



Rev. James S. Barkett

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For additional information about  
Parish Social Ministry,  
Please call Carol Mayfield (703-978-4141x19)

## **THEMES OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING**

### **Reflections of the U.S. Catholic Bishops**

Every Christian is called to serve “the least of these” to “hunger and thirst for justice”, to be a “peacemaker.” Catholics are called by God to protect human life, to promote human dignity, to defend the poor and to seek the common good. This social mission of the Church belongs to all of us. It is an essential part of what it is to be a believer.

Catholic social teaching is founded on the words and deeds of Jesus Christ who came “to bring glad tidings to the poor... liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind” (Lk 4, 18-19), and who identified himself with the least of his brethren, the poor, the hungry, the stranger.

Catholic social teaching is founded on a commitment to the poor, a commitment that is continually strengthened by our experiences of Christ in the Eucharist, for it is in Communion that we become one with Jesus in a love that we must share with others. As it is stated, “The Eucharist commits us to the poor. To receive in truth the Body and Blood of Christ given up for us, we must recognize Christ in the poorest, his brethren” *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (no. 1397). As men and women of faith we are challenged to make Catholic social teaching come alive in our own lives of service to our neighbor.

### **Catholic Social Teaching: Major Themes**

The Church’s social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. It offers moral principles and coherent values that we badly need. In this time of widespread violence and diminished respect for human life and dignity in our country and around the world, the Gospel of life and biblical call to justice needs to be proclaimed and shared with new clarity, urgency, and energy.

There will be legitimate differences and debate over how these challenging moral principles are applied in concrete situations. Differing prudential judgments on specifics cannot be allowed, however, to obscure the need for every Catholic to know and apply these principles in family, economic and community life.

### **Life and Dignity of the Human Person**

In a world warped by materialism and declining respect for human life, the Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Our belief in the sanctity of human life and the inherent dignity of the human person is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and assisted suicide. The value of human life is being threatened by increasing use of the death penalty. The dignity of life is undermined when the creation of human life is reduced to the manufacture of a product, as in human cloning or proposals for genetic engineering to create “perfect” human beings. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.

### **Call to Family, Community, and Participation**

In a global culture driven by excessive individualism, our tradition proclaims that the person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society – in economics and politics, in law and policy – directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. The family is the central social institution that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. While our society often exalts individualism, the Catholic tradition teaches that human beings grow and achieve fulfillment in the community. We believe people have a right and duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Our Church teaches that the role of government and other institutions is to protect human life and human dignity and promote the common good.

### **Rights and Responsibilities**

In a world where some speak mostly of “rights” and others mostly of “responsibilities”, the Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities – to one another, to our families, and to the larger society. While public debate in our nation is often divided between those who focus on personal responsibility and those who focus on social responsibilities, our tradition insists that both are necessary.

### **Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**

In a world characterized by growing prosperity for some and pervasive poverty for others, Catholic teaching proclaims that a basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.

### **The Dignity of Work and Rights of the Worker**

In a marketplace where too often the quarterly bottom line takes precedence over the rights of workers, we believe that the economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God’s creation. If the dignity of the work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected – the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to organize and join unions, to private property, and to economic initiative. Respecting these rights promotes an economy that protects human life, defends human rights, and advances the well-being of all.

### **Solidarity**

Our culture is tempted to turn inward, becoming indifferent and sometimes isolationist in the face of international responsibilities. Catholic social teaching proclaims that we are our brothers’ and sisters’ keepers, wherever they live. We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Learning

to practice the virtue of solidarity means learning that “loving our neighbor” has global dimensions in an interdependent world. This virtue is described by John Paul II as “a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all” (*Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, no. 38).

### **Care for God’s Creation**

On a planet conflicted over environmental issues, the Catholic tradition insists that we show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all God’s creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

*Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions*

\* \* \* \* \*

Sharing our social tradition more fully and clearly is an essential way to bring good news, liberty, and new sight to a society and world in desperate need of God’s justice and peace.

Our parish communities are measured by how well they serve “the least of these” in our parish and beyond its boundaries—the hungry, the homeless, the sick, those in prison, the stranger (cf. Mt 25:31). Our local families of faith are called to “hunger and thirst for justice” and to be “peacemakers” in our own communities (cf. Mt 5:6,9). A parish cannot really proclaim the gospel if its message is not reflected in its own community life. The biblical call to charity, justice, and peace claims not only each believer, but also each community where believers gather for worship, formation, and pastoral care *Communities of Salt and Light, U.S. Catholic Bishops*.

## **Opportunities for Assisting the Hungry**

**Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you food? “Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me” (Mt.25:41).**

*Fairfax County Coordinated Services Planning received 3,625 calls for emergency food during the first three quarters of FY2009 compared to 3,465 such calls during all of FY2008.*

**Food For Others** – Saint Mary’s parishioners assist by picking up and distributing food to hungry people in two locations in Burke. Volunteers are needed to assist on one night per month.

For more information, call team leaders Faith McCormick (703-425-2025) to assist the Thursday evening team, or Mike Perri (703-591-5896) to assist the Knights of Columbus Monday evening team.

**Martha’s Table** – This organization serves food each day to homeless people on the streets of Washington, DC. Parishioners help by delivering a meal on the fourth Sunday monthly, and conducting a Lenten sandwich collection. Call Bill Seiler (703-978-0242) to volunteer or for more information.

**Holiday Food Drives** - Parishioners donate, assemble and deliver food for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners to needy families in Fairfax County. To volunteer call Bunny Kowalski (703-425-6002).

**Saint Mary of Sorrows Food Pantry** – Once monthly, parishioners re-stock our food pantry with donated groceries they bring to Mass. Our pantry serves many local organizations. Contact Kristen Meyers (703-425-3281) to volunteer to help collect and distribute food, or to help maintain the pantry. We are seeking a second volunteer coordinator. If you are interested in filling this position, please call Carol Mayfield (703-978-4141x19).

**FACETS Hot Meals** – Volunteers from Saint Mary’s cook and serve hot meals to approximately 125 needy homeless people in Fairfax County. All parishioners are encouraged to provide home baked cookies to serve as a special treat. For more information or to volunteer for the team that serves on the third Wednesdays in odd months (6 times per year), please call Pat Parr (703-631-9118). Call Janet Pedneau (703-278-8198) to volunteer for the team that serves every fifth Friday (4 times per year).

**SOME** (So Others Might Eat) – Eight to ten times per year, parishioners cook breakfast for approximately 400 poor and homeless people at SOME’s Washington site. Call Don Allen (703-258-8596) or Eric or Mariko Hein (703-426-4520) for more information or to volunteer.

**Lamb Center Hot Lunches** – The Lamb Center is a daytime shelter that serves breakfast and a hot lunch to homeless people in Fairfax County. Any group that would like to help with this ministry by providing a hot lunch for 75 people at the Lamb Center should call Charlie Hoover (703-978-5086).



## Opportunities for Assisting the Homeless

**Lord, when did we see you homeless and give you shelter? “Amen, I say, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me’(Mt 25:41).**

*Fairfax County Coordinated Services Planning received 2184 calls for emergency housing assistance during the first three quarters of FY 2009.*

A number of organizations in Fairfax County provide our parish many opportunities to assist homeless people through direct service and providing by food and many other donations throughout the year. Notable among these organizations are Fairfax Area Christian Emergency and Transitional Services, Inc. (FACETS), the Lamb Center , Western Fairfax Christina Ministries, and Opportunities, Alternatives and resources (OAR of Fairfax County).

**Hypothermia Shelter** – In the past several years, Saint Mary of Sorrows has collaborated with FACETS in joining with several neighboring churches to provide a weeklong ecumenical hypothermia shelter for homeless people of Fairfax County. Hundreds of Saint Mary’s parishioners have participated in these shelters and found this effort to be both challenging and very rewarding. Plans for our participation in the winter of 2010 are still pending, but there will be announcements in coming bulletins as plans develop. To learn more about the needs of the homeless in Fairfax County, please visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless).

**Lamb Center** – Many parishioners volunteer at the Lamb Center, a daytime homeless shelter in Fairfax. They assist the Center in providing meals, counseling, clean clothes and other necessities for homeless and indigent people on the streets of Fairfax County. Contact Joyce Hile (703-641-9483), joycehile@aol.com for more information about volunteer opportunities at the Lamb Center.

**Samaritan Fund** – Using parishioner-donated funds, our parish is able to help many people in emergencies to obtain affordable housing or pay overdue rent to enable them to stay in their current housing. Most of these people are referred to Saint Mary of Sorrows through County and other agencies.

**Opportunities for Providing  
Clothing to the Needy**

**Lord, when did we see you naked and give you clothes? “Amen, I say, whenever you did it for one of these least brothers of mine, you did it for me” (Mt 25:41).**

*Fairfax County Coordinated Services Planning received 670 calls for clothing and personal items during the first three quarters of FY 2009, compared with 570 such calls during the same period of FY2008.*

**Annual Clothing Drive** – During the 2008 Clothing Drive, Saint Mary’s volunteers sorted and packed 1002 boxes of donated clothing that was distributed to charities in the Metropolitan Area, West Virginia, Bangkok and other places. In cases where the organizations could not pick up the clothes, parishioners delivered them in their own vans and trucks. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve those in need, because hundreds of hours of volunteer time are required for this effort. For more information, or to volunteer, call Mary Ayre (703-323-7597).

**Coat Collection** – During Saint Mary’s annual collection hundreds of donated coats and jackets are sorted, packed and either picked up or delivered to local schools and charities for distribution to needy adults and children. In January 2008, 614 coats and jackets from Saint Mary’s parishioners went to people who needed them to keep warm during the winter. Please call Betsy Burgett (703-425-9593) to help with this collection.

**Underwear Collection (Undie Sunday)-** During this collection parishioners contribute the basics—hundreds of pieces of new underwear that are donated to needy people. Call Therese Ryan (703-323-1020) for more information.

### **Opportunities for Serving The Needy and Oppressed**

**Lord, when did we see you in need or oppressed and lift you up?  
“Amen, I say, whenever you did it for one of these least brothers of mine, you did it for me”  
(Mt 25:40).**

*During the first three quarters of FY 2009, Fairfax County Coordinated Services Planning received 11,106 calls for assistance with basic*

*immediate needs, and financial aid compared with 11,589 such calls during all of FY 2008.*

**School Supplies Collection** – Parishioners donated 614 -backpacks and assorted school supplies that volunteers filled and distributed to area needy students. To volunteer to help with this collection in August, 2010, please call Pat Holliday (703-978-2155).

**Easter Baskets** - This year, Saint Mary's children and their parents assembled and wrapped over 400 Easter baskets using baskets, toys and candy that was donated by parishioners. The baskets and other treats were delivered to needy local children and adults. Please call Doug and Wally Mertes (703-569-7969) to volunteer in 2010.

*On May 20, 2009, Saint Mary of Sorrows received the Marjorie Ginsburg Award from Opportunities, Alternatives and Resources of Fairfax County, Inc. This award 'for extraordinary effort assisting families and their children and continued support of OAR's mission' was in special appreciation for our parish's donations of school supplies and Easter baskets to the children of ex-offenders.*

**March for Life** – Parishioners join people from throughout the United States for the annual March for Life in Washington. Family Life Ministry, Social Ministry, Youth Ministry and the Knights of Columbus join to coordinate this aspect of parish-wide support for the right to life of unborn children. Please watch the parish bulletin for notice of plans for participation in the March of 2010.

**Christmas Gift Outreach** – In 2008, Saint Mary’s contributed Christmas gifts to 500 foster children attending Fairfax County Schools. The children of 150 needy Fairfax school families received gifts that parishioners purchased and volunteers sorted, wrapped and delivered to their homes.

Another 30 entire families were adopted by individuals, families and groups from Saint Mary’s that purchased, wrapped and delivered gifts and Christmas dinners to those families. Christmas gifts and dinners were also given to approximately 140 residents and participants of local group homes and other support programs.

To assist with the foster children gifts, please call Chris Mikrut (703-239-9347); for the children, family and organization outreach, please call Carol Mayfield (703-978-4141x19)

*In March 2009, Saint Mary of Sorrows Parish received a Certificate of Appreciation for our support of the residents of the Audubon Housing Community and for making their Christmas wishes come true.*

## **Opportunities for Visiting the Imprisoned**

**Lord, when did we see you in prison and visit you? “Amen, I say to you, whenever you did it for these least brothers of mine, you did it for me” (Mt 25:41).**

**Catholic Prison Ministry** - Each Saturday, members of this ministry meet with inmates at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. On weekends when a priest is not present for Mass, the group has a discussion of the three scripture readings for the weekend’s Mass and shares spiritual communion. The women inmates receive a weekly catechism lesson and all inmates receive mentoring from the volunteers. Please call Lucy Schleibaum (703-323-0345) if you are interested in this ministry.

**Kairos Prison Retreats** – Periodically during the year, parishioners are invited to make homemade cookies that are given to prisoners during spiritual retreats as a sign of God’s abundant love. In response, Saint Mary’s parishioners bake many dozens of cookies. Coordinators for the collections are Dan Turgeon (703-239-8644) and Mary O’Neill (703-425-6946). Please watch the parish bulletins for notices about these collections in the fall and spring.

Parishioners are also encouraged to participate by praying for the success of these retreats.

## **Opportunities for Welcoming the Stranger**

**Lord, when did we see strangers in need and welcome them? “Amen, I say to you, whenever you did I for these least brothers of mine, you did it for me.” (Mt 25:41)**

Our parish is planning to sponsor a refugee family. We are working with the Parish Partnership Program of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington Office of Migration and Refugee Services (MRS). We will furnish a household for the family and help them in every necessary way to adapt and adjust to their new country, the United States!

In the weeks immediately following their arrival, the family’s needs will be intense as they become familiar with the Northern Virginia area, improve their English skills, and adapt to their new lives. During those early weeks, the project will require the assistance of many parishioners. Volunteers will be organized into seven committees that will focus on hospitality, acquisition, housing, transportation, employment, finance and general needs.

When our parish is ready to support the family, with all necessary volunteers, household items and funds in place, the MRS will select a family for us and we will receive approximately two weeks notice before their arrival.

Please call Pat Holliday (703-978-2155) if you would like to help with this effort.

## **Parish Tithing Funds**

Tithing funds are an important aspect of the parish's social ministry. Because the parish allocates part of Sunday and holy day collections to organizations that offer compassionate service and work for social justice, everyone who contributes to those collections provides funds that support the parish's social ministry. This section focuses on programs that receive parish tithing funds. It describes the activities that the funds support and includes the names of contact people who can provide more information about the activities and opportunities for volunteering with them.

### **Tithing Fund Applications**

All parishioners are invited to participate in the process of recommending to the pastor how the tithing funds should be allocated. Applications are usually available in January of each year. Each group for which an application is submitted must have two parish sponsors who agree to maintain contact with the organization, educate the parish about its work and volunteer opportunities, and participate in the parish social ministry budget process and in meetings of the parish social ministry community throughout the year. Meetings held to review applications for tithing funds are open to all parishioners.

### **Parish Social Ministry Committee Meetings**

All members of the parish are welcome to attend monthly parish social ministry meetings. They are usually on the second Monday of the month, at 7:30. Please check the bulletin for meeting notices, or call the chairperson, Alina Otal (703-323-9366) for details.

### **Programs Receiving 2010 Parish Tithing Funds**

The tithing fund budget is organized in three categories. The first is parish-based programs that offer service opportunities at Saint Mary's and in nearby organizations the parish supports with funds and volunteers. The second category, local organizations, consists of ministries in the Washington Metropolitan area or the Diocese of Arlington. The next category is missions, which includes organizations out of the local area or overseas.

## **A Call to Service**

**“...’For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.” (Mt. 25: 36)**

The Saint Mary of Sorrows tithing fund budget is based on our community’s response to the gospel message. Specifically, we consider the following guidelines in reviewing and evaluating tithing fund applications.

- \* Does the proposed organization support Catholic teachings, thought and gospel values?
- \* Are the funds critical to the functioning of the organization or project?
- \* Is the project or ministry critical to the community of which it is a part?
- \* Will the tithing fund sponsors be involved and responsible for the project?
- \* Does the ministry or project lend itself to involvement of other parishioners, both adults and youth?
- \* Does the project contribute to each person’s self-reliance?
- \* Are the sponsors willing to educate the parish about the activity?
- \* Does this organization or project contribute to our goal of a balanced program of sponsored activities?

## **Tithing Fund Programs**

### **I. Emergency and Family Assistance**

The organizations supported in this category respond to critical needs of people who have few or no resources to provide for their own needs.

These programs offer Saint Mary’s parishioners many opportunities to assist our neighbors in need. The number of people seeking emergency assistance with basic

needs is increasing each year, while at the same time funding for many government-sponsored programs is decreasing.

### **Bethany House of Northern Virginia**

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

Bethany House is a local organization.

Bethany House is a private, non-profit faith-based ministry that serves women and children who have been victims of domestic violence and are homeless as a result. Two of their shelters provide housing for about 40 families a year. There are also two other homes that provide transitional housing after the victims leave the shelters. Each woman receives an individual plan to help her and her family to be able to live independently.

St. Mary's tithing funds support the Family Assistance Program that includes crisis intervention, life skills training, psychological counseling and development, work place experience and vocational training, and remedial education. This long-term approach prevents recurrence of past patterns.

Parishioners can choose many ways to support this ministry, including assisting with group activities, providing transportation, mentoring, answering the hotline and working in Joseph's Coat, the organization's thrift shop, and in the office providing professional services. Please call parish sponsors Carol Knebel (703-978-1688) or Pat White (703-273-8438) for more information or to volunteer.

### **FACETS Hot Meals Program**

[facetscares.org](http://facetscares.org)

FACETS Hot Meals program is a parish-based activity.

Fairfax Area Christian Emergency and Transitional Services, Inc. (FACETS) is a Fairfax-based provider of services for homeless and formerly homeless individuals and families in our area as well as families living in four public housing communities. FACETS runs hot meals and case management programs that help homeless people in immediate crisis and then helps them take steps toward self-sufficiency. FACETS is a grassroots, community-based nonprofit organization that is supported by more than 80 Faith Partners in the Fairfax area, the Fairfax County government, private individuals, area businesses, and foundations

The Hot Meals Program delivers a hot, nutritious evening meal 365 days a year to approximately 110 homeless individuals who live in motels, mostly in units without kitchens, or on the streets. Volunteers from St. Mary's cook and serve meals ten nights a year. Parish tithing funds cover the cost of the food that is served.

To volunteer or for more information, please call parish sponsors Pat Parr (703-631-9118), Pat Warakomsky (703-323-0891), or Janet Pedneau (703-278-8198).

**FISH (Fairfax FISH, Inc.)**

<http://www.fairfaxfish.org>

FISH is a parish-based activity.

Fairfax FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help) works in conjunction with the Fairfax County Department of Human Services to respond to the needs of the underprivileged and elderly in the heart of Fairfax County. They provide such necessities such as food, clothing, assistance with rent and utility bills, prescriptions, transportation to appointments and other needs. Fairfax FISH aims to assist clients experiencing temporary difficulties in sustaining their place in the community and being self-supporting. The Council was formed in 1967 and currently consists of 18 churches of different denominations.

Parishioners can volunteer to be “phone captain,” and take requests for assistance from county social workers; deliver food; take clients to appointments; and sort food at food pantries and clothing at the clothes closets. They may also fill roles in the overall FISH organization.

Please call parish sponsors Joyce Gaul (703-978-6967) and Edie Reinsel (703-323-8089) for more information.

### **SOME (So Others Might Eat)**

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

SOME is a local organization.

SOME, a sign of hospitality in the shadow of our nation’s capitol, not only meets the needs of the poor and the homeless, but also empowers them so that they can end their cycles of poverty and dependence. SOME provides breakfast and lunch daily, serving meals to nearly 300,000 annually, and offers housing, medical care, job training, and many other services.

St. Mary’s volunteers prepare breakfast for approximately 400 men, women and children from eight to ten times a year at SOME’S 71 “O” Street NW, Washington, D.C., facility. St. Mary’s tithing funds provide the funding for the food, and the sponsors order the food, schedule the volunteers, and prepare the breakfasts with them.

Parishioners can sign-up to volunteer with SOME at Parish Awareness Weekend or by contacting one of the parish sponsors, Don Allen (703-258-8596) and Eric and Mariko Hein (703-426-4520).

### **Gabriel Project**

[www.gabrielproject@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:www.gabrielproject@arlingtondiocese.org)

Gabriel Project is a local organization.

The Gabriel project is the parish-based Pregnancy Assistance Program of the Arlington Diocese’s Office of Family Life. The charism of the Gabriel project is based in the love of Christ for ALL of His children regardless of their economic circumstances. Part of its mission is achieved through evangelization; uninsured pregnant women in need come to the Church and receive not only financial assistance but also emotional and spiritual help. It is an apostolate of friendship and of presence-- “Being Christ to Each Other”.

Saint Mary's Gabriel Project welcomes volunteers to provide the many varied needs our mothers-to-be may have. For example: transportation to The Tepeyac Clinic for medical appointments, meals delivered if needed, child care (if not first pregnancy) if bed rest is needed, and a friendly ear. Most importantly ALL parishioners can become involved by praying for the well being of the mother-to-be and her unborn child.

Parish sponsors are Alina Otal (703-323-9366) and Thelma Garry (703-978-1163).

### **A Woman's Choice**

[www.awomanschoicecenter.com](http://www.awomanschoicecenter.com)

A Woman's Choice is a local organization.

This organization's mission is three-fold: to educate and provide life-giving solutions to abortion-minded women; providing practical support to women who have decided to continue their pregnancies; educating non-pregnant women to chose chastity and natural family planning.

Saint Mary's tithing funds are being used to assist with the costs of pregnancy-related medical treatment for the clients, and to help with necessities and equipment for the babies.

Parishioners may become involved by providing material support and fundraising, as well as taking training and becoming volunteer counselors, translators and drivers.

Parish sponsors are Marilyn and James O'Brien (703-250-1127) and Robert Hall (703-250-6248).

### **Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM)**

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

WFCM is a local organization.

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) is a worthy organization in our community whose goal is to move families from a condition of crisis to one of self-

sufficiency. It provides emergency food, clothing, transportation, counseling and rent assistance to those families that are homeless or on the verge of homelessness. It assists 1900 families a year in Fairfax County Saint Mary's funds provide much-needed support for the food pantry and emergency clothes closet.

For more information or to volunteer to spend a few quality hours a week in support of the most needy in our community, please visit the above website or contact parish sponsors Cheryl Dulan (703-830-3066) or Debbie Smith (703-502-8622).

### **The Shepherd's Center of Fairfax Burke (SCFB)**

[www.fairfax-burkesc.org](http://www.fairfax-burkesc.org)

SCFB is a local organization.

The Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke (SCFB) is a partnership of interfaith communities and other organizations and individuals whose mission is to provide social services and life-enrichment programs to seniors in the Fairfax-Burke community, thereby helping them live more meaningful lives. The organization empowers older adults to use their wisdom and expertise as volunteers in supporting older adults in their community. Volunteers make all SCFB activities and services possible.

Saint Mary's funds assist with two of SCFB's social services programs: Accompanied Medical Transportation (taking seniors no longer able to drive to medical and therapy appointments) and Friendly Visitors (visiting homebound seniors) for a friendly visit). Other social services that are planned for the future are: minor home repairs for seniors living independently, grocery shopping assistance and caregiver support. Life enrichment programs of SCFB are: Lunch N'Life bimonthly luncheons with guest speakers and time for socializing; and Adventures in Learning classes providing lifelong learning opportunities. For information contact sponsors Kim Moden (703-250-6065) or Marion Essig (703-378-5774).

## **Housing and Homelessness**

The organizations supported in this category help alleviate housing problems in a variety of ways. They strive to end homelessness by preserving and increasing affordable housing for low and moderate-income people, especially the most vulnerable. They provide housing for those with special needs and those who need transitional or temporary housing. Finally, these organizations advocate for policies and resources that will end homelessness.

### **Catholics for Housing, Inc. (CFH)**

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

Catholics for Housing is a local organization

Catholic for Housing (CFH) provides housing opportunities for low and moderate-income households. Currently, these include seven affordable rental condos in Arlington that are targeted for local first responders, the military and Catholic school teachers, two affordable units in Fairfax County currently under negotiation, co-ownership of Briarcliff Apartments, a 30-unit complex in Vienna, 33 first-time homebuyers in Dumfries and 19 first-time homebuyers in Bristow. Through the CFH homeownership initiative, rental assistance to 50 elderly residents of Fairfax County receive rental assistance for retirement facilities and security deposit assistance is provided to help people move into permanent rental units. The recipients of the two on-going direct service programs have annual incomes of less than 20% of the area median income.

Parishioners can contribute to CFH programs, advocate for adequate affordable housing and/or join an advocacy group. Traffic and quality of life for everyone are affected by the lack of affordable housing. Volunteers with backgrounds in real estate, appraisals, mortgage financing, banking, architecture, public relations, fund development or contracting are always needed and welcomed at CFH.

Parish sponsors are: Bob Gibson (703-273-7911), a founding director of CFH, and Bill Forster (703-591-2377). The CFH staff can be reached at 703-330-1541 or [cath4hsg@verizon.net](mailto:cath4hsg@verizon.net).

### **Community Living Alternatives (CLA)**

<http://www.cla-va.org/>

Community Living Alternatives is a local organization

Community Living Alternatives (CLA) is a non-profit charitable organization that provides service to the entire human family. Its mission is respect for the life of every person and love for one's neighbor. It provides a home in a family-like environment, daily living assistance, training, and personal support to adults affected with intellectual and developmental disabilities. These adults might otherwise be homeless or institutionalized as most are unable to support themselves, because they lack resources or family that is involved in supporting them.

Parishioners are welcome to participate in administrative duties and quality assurance activities. Donations and delivery of quality used furniture and appliances are appreciated.

Parish sponsors are Debbie Bingham (703-764-8243) and Cathy Flynn (703-591-3167).

### **FACETS Home Connections**

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

FACETS Home Connections is a parish-based activity

Facets Home Connections is a transitional housing program created by FACETS (Fairfax Area Christian Emergency and Transitional Services). Its goal is to provide temporary housing and support services for a homeless family and to assist that family in becoming self-sufficient and resettled in permanent housing. The family receives a management plan (including short and long-term goals) that will lead them to self-sufficiency.

Saint Mary of Sorrows provides funding to help with the costs associated with maintaining a 2-bedroom apartment, such as rent and utilities. Saint Mary's parishioners can help furnish the apartment or serve as mentors and study friends.

Parish sponsors are Liz and Tom DeLuca (703-815-1752) and Pat Parr (703-631-9118).

### **Father McKenna Center**

[www.stalschurchdc.org/mckenna.htm](http://www.stalschurchdc.org/mckenna.htm)

The Father McKenna Center is a local organization

The Father McKenna Center serves the poor and homeless in the inner city of the District of Columbia. The McKenna Center operates a drop-in center for homeless men where they can take care of basic needs, such as having a shower, washing their clothes and having breakfast and a substantial lunch. They also can receive transportation assistance and referrals to job training and drug and alcohol counseling. The McKenna Center also provides emergency food and rent and utility assistance. It operates a transitional night shelter and a hypothermia prevention program.

Saint Mary's parishioners can serve as counselors of those seeking rent and utility assistance. Parishioners may also participate in the overall McKenna Center program serving meals and offering hospitality. Collections at Saint Mary's for food, clothing and winter coats are happily accepted by the McKenna Center for distribution to the needy that come to its doors.

Parish sponsors are Janet Pedneau (703-278-8198) and Frances "Bunny" Kowalski (703-425-6002).

### **Interfaith Housing Ministries (IHM)**

IHM is a parish-based activity.

Saint Mary's has been a member of Interfaith Housing since it began in 1993 when several churches joined to adopt and mentor homeless families in the Burke/Fairfax area, and help the families transition into county-subsidized housing.

Saint Mary's provides financial support to the organization as well as a partnership with a family that is moving out of homelessness.

For more information, call Ralph Lowry (703-693-7741) or Frances Allen (703-278-8596).

### **Project: Homes**

Project: Homes is a parish-based organization.

Project: Homes is the Saint Mary's committee that works in conjunction with Interfaith Housing Ministries to assist individual families to obtain and maintain decent housing. Saint Mary's provides monetary support, as well as volunteers

who assist the families in developing the skills necessary for financial independence. Members of Project: Homes meet as needs dictate. They maintain contact with the adopted families and help provide various kinds of assistance.

For more information, contact Lucy Schleibaum (703-323-0345) or Jeanne Bebo (703-323-1079).

### **Marian Homes, Inc.**

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

Marian Homes is a parish-based activity.

Marian Homes was established by Saint Mary's Knights of Columbus Council #8600 to purchase and operate group homes for Fairfax County residents with intellectual disabilities. Marian House is home to five women who are assisted in living in a family-like productive environment. The Marian Homes Board has approved a plan to purchase a second home.

Parish volunteers assist in making improvements to the house and grounds, providing financial support and attending Marian Homes fund raising events.

Parish sponsors are Ercole Barone (703-743-1149) and Al Obuchowski (703-352-1380).

### **Wellspring Ministries**

Wellspring Ministries is a local organization.

Wellspring Ministries is a faith-based community that provides homes for persons with developmental disabilities. It has four group residences, two for women and two for men. Each home provides housing for five disabled individuals, as well as a full-time live-in counselor who supervises, educates, trains and supports individuals in life-skill development. All of the residents are employed and active in Bible-study and social club activities. Wellspring believes that persons with disabilities can and should live in the community and that their presence offers a great asset to the neighborhood and the community.

Two Wellspring group homes are within Saint Mary's Parish; one is directly across the street. Several residents of Wellspring come to Saint Mary's on Sunday for Mass.

Parishioners of Saint Mary's are actively engaged with Wellspring residents in many ways. Parishioners are always welcome to spend time at the houses and to become involved with the residents.

For more information contact parish sponsors Judy Zieg (703-451-2816) or Corrine Frassa ((703-250-4554).

## **COOPERATIVE PARTICIPATION**

The organizations supported in this category in a special way develop and nurture community. Through direct participation in the projects of these organizations, many people are able to achieve immediate, tangible improvements on the lives of those less fortunate.

### **Advocacy Support**

Advocacy is a parish-based activity.

The Catholic Church expressly calls us to live a *preferential option for the poor*. Through compassionate service, we are touched and transformed by the poor and by others who live on the margins of society. Through reflection and prayer, we come to recognize that many causes of their suffering can be eliminated and that the requirements of justice challenge us to advocate for changes in society that will ensure that all of our brothers and sisters are treated with dignity and that their basic needs are met.

Advocates seek out data on problems and on legislative decisions and then act on Christian values to address the problems and solutions. They do this to protect the poor, uneducated, and future generations who are not able to advocate for themselves. Many of our activities, such as in human services, housing and homelessness, and criminal justice include advocacy. Funds are used to support

other Christian organizations that give us information and coordinate positions on issues vital to the Christian ethic.

The Parish Social Ministry Committee periodically provides information on advocacy issues in Farrell Hall after Sunday Masses. Parishioners participate in advocacy at the state level through the Virginia Catholic Conference; SALT (Social Action Linking Together), and the Virginia Interfaith Center. Each January parishioners join members of the Diocese of Richmond for Catholic Advocacy Day at the Virginia General Assembly. Parishioners also join other dioceses in participating in a Catholic Advocacy Day at the U.S. Capitol.

Please contact the social ministry office, 703-978-4141x19, or visit the sites listed for more information on advocacy activities and organizations. Virginia Catholic Conference - [www.vacatholic.org](http://www.vacatholic.org)  
SALT - [www.s-a-l-t.org](http://www.s-a-l-t.org)  
Virginia Interfaith Center - [www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org](http://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org)

### **Bikes for the World**

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

Bikes for the World is a local activity.

Bikes for the World (BfW) is a sponsored project of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association whose central mission is to collect unwanted bicycles and related material in the US and deliver them at a low cost to community development programs assisting the poor in developing countries or in the Washington metropolitan area.

Saint Mary's tithing funds are used by the BFW general fund to help defray office expenses and shipping expenses to partner organizations overseas. The funds from Saint Mary's make it possible to ship an additional 50 bicycles, which can have an enormous positive impact on the lives of 50 more needy people.

For information, call Brian A. Keith (703-764-3845) or Linda Hansen (703-425-6163).

**Virginia Citizens United  
for the Rehabilitation of Errants (Virginia C.U.R.E.),**

**International Citizens United**

## **for the Rehabilitation of Errants (C.U.R.E.)**

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

Virginia C.U.R.E. is a local organization.

Virginia C.U.R.E. is a volunteer organization focusing on Virginia corrections and people whose lives are impacted by it. It is a chapter of International CURE, headquartered in Washington, DC. C.U.R.E. works for positive corrections policies, monitors state actions, advocates to the Virginia legislature and informs the public. C.U.R.E. provides information, education and support to families, incarcerated persons and others through meetings local chapters, conferences, Advocacy Day at the Virginia General Assembly, web site, email ([vacure@cox.net](mailto:vacure@cox.net)), a newsletter, and by replies to inquiries and requests. Legislation is carefully monitored and members updated. A summary of legislation and final report are prepared and available upon request.

Saint Mary's funding is crucial for newsletters and written materials, expenses of travel and advocacy, to support meetings, conferences, Advocacy Day, and meetings, particularly with Virginia legislators and corrections officials, and for serving inmates and their families. C.U.R.E. greatly needs additional active parishioner support, particularly for issue understanding, communications and for advocacy with Virginia legislators, as well as for support to the organizations' efforts with families and children.

For more information, contact sponsors Thomas Petersik (323-5272) or Mason Nottingham (703-323-5726).

## **Dorothy Day Catholic Worker House (DDCW)**

DDCW is a local organization.

Phone - 202-882-9649

DDCW is a community in Washington DC that serves the poor and the working poor, as well as people who are homeless and hungry. In its House, the community provides shelter for the homeless. Each week, Catholic Workers pick up donated food from nearby restaurants, business and charities and distribute it to poor households throughout their neighborhood. They deliver a hot dinner every week to homeless men and women on the streets, and deliver donated clothes, coats, shoes, blankets and other supplies to people who are poor.

Tithing funds from Saint Mary's will be used by the organization to help maintain the van that they use to support the weekly food ministry, for critical house repairs, and for household expenses, specifically heating oil, electricity and water.

Parishioners are invited to become involved in DDCW. To help in the actual work of the organization, you may call the House directly or contact the parish sponsors. Furniture, clothing and household goods are always welcomed. School-aged children at the house need computers, books, school supplies, art supplies. Several children are pre-school aged and they need any clothing or supplies you would provide for your own children.

Parish sponsors are Anthony DeCristofaro (703-323-5013) and Tim Shea (703-250-8710).

### **SISTER PARISHES AND MISSIONS**

The organizations in this category call for Saint Mary of Sorrows to commit to the poor without regard to distance or cultural, political or religious differences. They provide a clear and present reminder that we are required to share our resources and to extend and receive a hand in friendship with God's children, no matter where in the world they may be.

#### **Belize, Mercy Care Center**

Mercy Care Center in Belize, Central America is dedicated to the physical and spiritual well being of the elderly in the community. The Center, which is run by laywomen, is under the auspices of the Sisters of Mercy, who have served in Belize for 121 years. Several nursing sisters work on the medical side of the Center. They visit the sick and homebound on motorbikes. The Center consists of two parts—the Health Services Area and the Human Services Area. The Health Services Area takes care of the patients both on-site and in their homes. They have doctors, nurses, a pharmacist, and various counselors, plus a social worker to help with the elderly poor and their care. The clientele of the Center are elderly, indigent, and in many cases homeless people who have no one else to care for them and nowhere else to go for the kinds of help Mercy Care provides.

The Human Services area of the center supplies breakfast and lunch each day for about 50 to 60 elderly folks who need not be Catholic. They also have a meals-on-wheels program for the homebound. Hygiene care such as baths and foot care is also provided. Guided stimulation activities such as an exercise program, crafts, games, and field trips are also provided. Once a week, Mass is said at the Center in

their chapel. The rosary is recited by a group of clients every day and is led by the staff.

The money requested will be used to buy a second motorbike, a new computer with accessories, and a digital camera. The money would also be used to increase the number of people being fed on a daily basis.

Parishioners can help Belize – Mercy Care by collecting the various items needed: religious articles of all kinds, medicines/medical supplies, new underwear for the seniors plus soap, shampoo, and other toiletries

The sponsors are Pat Edwards, 703-978-6491, and Beth Wingate, 703-802-3894.

### **Chimbote, Peru, Our Lady of Perpetual Help (OLPH)**

[www.losamigos-chimbote.org](http://www.losamigos-chimbote.org)

[frjack@terr.com.pe](mailto:frjack@terr.com.pe)

The very poor people of Chimbote, Peru, have relied in the past on financial support from St. Mary's to fund projects to meet their medical, educational, and physical needs. OLPH is a parish of 33,000 Catholics located in the barrios around Chimbote. St. Mary's funding for OLPH is used to pay part of the cost to operate the only hospice in South America, including salary and benefits, a mobile telephone system and public transportation. In 2007, 222 patients entered the hospice facility, and 152 of them passed away.

Sponsors of this project are Bill Seiler and Bob Graham. They educate the parish through organizing trips to OLPH in Chimbote, Peru, posting correspondence on the bulletin board and speaking to parish groups when requested. A videotape of OLPH is available in social ministry office and from the video club. A published book on the missionary work of OLPH's pastor, Fr. Jack Davis, is available from the social ministry office.

Fr. Davis, has visited St. Mary's several times, and has concelebrated and spoken at Masses. Further visits are expected. Anyone who is interested in visiting OLPH or working to support this mission is encouraged to call Bill Seiler (703-978-0242) or Bob Graham (703-591-2123).

Email: [frjack@terra.com.pe](mailto:frjack@terra.com.pe)

Address for Contributions:

Los Amigos del Padre Juan  
c/o Susan Trnka, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 717

West Fargo, ND 58078

## **Sisters of Our Lady of LaSalette Philippine Mission-Quirino Farm Project**

The Sisters of Our Lady of LaSalette, in the Philippines, have as one of their ministries the development and empowerment of the poor, the underprivileged and the oppressed. In 1999, the Sisters acquired a rundown farm in Barangay Kahel, Diffun, Quirino, where wealthy landlords were exploiting farmers. The Sisters are educating and ministering to the farmers and are teaching their children their basic rights and community laws. This will enable the farmers to avoid unjust profit/produce sharing and help them protect themselves from unjust labor practices. They are also being taught basic reading and writing skills, and Catechism. The Sisters envision using sustainable agricultural alternatives that will make this farm a showcase and model for other farming communities. This broad-based approach will help develop knowledge and skills for the farmers.

The people are mostly Catholic, but because of aggressive proselytizing from other religious sects, which is often tied to monetary offerings, the Sisters firmly believe that a Catholic educational program is greatly needed. A strong Catholic education based on Catholic views will empower the farmers.

Since this is a mission project and distance separates our church family relationship with our poor brothers and sisters, our parishioners can be involved by way of a spiritual path of prayer for the success of the project. This can be by participating at the Lenten and Advent Recollections held at St. Mary's by the LaSalette Sisters and Lay associates, and attendance at monthly Rosary and Novena *reconcilliare* days to pray for the specific needs of the Sisters and the people to whom they minister. Parishioners can learn about the LaSalette Apparition and Our Lady of LaSalette's message of reconciliation, and live the message in their daily lives. The spiritual connection that the Sisters bring will help to better understand the degree of poverty and the challenges that the poor in the Philippines, and throughout the world, face in their daily lives.

Sponsors are Carolyn LaRosa (703-503-9416) and Virgil Villapando (703-425-2343).

### **Safe Passage**

Safe Passage is a school support program for children who live in poverty at the edges of the Guatemala City garbage dump.

St. Mary's funds go directly toward sponsoring the four children at Safe Passage whom we have sponsored over the past five years so that they can attend public school in Guatemala. Our funds are used to provide enrollment fees, school uniforms, books, school supplies, medical support and vitamins for our sponsored children. Our funds also allow a full lunch for children; this is, for many, the only full meal in the day.

Our money allows for a pre-school or after-school program (in Guatemala, children attend school for a half day, either in the morning or the afternoon), which provides tutoring, help with homework, some sports and arts activities, vocational training and perhaps, most of all, a safe place to play.

The funds that we send also allow monthly food bags that are rewarded to children with regular attendance. This is an incentive for mothers to send their children to school (as opposed to sending them daily into the dump to search for food, or salable items to help the family survive). Parishioners can see pictures of our sponsored children, learn more about them and contact them by calling sponsors: Winnie Keaney (703-425-9785) or Ken and Deb Shutika (703-764-0979).

### **The Kateri Tekakwitha Center**

While serving at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church Parish in Livingston, Izabal, Guatemala, Father Thomas D. Moran, a Claretian missionary and former Associate Pastor at St. Mary of Sorrows, saw the extreme poverty and lack of access to basic education and schools in the communities of the most vulnerable people in Guatemala, the indigenous Mayan Indians. He founded the boarding home and school named after the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha. Sister Aracely Escobar Gonzalez of the Sisterhood of the Assumption is the Director of The Kateri Center. The center emulates the life of Blessed Kateri Tekakwita through its emphasis on the spiritual, social and educational growth of indigenous young people of Guatemala.

While at the boarding school, the indigenous children attend the new junior high school at The Kateri Center and some attend the public high school in Livingston. Many of the village schools from which the residents of The Kateri Center come do not have schools, or those with schools do not provide the quality education that the children attending schools in Livingston receive. As a result, the residents found they must work very hard to catch up with the other students. The Kateri Center provides tutors, a computer lab, study halls and library material so that the teens can adequately compete with their peers. Basic life skills necessary for the

indigenous population to lead the development of their own communities are taught.

Funding from St. Mary of Sorrows for the five-year project from FY 2010 through FY 2014 will provide materials and labor to construct a 160 feet deep mechanical well for The Kateri Center; materials and labor to return Young Women's bathrooms (shower facilities and toilets) to good condition; and some money for the purchase of medicine and food for students.

Parishioners can support the mission through the spiritual, cultural, social and, educational sponsorship programs and fund raising activities, thereby gaining better understanding of the needs of the indigenous people of Guatemala. Parishioners are invited to visit The Kateri Center for a first hand experience in reaching out in solidarity with our impoverished brothers and sisters in Central America.

Parish sponsors are Roger Redelman (703-278-8049) and Johnny Restivo, (703-250-7830).

### **Guatemala Sister Parish (San Pedro Apostol)**

The relationship between St. Mary's and San Pedro began more than 20 years ago when St. Mary's was staffed by the Claretian Fathers of North America and their brother priests were staffing San Pedro parish in El Estor, Guatemala. Since then the two parishes have shared a "sister parish" relationship which has been assisted by Saint Mary's tithing funds.

The relationship has been a blessing to both parishes. It has brought to life in a very personal way the universality of the Gospel message and its emphasis on helping the poor.

San Pedro parish serves over 20,000 Mayan Indians who mostly live in 89 villages outside the El Estor parish base. Each village has a chapel or some place designated for parish religious activities, such as administering the sacraments, preaching, and catechizing. Parish social ministry focuses on education and medical care and treatment. The parish also provides a residence for older women who, because of age and infirmity, can no longer live in their villages.

Past projects funded by St. Mary's have included construction of school buildings and other structures. Among several new projects the hope to make some renovations to their home for older women, to their medical clinic, and the dormitory for older boy students who have come to El Estor from their villages to

attend a public school equivalent of a middle school. They return to their home villages during school breaks. The funds from St. Mary's in the amount of \$6,000 during the fiscal year 2010 will be directed to the second stage of construction of an adequate sewer system to control the flooding of the rainy season and repairs of certain damage caused by the recent floods.

Groups from St. Mary's travel to visit San Pedro's in El Estor at least once a year. Because of those trips over the years, dozens of our parishioners have been there and are glad to share their experiences. Occasionally we undertake a work project while we are there. Announcements of those trips appear in the St. Mary's bulletin several months in advance. We also conduct gatherings at least twice a year for St. Mary's parishioners to discuss our activities in Guatemala and how our fellow parishioners can help. In past years pastors of San Pedro's have visited us for those events.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the sponsors:  
David Megel (301-839-2423) and Tom Kullman (703-440-1282).

### **The De La Salle School**

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

The De La Salle School is a Catholic school in the Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York that shares in the Lasallian heritage and provides a quality education for boys from economically disadvantaged situations. The school, a member of the national NativityMiguel Network of Schools, is a seven-year old Catholic middle school. It is small by design and intentionally involves the parent(s) of each student in the youngster's education. In addition to bolstering basic academic skills, there is emphasis on cultivating young men characterized by respect, responsibility, leadership, and service.

The De La Salle School's enrollment consists of young men from families with limited economic resources who could not otherwise afford a choice in education. The school is not tuition driven and philanthropic individuals, groups, corporations, and foundations provide the financial resources necessary for its sustenance.

Funding will provide snacks and supplies for the Extended Day program that will run on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 3:30 to 5 PM during the 2009 - 2010 school year (35 weeks). This program is available to all current De La Salle School students and alumni attending local high schools.

Parishioners can become involved by visiting The De La Salle School's website at [www.DeLaSalleSchool.org](http://www.DeLaSalleSchool.org) and through communication via the school's bi-monthly electronic newsletter, *De La Salle Dispatch*. Updates on students' academic, social, and spiritual development will also be provided.

Sponsors are Kevin & Alice Reilly (703-250-0703) and Michael & Lou Aimone (703 426-8092).

### **West Virginia Passionist Mission**

Three parishes comprise the Passionist Mission in Preston County: St. Sebastian in Kingwood, St. Zita in Masontown, and St. Edward in Terra Alta. Fr. Mark Ward resides at St. Sebastian's in Kingwood. Their ministry is supporting the rural poor of Preston County, trying to meet both their material and spiritual needs. An extensive summer home repair program helps families maintain adequate shelter, which in turn helps them to maintain their dignity, self-esteem and determination.

In an area where the unemployment rate is as high as 50%, welfare reform has increased the number of people coming to the mission for aid. St. Mary's funds are critical in helping people with medication, food, clothing, lodging, utilities, heating fuel, building materials and emergency assistance. Although the Catholic presence in Preston County is small, Fr. Ward is dedicated to building and maintaining the Catholic vitality.

Several parishioners and the parish Ancient Order of Hibernians group have sent clothing and other items to the mission and parishioners have visited the mission and brought food from the food pantry. The mission has also received school supplies from our parish collection, Parish sponsors are Mary Ayre (703-732-0995) and Sharon Kourtz (703-323-7597).



Type	Name of Organization	Sponsors	Allocation
	<b>Parish-Based Activities</b>		
O	Advocacy Support	Parish Social Ministry	\$1,000.00
C	Bikes For the World	Brian Keith & Linda Hansen	\$500.00
O	Brown Bag Sunday	Parish Social Ministry	\$400.00
O	Clothing Drive	Parish Social Ministry	\$1,500.00
O	Education & Enrichment	Parish Social Ministry	\$3,000.00
Ho	FACETS Transitional Housing	Liz & Tom DeLuca/ Pat Parr	<b>\$12,000.00</b>
E	FACETS Hot Meals Program	Pat Parr & Patricia Warakomsky	\$2,500.00
E	Fairfax FISH	Edie Reinsel & Joyce Gaul	\$8,000.00
Ho	Interfaith Housing Ministries	Ralph Lowry & Frances Allen	\$2,000.00
Ho	Marian Homes	Ercole Barone & Al Obuchowski	<b>\$7,500.00</b>
Ho	Project: Homes	Lucy Schleibaum & Jeanne Bebo	\$1,000.00
O	Hospitality	Parish Social Ministry	\$1,000.00
O	MRS Family		<b>\$5,000.00</b>
E	SOME	Don Allen/ Eric & Mariko Hein	\$5,300.00
E	Lamb Center Hot Lunches*		\$1,000.00
O	Supplies/Postage	Parish Social Ministry	\$1,300.00
			<b>\$53,000.00</b>
	<b>Local Organizations</b>		
E	Bethany House	Carol Knebel & Pat White	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
Ho	Catholics for Housing	Bob Gibson & Bill Forster	\$9,720.00
C	Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants	Tom Petersik & Mason Nottingham	\$6,500.00
Ho	Community Living Alternatives	Debra Bingham & Kathy Flynn	\$4,000.00
C	Dorothy Day Catholic Worker House	Tony DeCristofaro & Tim Shea	\$7,500.00
Ho	Father McKenna Center	Janet Pedneau & Bunny Kowalski	\$8,000.00
E	Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke	Kim Moden & Marion Essig	\$1,500.00
Ho	Wellspring Ministries	Judy Zieg & Corrine Frassa	\$6,000.00
E	Western Fairfax Christian Ministries	Cheryl Dulan & Debbie Smith	\$1,000.00
E	Gabriel Project*	Alina Otal & Thelma Garry	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
E	A Woman's Choice*	Marilyn & Jim O'Brien/ Robert Hall	\$7,500.00
			<b>\$64,720.00</b>
	<b>Home Missions</b>		
M	Catholic Church of Preston County	Mary Ayre & Sharon Kourtz	\$3,000.00
M	The DeLaSalle School*	Kevin & Alice Reilly /Michael & Lou Aimone	<b>\$550.00</b>
			<b>\$3,550.00</b>
	<b>Foreign Missions</b>		
M	Belize-Mercy Care Center	Pat Edwards & Beth Wingate	\$4,000.00
M	Guatemala-Kateri	Roger Redelman & John Restivo	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
M	Guatemala-Safe Passage	Winnie Keaney & Deb Shutika	<b>\$7,200.00</b>
M	Guatemala-Sister Parish	Dave Megel & Tom Kullman	\$6,000.00
M	Peru-Perpetual Help	Bill Seiler & Bob Graham	\$4,800.00
M	Philippines-La Salette Sisters	Carolyn LaRosa & Virgil Villapando	\$2,500.00
			<b>\$32,500.00</b>
S	<b>Special or Emerging Needs**</b>	Parish Social Ministry	\$4,000.00
	<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$157,770.00</b>
<b>Codes for types of activities or organizations</b>			
	C= Cooperative Participation		
	E= Emergency & Family Assistance		
	Ho= Housing & Homeless		
	M= Missions		