



St. James Mission Circle Newsletter

P.O. Box 1376, Solana Beach, CA 92075

November 2015

www.missioncircle.com

858.792.0516

Our mission is to organize, lead, and engage the parishioners of Saint James and Saint Leo Catholic Community to improve the lives of people in need.



Ring In The Holidays By Helping The Poor!

The Alternative Christmas Market on Sunday, November 15th, will sell "shares" in charitable parish programs. Cards representing your donation can be given to people on your Christmas list.

The Casa Eudes Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 19th at the girls' home in Tijuana. Help host the party or donate a small gift.

The CRC Holiday Basket Event in December at the Del Mar Fairgrounds will help 1,700 local families. Here's your chance to help our neighbors in need.

The Sorting Party on Saturday, January 9th, will sort dozens of new shoes for The Epiphany Celebration the next day. The event will be held in the parish hall from 10 a.m. to noon.

The Epiphany Celebration will be held on Sunday, January 10th at the Galilee Center in Coachella. Join us as we give new shoes to hundreds of needy migrant kids. Be sure to reserve your seat on the bus for this all day event.



Joy To Our Girls At The Christmas Party!

Delight A Little Girl With A Present by taking a gift suggestion card from the display in the vestibule of St. James which will go up after Thanksgiving. Buy the item and leave it (unwrapped) in the back of the church by Tues., Dec. 15th. You'll make some young girl's Christmas merrier.

Help Us Host The Party by coming down to Tijuana with us on Sat., Dec. 19th to host the party at the girls' home. We'll serve a big turkey dinner and there'll be Mexican Christmas Carols, a dance recital and (best of all) Santa! To join us, contact Jeff Sturgis at jeffsturgis@me.com. You'll need a current passport to reenter the US. To ride in the church van, you'll need a special passport card which speeds up reentry.

Help Fill Holiday Baskets For Our Neighbors In Need

Like to serve the poor close to home? Then volunteer to help at the CRC Holiday Basket Event at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on December 18th, 19th, and 20th. Over 1,700 local, low-income families benefit from this compassionate effort. A warehouse-like space is stocked with items collected or donated by hundreds of individuals, businesses and organizations. Helpers escort one family at a time through the huge venue, filling their shopping cart with clothing, food, toys -- even bikes! For specific times to sign up for a shift, go to <http://crcncc.org/hb>

Give People On Your List Gifts That Help The Poor

At the Alternative Christmas Market on Sunday, November 15th, you can do your Christmas shopping and help the needy at the same time. The market will be on the St. James Patio of the Bells from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and it will sell modestly priced "shares" supporting parish programs like our Mission Circle scholarships, sewing instruction, and dinners for the homeless. Cards representing your donation can be given to people on your list. These are gifts that give to others. For details contact Shirley Giese: giese@versacall.com

Give New Shoes To Needy Kids At The Epiphany Celebration

Here's a heart-warming way to start the New Year! Help us sort and distribute 1,500 pairs of new shoes to migrant kids at the Epiphany Celebration in Coachella, CA, on Sunday, January 10th.

Come To The Sorting Party With dozens of shoes to sort, we can use your help! Shoes need to be organized by size and if they're for boys or girls. Drop by the parish hall on Saturday, January 9th between 10:00 a.m. and noon. Help us get all the shoes ready for the event the next day.

Join The Celebration In Coachella: Early on Sunday, January 10, our volunteers will board a bus chartered from -- believe it or not -- The Divine Transportation Company. The trip to Coachella and back takes 6 hours so we leave early in the morning and get back in the late afternoon. Once we arrive at the Galilee Distribution Center in Coachella, our volunteers escort the migrant families through the event display, helping the kids select shoes that fit and making sure the parents get the food that The Center is distributing. A total of 1,500 pairs of new shoes will be available for these kids who really need them. Participating in this happy event is a great way to start 2016! Contact Katie Hodsdon at katie@stjames-stleo.org

Don Brosnahan Is Honored For Decades Of Service

On November 15 Don Brosnahan will be honored for his years of volunteer work at the annual Matthew 25 Recognition Mass and Dinner sponsored by Catholic Charities. This event recognizes people who exemplify the biblical words of Jesus from the book of Matthew, Chapter 25: "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for the least of my brothers, you did also for me." For almost 40 years Don has helped maintain the Casa Eudes Girls Home in Tijuana and he has been a leader in Mission Circle, working tirelessly to help the poor. Don exemplifies the spirit of this award.





In October Volunteers Packed 60,000 Meals For The Hungry

Our 5th annual food packaging event on Sunday, October 11th, turned the parish hall into a hub of frantic activity. 400 volunteers raced the clock trying to pack 60,000 non-perishable meals in just three hours. And they did it! Cheered on by the MC from Friends and Family Connection, our partner in the effort, the workers managed to pack all 60,000 meals for the hungry. (Over the past 5 events participants have packed 250,000 meals!) Most of the food goes to third world countries but a third of it is distributed to the poor locally. Congratulations to everyone who helped achieve this huge, compassionate goal!



Sun, Fun, And "Selfies" Ruled At Our Fall Outing

Saturday, October 10th, was a scorcher but it was the coolest day ever for the kids from the girls' home! For hours they splashed each other in the pool, played ball with the Mission Circle helpers, floated and fell off rafts, stopping just long enough to take a few "selfies". The event was our annual fall outing for the Casa Eudes girls at a pretty park in the country about three miles east of Rosarito Beach. There are swings, slides, go-cart rides and even a small zoo but the real attraction is the big, beautiful pool! Thirty six kids piled in and played in the water for hours -- with a short break for a barbecued lunch. The volunteers had as much fun as the kids -- and we all needed a nap on the way home!

Events Calendar

| WHEN | WHAT | WHERE |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| November | | |
| During November | MC Quarterly Newsletter | US Mail |
| 11 am-1:00 pm all Thurs.(not 26th) | PB&J Sandwich Making | St. Leo's Kitchen |
| 9 am to 2:00 pm, all Fri. (not 27th) | Staffing CRC Pantry | CRC Resource Center |
| 7:30 am Sat 7th | Maintenance & Sewing | Casa Eudes, TJ |
| 7:00 pm Tues 10th | MC Monthly Meeting | St. James Gathering Room |
| 8:00 am - 1:30 pm Sun 15th | Christmas Market | St. James Patio of the Bells |
| 7:30 am Sat 21st | Maintenance & Crafts | Casa Eudes, TJ |
| December | | |
| 11 am- 1:00 pm all Thurs.(not 24th) | PB&J Sandwich Making | St Leo's Kitchen |
| 9 am to 2:00 pm all Fri. (not 25th) | Staffing CRC Pantry | CRC Resource Center |
| 7:30 am Sat 5th | Maintenance & Sewing | Casa Eudes, TJ |
| 7:00 pm Tues 8th | MC Monthly Meeting | St. James Gathering Room |
| 2:00 pm to 7 pm Friday 11th | Bread of Life Dinner | Parish Hall & Oceanside |
| Fri. Dec. 18th - Sun. Dec 20th | CRC Holiday Basket Event | Del Mar Fairgrounds |
| 7:30 am Sat 19th | Christmas Party | Casa Eudes, TJ |
| January | | |
| 11 am-1:00 p.m all Thursdays | PB&J Sandwich Making | St. Leo's Kitchen |
| 9 am to 2:00 pm, all Fri. (not 1st) | Staffing CRC Pantry | CRC Resource Center |
| 10:00 am Sat.9th | Sorting Party | St. James Parish Hall |
| 7:30 am Sat 9th | Maintenance & Sewing | Casa Eudes, TJ |
| 7:00 am Sun. 10th | The Epiphany Celebration | Coachella, CA |
| 7:00 pm Tues 12th | MC Monthly Meeting | St. James Gathering Room |
| 7:30 am Sat 19th | Maintenance & Crafts | Casa Eudes, TJ |

News Briefs:



Our Cookies Go To Prison Again! Much to the delight of the inmates, our parish gave 317 dozen cookies to the R. J. Donovan Correctional Institution on Oct. 24 and 25. Special thanks go to the Faith Formation Class of 7th & 8th graders who baked 88 dozen all by themselves (and ate a few, too)! The cookies are part of a larger interfaith effort to offer homemade treats to the prisoners on one weekend through our Kairos prison ministry. They are wildly popular with the inmates and help encourage their participation in the ministry weekend.

Many Thanks



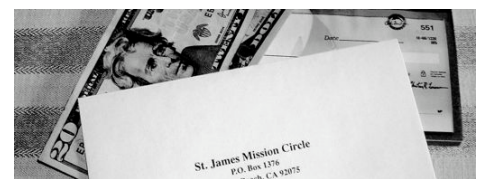
To Soles4Souls, a non-profit organization, who donated 100 pairs of new baby shoes for our Epiphany Celebration.



To Marian Henkel for giving us \$1,000 worth of fabric and other materials to help our Casa Eudes Sewing Program.



To Everyone who helped us reach our goal of packing 60,000 non-perishable meals for the hungry on October 11th.



To All our Mission Circle donors whose generosity allows us to host a great Christmas party at the Casa Eudes Girls Home, give 1,500 pairs of shoes to kids at The Epiphany Celebration, and support other worthwhile holiday programs.

St. James Mission Circle
P.O. Box 1376
Solana Beach, CA 92075

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 5
Encinitas, CA

Return Service Requested

You're Invited To One Of Our Meetings:

This is an open invitation to all our supporters to come to one of our monthly meetings.

They're held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Gathering Room of St. James Church (formally the church library). You're welcome to come and learn about our charity as we plan events and discuss the many ways we help the poor.

If you are interested, please contact Jeff Sturgis at pres@missioncircle.com.

Please Send Donations To:

Mission Circle, P.O. Box 1376, Solana Beach, CA 92075

Want to donate on line? It's very easy. Just go to our website and follow the simple directions.

**Visit Our Facebook page
at www.facebook.com/sjmissioncircle**

We post information about our upcoming events on this site. If you are already a member of Facebook, just register as a "fan" and refer the site to others. If you are not a member, visit the website to check on our activities.

**Go To Our Website at
www.missioncircle.com**

You can get more details on our activities and ways you can help at this website.

For volunteer opportunities, contact
Jeff Sturgis, President - pres@missioncircle.com

Mission Circle Contacts:

Jeff Sturgis, President - pres@missioncircle.com
Jan Nelte, Communications - info@missioncircle.com
Tien Nguyen, Webmaster - web@missioncircle.com