## Fall 2025 Newsletter

### From the Presidents

#### Be the Light!

This was the inspirational theme of the National Christ Child Society conference recently held in Bethesda, Maryland. It's an appropriate message for our times as we are constantly confronted with darkness in our everyday world.

We, as the Christ Child Society, have the unique privilege of bringing light to the people we serve.

- Imagine the joy as a mother of a new baby receives a layette.
- Imagine a child who receives a My Stuff Bag after having been removed from their home.
- Imagine children who wear glasses now after vision screening.
- Imagine the students who work with our tutors at Blessed Savior and have increased access to books, of mothers and children who enjoy activities on a Second Saturday morning, and of people who are able to purchase quality items at low prices at our Resale Shop.

Though our tasks may seem simple and ordinary, they are some of the corporal works of mercy, spreading love and light to others. Who knows what the true impact of our actions are as they ripple out?

Thank you for answering the call to be a member of the Christ Child Society Milwaukee Chapter. Invite friends and acquaintances to join us in service to bring more light to our community.

Our rewards are the smiles, the Thank Yous and the light which we see in others' eyes and on their faces.

Julie Steinhafel and Mary Mertens

Nothing is ever too much to do for a child



-Mary Virginia Merrick

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## 2025 Shower of Love: Bringing Literacy to Life

On Wednesday, October 22, more than 230 members, friends, family and guests gathered at the Italian Community Center to celebrate and support the mission of the Christ Child Society at our annual Shower of Love. This year's literacy theme was beautifully woven throughout the event — from the printed materials and décor to our inspiring keynote speaker.

The Galleria buzzed with energy as guests enjoyed a lively social hour and placed bids on a selection of stunning Silent Auction items generously donated by members, CCS friends and local businesses. Many of the auction items reflected the literacy theme, further tying our mission and message together.

As guests entered the ballroom, they were greeted with décor that brought the theme to life. Tables featured vintage encyclopedias topped with fall mums and reading glasses perched on top. The stage featured a breathtaking hand-painted backdrop designed by Pius High School art students depicting bookshelves filled with classic children's titles and beloved stuffed animals. Completing the look, an antique desk displayed a vintage typewriter and a collection of children's books. Each place setting included a program designed to resemble a vintage library card and a chocolate book complete with a ribbon bookmark.

Our emcee, Kathy Mykleby, brought her warmth, wit and signature humor to the stage. A respected Milwaukee broadcaster who spent over 38 years at WISN Channel 12, Kathy shared touching stories from her longtime segment Tuesday's Child, which connected local youth with mentors. Her engaging spirit had the audience both laughing and inspired. Even Father Mike joined in the fun, pausing for a selfie with Kathy before leading the prayer before lunch.

The program's highlight was keynote speaker and author Maya Smart, whose presentation captivated the audience as she spoke about the profound importance of reading from birth. Maya invited everyone to reflect on their own childhood reading experiences — for some, books were a joyful escape; for others, a gateway to imagination, knowledge and empowerment. She offered practical ways to nurture a love of reading in children and reminded us that literacy is one of the most powerful gifts we can share.

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and to the dedicated volunteers whose creativity and hard work made this event such a tremendous success. Together, we continue to foster hope, opportunity, and a love of learning for the children in our community.







- Eileen & Therese enjoy the silent auction items.
- Author Maya Smart reinforced the importance of reading from birth.
- Spiritual director Fr. Mike Wolfe takes a selfie with emcee Kathy Mykleby.

### Resale Shop Update: Holiday Cheer & Volunteer

When you visit the shop, you'll find it is decorated for fall with Halloween and Thanksgiving merchandise throughout. Our ladies are already putting out Christmas items for sale! It's always a festive time at the shop - please come in and join the fun.

- We will close the first Saturday in December so our volunteers are able to attend the Christmas Brunch. The shop will be open the second Saturday instead, along with our regular third Saturday as usual. As we have done the past few years, the shop will close the week between Christmas and New Year's Day and will reopen again the first week of January.
- We continue to need your donations of slightly used, good quality men's, women's and children's clothing, housewares, linens (especially towels), smaller furniture items like desks, dressers, chairs, dinette sets, small tables, and lamps. If you are unsure whether your items are suitable, call the shop during business hours and talk to a director.
- We are looking for someone to help out with Craigslist. This person would need to be able to come into the shop on a regular basis, take pictures and list items on Craigslist. Training will be provided. Our success at the shop and on eBay can be traced directly to the hard work of our many volunteers. If you would like to join us, call Pat Dorr and she will find a place for you.

Finally, we donated some end-of-season clothing to the Red Cross, benefiting recent Milwaukee area flood victims.

### Resale Shop Celebrates 30 Years & \$1.3 Million

On August 9, the Christ Child Society Resale Shop marked its 30th anniversary with vibrant celebration at Our Lady of Good Hope Church. The event included a commemorative mass and a lively reception at the shop, bringing together parish members, CCS volunteers, neighbors and friends for a truly memorable day.



Bishop Donald J. Hying, 5th Bishop of Madison and former pastor at Our Lady of Good Hope, joined the celebration to honor this milestone. The mass was concelebrated with Father Michael Wolfe, with special contributions from Eileen Jarosz and Ellen Kloth (liturgy planning), Mary Mertens (lector), Michael Mertens (acolyte), and Margaret Thorn (publicity and logistics). The reception featured delicious refreshments provided by a dedicated team of volunteers, including Mary Cuisinier, Pat Dorr, Kathy Hansen, Mary Cary, Mary Johnson, Barbara Bail, Cathy Smaglik, Patrice Sisulak, Barb Jansen, Sheila Grandelis, Amy Loebel and Jane Frisch. To mark the occasion, the Resale Shop hosted a special sale on most items, inviting the community to celebrate and support CCS's ongoing work.

Since opening its doors in April 1995 at the former Our Lady of Sorrows convent, the volunteer-run Resale Shop has become a cornerstone of support for children and families throughout Milwaukee. Over three decades, the shop has raised an impressive \$1,296,092, helping CCS further its mission of compassion and service. The shop relocated to the Our Lady of Good Hope campus in December 2004, where it has continued to thrive, generating \$829,607 in revenue from December 2004 through June 2025.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this milestone event and to all who have supported the Resale Shop over the years!

## Layettes: From our hearts to tiny hands

The Layette program continues to thrive, thanks to the incredible generosity of Christ Child Society members, friends and the community. We are so grateful for the donations we receive throughout the year, especially from those who attend the Shower of Love and the Christmas Mass.

Every month, parishes like St.
Elizabeth Ann Seton and Lumen
Christi send us beautiful handmade blankets, sweaters, hats and
more. Sometimes we're surprised
by unexpected acts of kindness—

like the woman from Green Bay who heard about our mission and insisted on mailing us baby blankets and books for mothers in need. These moments remind us how far our mission reaches and how many hearts it touches.

We also received two beautiful quilts from the students and staff at St. Coletta Day School. These quilts were made on sewing machines donated by our own CCS members—a wonderful example of how our support for St. Coletta's School Support & Literacy Program comes full circle.

Each month, layettes are delivered to mothers and a.m. at the Christ Child Center. Togethe their newborns at eight Milwaukee-area hospitals. Our ing a difference for mothers and infants.



dedicated members—and several of their husbands—pick up the layettes at the Christ Child Center every third Monday. At the hospital, a social worker receives the layettes and ensures they reach mothers and babies who need them most.

Drivers include Katie Clark, Cathy Smaglik, Eileen Jarosz, Mary Anne Butscher, Mary Johnson, Geri Schmitz, Sheila Grandelis, Barb Pelton, Jean Phelan, Judie Hermann & Pat Dorr, Carol Niles, Brenda Hoskins, Dale Smaglik & Frank Grandelis.

The next assembly will be Monday, November 17 at 10 a.m. at the Christ Child Center. Together we are making a difference for mothers and infants.



This July, our Layette Program was honored to participate in the Mission of Mercy volunteer service program, sponsored by St. Joseph's Parish in Wauwatosa. Three boys and four girls from local parishes, along with their chaperone, joined us at the Christ Child Center. They clipped tags and folded onesies and socks, showing how even young volunteers can make a big difference for families in need.

### Fr. Michael Wolfe: Pope Leo & Our Love for the Poor

"Love for the Lord, then, is one with love for the poor." (5)

This direct, clear statement comes from the recently promulgated apostolic exhortation from Pope Leo XIV titled **Dilexi Te** and focused on love for the poor. The document was originally begun by Pope Francis and now has been finished by Pope Leo, who added his own style and ideas.

What is an apostolic exhortation, you may ask (and rightfully so!). An apostolic exhortation is one of the major papal documents, and I like to think of it as a means by which the pope lifts up a vision or priority of the church via a singular theme, and then *exhorts* the faithful to live it out in the life of this church. In this case, it is on how the love for the poor is foundational to truly being the Church of Christ. Pope Leo says in the beginning:



I share the desire of my beloved predecessor that all Christians come to appreciate the close connection between Christ's love and his summons to care for the poor. I too consider it essential to insist on this path to holiness, for "in this call to recognize him in the poor and the suffering, we see revealed the very heart of Christ, his deepest feelings and choices, which every saint seeks to imitate" (3, citing <u>Gaudete et Exsultate</u>, 96)

I have little doubt that this document on the love of the poor would resonate with Mary Virginia Merrick, and I hope it does with you, too. But this phrase must not stay on the surface for us as a saccharine motto. If we take it seriously, as we should, it must challenge us, maybe even scare us a little. Because love entails true compassion (meaning "suffering with") which is connected with a gift of self. We see this in Merrick, who did not just sew from a distance, but visited, wrote and cared for those she sought to help, regardless of color or creed even at a time of segregation. Love entails being courageous enough to risk that "suffering with" so that we never become callous or accustomed to the need and plight of others, a common occurrence with those who work closely with those in need. Again, Pope Leo:

Let us admit that, for all the progress we have made, we are still 'illiterate' when it comes to accompanying, caring for and supporting the most frail and vulnerable members of our developed societies. We have become accustomed to looking the other way, passing by, and ignoring situations until they affect us directly. (105, citing Francis in Fratelli Tutti).

Finally, it is important that we remember at all times that our charitable works and encounters with others is a two-way street, so to speak, it is a truly Christian encounter. "While it is true that the rich care for the poor, the opposite is no less true," and "[l]ives can actually be turned around by the realization that the poor have much to teach us about the Gospel and its demands," (109). We must see a poor person as a person first, beyond their socio-economic reality (this then leads to compassion that can even hurt). We must see that person as an equal on the journey from whom we can learn and receive much. "For Christians, the poor are not a sociological category, but the very 'flesh' of Christ," (110).

May your experience as members of the Christ Child Society lead you to true love for those in need, especially children and their mothers. In the spirit of Mary Virgina Merrick, this must go beyond a superficial idea or an activity done from a distance, but rather be central to your life as a Christian. May our love for those in need not be theoretical, but be true love which includes being courageously compassionate, even if it hurts sometimes. "By its very nature, Christian love is prophetic: it works miracles and knows no limits. It makes what was apparently impossible happen" (120).

## Vision Screening: Brighter Learning for Children



In September, almost 30 Christ Child members gathered for our kickoff meeting, launching the 2025–2026 Vision Screening year. We're excited to continue our tradition of helping children see and learn better! So far we have 20 certified screeners and others are working to complete Prevent Blindness Wisconsin training and the Archdiocese's Safe Environment class. We've added another screening kit so we can set up two stations and screen twice as many children in the same amount of time. So far, our referral numbers are consistent with last year.

#### Here's the process:

- One screener shows shapes to children ages
   3, 4, and 5 and asks to name them.
- Another screener helps the child put on the glasses.
- A third screener completes the paperwork.
   Each child receives a tri-fold pamphlet to take home, letting parents know if their child passed or needs professional testing.
- A result sheet is sent to PBW so their staff can follow up on referrals.

#### **Recent Screenings & Results**

- Blessed Savior South School (Sept 30):
  - 22 children screened (K4 and K5)
  - 2 referred for professional testing
- Josephat's School (Oct 6):
  - 34 children screened (K4 and K5)
  - 5 referred for professional testing



#### **Upcoming Schools**

We'll be screening at eight schools this year. Still to come:

- St. Joseph's School (Wauwatosa)
- St. Agnes School (Butler)
- Northwest Catholic School (Milwaukee)
- St. Vincent Pallotti School (Milwaukee)
- St. Catherine's School (Milwaukee)
- Notre Dame School (Milwaukee)

Vision screening is incredibly rewarding. Just three minutes with a child can make a meaningful difference in their life. Vision screening is the cornerstone of any literacy program. If a child can't see, learning to read becomes much harder. Plus, working with little ones is always a joy!

## Did you know?

#### St. Lucy is the patron saint of sight.

O St Lucy, preserve the light of my eyes so that I may see the beauties of creation, the glow of the sun, the color of the flowers and the smile of children.



### Kindness in Every Stitch: My Stuff prepares children for winter

As the colder months arrive, we warmly invite you to join our caring group of volunteers, where every assembly day at the Christ Child Center is a chance to share kindness and help ensure every child receives the cozy hats, mittens and gloves they need to stay warm this winter.

Since June, we have assembled and delivered 528 blue canvas bags to six shelters or agencies – an average of 132 bags per month. Our numbers are higher for this period than last year because we've added toddler bags. In the last four months, we have delivered 43 toddler bags to four shelters.

Patti Kurth and Anne Kelly reached out to the shelters over the summer to evaluate how we are doing with the toddler bags. Our toddler bags now include sizes 6, 9, 12 and 18 months for both boys and girls.

We have been fortunate to have between 20 and 25 volunteers each month – including several new provisional members – putting in countless hours of hard work, shopping, sorting and assembling the children's bags. We do this all in the name of the Christ Child.

Starting in November, the bags include winter hats and mittens or gloves. That means we need your help! Donations of mittens and gloves for both boys and girls ages two through 18 can be dropped off at the Resale Shop on the second floor during regular business hours.

Everyone is welcome to join our fun group of volunteers. Our assembly day is the first Thursday of every month - next is Nov. 6 - at the Christ Child Center, 3315 N 124<sup>th</sup> St. Brookfield. We begin at 9 a.m.

#### My Stuff Bags benefit these shelters/agencies:

- Children's Services
- The Cathedral Center
- Meta House

- Joy House
- Milwaukee Women's Center
- New Horizon Center, which includes both foster care and Catherine Early Childhood Development



## My Stuff: Praise from our partners

We are touched to be part of a program that has been serving children for 25 years—what an incredible legacy of compassion and care.

Your regular and thoughtfully curated donations truly stand out. While we do occasionally receive similar items from other organizations, nothing matches the consistency, care, and quality that comes with the Christ Child Society's gifts. The inclusion of essentials like underwear and hygiene items is especially impactful. These are things our children often lack and having them included shows such sensitivity to their real needs. The added touches, like toys and blankets, bring warmth, comfort, and a sense of being seen and cared for, which is so important.

We also deeply appreciate the time you take to visit every few years. Your openness to feedback and commitment to continuous improvement have only made the program stronger. In terms of future planning, I can confidently say that your program is not duplicated by others in any significant way. The regularity, personalization and quality of your donations make them unique and irreplaceable.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for all you do for children in need. Your commitment truly makes a difference in their lives—and in ours.

The Team at Cathedral Center

We are grateful for the many years that Christ Child Society has faithfully served our Joy House children through the "My Stuff Bag" program. Each child receives a bag during the intake process, and we've received positive feedback from our staff that the children truly enjoy all the thoughtful items inside.



CATHEDRAL

We don't receive the same type of personal items from any other organizations or charities. This makes "My Stuff Bag" even more special. You are truly a blessing to us, and we are so thankful for your continued support.

Fazie Wellskopf Joy House Assistant Director Milwaukee Rescue Mission

## **Stitching Group Update**

The CCS Stitching Group meets monthly to work on their own projects or contribute to our chapter's work. So far, they've created about 40 pairs of mittens sized 6-18 months for our Toddler My Stuff project. They are included in bags from October through March. If you'd like to help with the mitten project at home or join the Stitching Group, contact Ellen Johnson at finalneedl@aol.com or 262-674-1239.



## Second Saturday: Fall into fun

#### September

Our first Second Saturday of the season was a home run! Even with fewer CCS volunteers, everyone pitched in to make the Brewer celebration a big success. Special thanks to Allene Ricker for creating the Brewer logo project and to provisional member Judy Quigley, who helped in every area and connected beautifully with our families. The day began with stretching led by Mary Hawes, followed by a group reading of a Brewer book with Linda Harrigan and her students. Moms and children designed creative Brewer logos and signed a stunning banner donated by Phillip Litho in Grafton—thanks to Associate CCS member Bobbie Buening, whose daughter is the company's president.

The Brewers generously provided six raffle items and a dozen t-shirts, and Sandy Schmitt brought joy to many by announcing the winners. Lunch was a hit with hotdogs, baked beans, chips, veggies, watermelon, and adorable baseball cupcakes. Fr. Mike Wolfe visited and is helping recruit families through All Saints and other parishes. We welcomed 19 families, including six who arrived by bus and one new family from St. Francis of Assisi. Our group photo captured the joy of the day!







#### **October**

What an incredible day we had! Our families enjoyed a fun, educational, and interactive experience thanks to the amazing team at the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center. The highlight of the day was the Beaks & Talons program, where we learned all about birds of prey—their habitats, diets, and the important role they play in our environment. For many of us, it was our first time seeing these majestic birds up close—and we even got to touch some fascinating bird artifacts!







### **Membership:** Your Questions Answered!

The best way to strengthen our chapter is to encourage new members to join! Whether it's a friend from church, a niece or daughter or a recent retiree, Membership Chair Ellen Johnson recently provided an overview of the membership process.

## What does a member do if she wants to sponsor someone?

Get a membership application at general meetings, the resale shop or just ask me! An application form is also available on the <a href="CCS website">CCS website</a>. The application is given to the prospective member (provisional) to fill out and return to me.

## What kind of support do sponsors need to provide to provisionals?

A member who has agreed to be a sponsor for a prospective member is the first person a provisional will get to know. Sponsors meet the new member, perhaps for coffee or lunch. Ideally you need to be able to answer questions and accompany new members to project assemblies, meetings and orientation.

# Are there any specific financial expectations or service milestones for provisionals before becoming active?

A provisional has three requirements to complete before becoming an active member of the chapter. She should attend an orientation, a layette assembly or work day and a general meeting. Provisionals do not pay dues.

## What service opportunities do you recommend provisionals participate in?

Provisionals are encouraged to participate in as many of the chapter's project assemblies as they are able. Layettes would be the most important project to participate in as it is our signature project. The more involved they are, the more they will learn about the mission of our chapter and want to join.

## What if a provisional decides not to become a member?

If a provisional decides this isn't for them, they simply notify their sponsor or me that they no longer wish to obtain membership. The sponsor should let me know.

#### Is there anything a provisional cannot do?

Yes. Provisionals cannot hold an office, be a project chair, pay dues or vote. They can attend all meetings,

assemblies and social events and participate in all activities.



## How can someone request membership if she doesn't have a sponsor?

A copy of our application is on <u>our website</u> and available at the Resale Shop during open hours. When I receive the completed application, I work to find a member who will sponsor them. Please let me know if you're interested in being a new member sponsor.

#### Are you planning informational sessions or meetand-greet events for prospective members?

We are holding an orientation meeting on January 10, 2026 for all provisional members and their sponsors. This will give our newest members a great overview of all the things our chapter is involved in with our community. Right now, we're not planning any activities to recruit new members, but sometimes individual members will participate in human concerns events at their parish and share information. Our best recruitment tool is having our own members talk to women they know and tell them about our chapter.

Here are some ways to approach someone to encourage membership:

- Share Personal Impact Stories. Talk about how CCS has impacted your life—whether through friendships, spiritual growth or meaningful service.
- Highlight the Mission. Emphasize our focus on serving children and families in need, and how their involvement can make a real difference.
- Invite Them to an Event. Bring them to a CCS meeting, fundraiser, or volunteer opportunity so they can experience the mission firsthand.
- Mention Flexibility. Let them know there are many ways to contribute—through hands-on service, donations and behind-the-scenes support.
- Offer to Mentor Them. Reassure them that you'll help them get started and introduce them to other members.

## **Briefs:** CCS Milwaukee in the community

#### 25 Years of Compassion: Christ Child Society of Milwaukee's My Stuff Bag Program

A \$5,000 grant from Herb Kohl Philanthropies in September 2025 marks a milestone year for the Christ Child Society of Milwaukee's My Stuff Bag program, now celebrating its 25th anniversary. This generous donation is dedicated to expanding the program's reach, specifically funding new toddler bags for children in need. Since its inception in 2000, My Stuff Bags have provided comfort and dignity to children aged two through 18 living in shelters and foster care throughout Greater Milwaukee. Over the past 25 years, the program has delivered more than 5,000 bags, with the number increasing annually – a testament to both the growing need and the unwavering commitment of volunteers.



#### **CCS Member Reine Assana Honored as 2025 Woman of Faith**

The Christ Child Society member Reine Assana recently was named as the 2025 Woman of Faith by the Sisters of the Divine Savior in recognition of her lifelong commitment to faith, family, and community.



#### **Diaper Gifts from MUHS**

Marquette University High School's homecoming celebration combined fun and service - benefitting the Christ Child Society and our families. They estimated that they collected close to 20,000 diapers, which we will include in our layette bundles.



#### Blessed Savior South tutors settling in

The consistent support is helping students stay focused and engaged, while also easing classroom transitions. Teachers are seeing the benefits of this steady presence, with smoother days and more learning time. At right, Maureen Ullrich works with a student in the Resource Room at Blessed Savior South. The room, thanks to the effort of Jen Rentmeester, is supplied with supplemental activities to use with students as well as various resources for the tutors.



#### **Funding Messmer High School retreats**

Our member Punky Kennedy (left) recently met with Laura Koppa at Messmer High School's 100 year anniversary celebration. Laura, a Messmer graduate, is part of their Advancement Team. Messmer is one of the schools that the Christ Child Society supports through the School Support and Literacy Committee, which Punky co-chairs. CCS helps fund the retreats for the students.



#### **Christ Child Milwaukee at Women of Christ**

We will be at the conference on November 15 with a booth to share our mission. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow women of faith and witness to Christ's love through our service. We encourage members to pray for those representing our chapter and sharing how we serve children in need with compassion and joy. For event details, visit <a href="https://womenofchrist.net/">https://womenofchrist.net/</a>.



#### Bulletin announcements spread the word

Thanks to our community liaisons, we are promoting the Christ Child Society's mission along with spiritual and social activities. Please contact Barb Haig barbh1836 @gmail.com if you would like to share notifications with your church or community group.

#### **COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY SHOWER OF LOVE

The 2025 Shower of Love is coming October 22! Support the Milwaukee Chapter of Christ Child Society and the work we do to help area children — especially in literacy. The luncheon features inspirational author Maya Payne Smart. All are welcome! Visit www.ChristChildMilwaukee.org for more information.

### 2025-26 CCS leadership

#### **National CCS Conference Provides Ideas & Inspiration**

This fall, Milwaukee chapter co-president Julie Steinhafel and communications member Barb Haig attended the National Christ Child Society conference in Bethesda, Maryland. They joined members from across the country to share best practices and inspiring stories. Highlights included a social media workshop focused on Instagram, a keynote by Dr. Ben Carson, and sessions on organizational growth, literacy and nonprofit sustainability. Roundtable discussions sparked ideas for membership recruitment and outreach. The event concluded with a Mass, fostering unity. Julie and Barb returned energized, ready to strengthen the Milwaukee Chapter's mission of serving children in need.



#### **Fiscal Year Update**

The Executive Board has officially approved a change to the Chapter's fiscal year to better align with National's reporting calendar. The updated By Laws amendment changes Article V, Section 3 from "June 1 to May 31" to "January 1 to December 31." This shift creates a unified calendar year for financial reporting. The motion was passed at the August 13th meeting and will be presented to the General Membership for final approval.

#### **Officers**

- Presidents: Julie Steinhafel, Mary Mertens
- Vice President: Kathy Rave
- Treasurers: Sandy Schmitt, Jane Vosters
- Secretary: Margaret Krahe

#### **Non-Voting**

- Spiritual Advisor: Fr. Michael Wolfe
- Parliamentarian: Angie Kopf

#### **Directors**

- Communication: Ann Lamberg
- Events: Bev Denofre, Judy Hartung
- Finance: Marilyn Martin, Kristin Troy
- Fundraising: Maria Strehlow, Diane Hicks
- Membership: Ellen Johnson
- Marketing: Jen Rentmeester
- Resale: Cathy Smaglik
- Follow the Child: Laurie Derus
- Spiritual: Eileen Jarosz, Ellen Kloth
- Immediate Past Presidents: Judy Keenan, Kathleen Semrad

## New members and their sponsors

- Mary Antunes/Dottie Zononi
- Betty Jo Aspell/Ursula Raad
- Marnie Balke/Kathleen Semrad
- Mindy Cox/Marilyn Martin
- Barb Jansen/Maria Strehlow
- Shani Hirsch/Sheila Grandelis
- Laura Kult/Kathy Powers
- Collette Linn/Ellen Johnson

- Cheryl Litvin/Ellen Kloth
- Mary Jo McCormick/Mary Cento
- Mary McInerny/Patti Kurth
- Piper Melkonian/Ellen Johnson
- Judy Neureuther/Kathleen Semrad
- Mary O'Brien/Mary Stroebel
- Jill Pitterle/Sandy Schmitt
- Mary Jo Quackenboss/Marge Pogorzelski

#### Volunteer

#### **My Stuff**

#### 3315 N. 124th St.

9 a.m.

1st Thursday of the month Except July

#### Layettes

#### 3315 N. 124th St.

10 a.m.

3rd Monday of the month Except February

#### **Resale Shop**

#### 4033 W. Good Hope Rd

Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 1st & 3rd Saturday 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

#### **Memorials**

#### In honor of...

Pat Dorr Sara & Jacob Johnson Jean & Pete Kirk Ellen Kloth

#### In memory of...

Joe Burke Carole Cmeyla Mary Ann Czerwinski Donna Schill Lea Doucette Al Eberle Fr. Bob Gloudeman Kathryn Huebshcen

Patrick Lawless

Ron Martin
Karen Olivetti
Joan Olks
Dr. Robert Pavlic
Joan Reddin
Margaret Riester
Norb Schmid
Cecile Smith
Suzanne Wendelberger

Send memorial requests to: Eileen Jarosz N26W22350 Birchwood Ct. Waukesha WI 53186

Father Robert "Bob" Gloudeman, 86, passed away on August 4, 2025. Born in West Allis, he was ordained in Austria in 1964 and served in various pastoral and chaplain roles across Milwaukee. He was a beloved spiritual advisor to the Christ Child Society and active in community care. Known for his humor, generosity, and love of nature, sports, and music, he touched many lives.

### **Christmas Mass & Lunch**

Our annual Christmas Lunch and Mass will be held on Saturday, December 6, 2025 at The Wisconsin Club. We are thrilled that the All Saints Parish Gospel Choir will be joining us, accompanying Fr. Michael Wolfe, pastor of All Saints Parish and our spiritual director.



For more than 50 years, this extraordinary choir has lifted spirits and filled hearts with their soulful harmonies-sharing their music in Milwaukee and around the world in France, Italy, Africa and Washington, D.C.

We're looking forward for our Christ Child Members, family and friends to experience the joy, music and fellowship of this special Christmas celebration. For additional information about this event, watch your weekly newsletter or contact Beverly Denofre at 414-940-4650.



#### **OUR MISSION**

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

## Keep Engaged in Social Media

#### **Facebook**

**CCSMilwaukee** 



#### Instagram

christchildsocietymke



#### Website

christchildmilwaukee.org



## **Christ Child Society of Milwaukee**

Merrick Center at Our Lady of Good Hope 4033 W Good Hope Rd Milwaukee, WI 53209

Return Service Requested

Phone: 414-540-0489 E-mail: ChristChildMilwaukee@ gmail.com PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE