

Catholic Charities Welcomes Historic Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse Property

The Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse, an institution for more than 100 years in the Chicago Lawn neighborhood will soon be transferred to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago. The Motherhouse and surrounding property will become home to several Catholic Charities programs and hundreds of staff. The administrative offices of the Sisters of St. Casimir will continue to operate out of the Motherhouse.

Catholic Charities is committed to maintaining the integrity and Catholic history of the property. It anticipates having staff and services operating out of the property by early 2015.

“The Sisters have had a deep and rich history in this community,” said Monsignor Michael M. Boland, President of Catholic Charities, “Right now we serve more than 15,000 people in the surrounding



LEFT
Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse
TOP
Mass in Motherhouse chapel

neighborhoods. The sheer size of the Motherhouse campus will allow us to move a number of services to the property and help even more people across Cook and Lake counties.”

COMPASSION IN ACTION *Recognizing Those Who Give*

At the Annual Meeting of the Board of Advisors in October, Catholic Charities bestowed the 2014 Compassion in Action Award on Doug and Kathy Kurtenbach. The award is given to Board Members who provide outstanding service and substantial financial support.

Raising three children in River Forest, Doug and Kathy are committed to St Luke Parish, Trinity High School, and their community. Doug, an attorney with Kirkland & Ellis for the past 30 years, has served St. Luke's in many capacities, including as chair of the Parish Council, lector, communion minister, religious education teacher, and basketball coach. Kathy, a registered nurse, served for many years on the St.

Luke's School Board. She has shared her beautiful voice as a cantor in St. Luke Church and around Chicagoland for more than 20 years and has been a long-standing member of St. Luke's Chancel Choir. Kathy also served on the Trinity High School Board of Directors for many years. Doug and Kathy recently co-chaired St. Luke's 125th Anniversary Capital Campaign with great success. Prior, they also co-chaired Trinity's campaign to build its beautiful new health and fitness center.

Members of the Catholic Charities Board of Advisors since 2006, the couple have co-chaired the West Region's Brighter Futures Golf Outing for the past three years. Brighter Futures benefits

the New Hope Apartments Program that provides families with a secure home and enables children to stay in familiar schools while their parents receive intensive financial and job counseling for up to two years so they can achieve self-sufficiency. In the three years of chairing this event, Doug and Kathy have increased the amount that Brighter Futures raises for the program by 300%, working with two other Board of Advisor couples; Jeff and Karen Stelmach and Mike and Lisa Kozak.

It is because of the generosity of people such as Doug and Kathy Kurtenbach that Catholic Charities can extend its reach in suburban areas where poverty is becoming more common.

OUR MISSION

Catholic Charities fulfills the Church's role in the mission of charity to anyone in need by providing compassionate, competent and professional services that strengthen and support individuals, families and communities based on the value and dignity of human life.

Brighter Futures – A Success

Brighter Futures, the annual event of which proceeds go to New Hope Housing Program, was a great success! The event netted \$84,719.56. We had more than 100 golfers in attendance and over 130 dinner guests. The day was beautiful and everyone had a marvelous time. Thanks to our Chairs: Doug and Kathy Kurtenbach, Jeff and Karen Stelmach,



and Mike and Lisa Kozak. Thanks to all sponsors and volunteers, especially Trinity High School volunteers.



Upcoming Events at St. Mary of Celle

St. Mary of Celle
Strengthening Center
1428 S. Wesley, Chicago, Illinois

November 24 Open House in Honor of the Unveiling of New Mural

On Monday November 24, 2014, from 9 to 11 a.m., St. Mary of Celle Family Strengthening is having an Open House to unveil the Center's new wall mural created by DePaul University Art students. All are invited to stop by to hear from Brother Mark Elder of DePaul University, Professor and Instructor of the Community Art class, talk about the mural's creation and meaning. Monsignor Boland will be on hand to bless the mural.

December 15 Testing New ESL Students

Partnering with Morton College, Morton will be testing new ESL students on Monday, December 15 at 9:30 a.m. to begin classes on January 12, 2015. Also, basic Computer classes and Employment workshops being provided for FREE. Anyone interested can stop by Center to register or call (708) 303-3679/3678



Walking to End Hunger

Thanks to all who participated in the Hunger Walk on June 21. Your support helped us raise more than \$1,000 for the West Suburban Food Pantry.

Health Fair Helps 180 Clients

A very successful Health fair took place at St. Frances of Rome on Saturday, August 9, 2014. More than 180 clients were seen and assisted!

Thanks to all parishes and businesses that organized backpacks and supplies drive, especially Freddy's Pizza in Cicero, Exit Realty and St. Mary of Celle Parish. More than 300 backpacks were collected and distributed to community children.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Randy Belice



Randy has been an invaluable volunteer since May of 2006. He has been helpful with our Senior Food Nutrition Program, health fairs, helping to pick up supplies the day before our event and even sharing his photography talent by taking pictures at our health fairs and Brighter Futures event. He also has helped us in the reception area and in our clothing room and has spoken on behalf of Catholic Charities for the Mothers' Day Appeal at his parish.

Randy is our lead volunteer with our Senior Food Nutrition Program. He has trained other volunteers and is doing a wonderful job in providing this service. He is great with our clients. He knows the clients we serve better than anyone as he has been a consistent volunteer since the beginning. Randy shares a special relationship

with the clients. He knows their stories and picks up right where their discussions ended from the month before. Randy truly has and continues to make our program operate so well and with so much compassion for all we serve.

"As Christians, we are all called from our baptism to be servants of Christ," Randy says. "As one of many volunteers at Catholic Charities, I am able to model Christ's actions and be of service to others. While we give of ourselves by helping our clients carry their monthly food packages, in reality they give us so much more by allowing us to walk with them and be a part of their lives, if only for a short while. It is during this time that they share with us their cares, concerns, fears, and joys. The real work is being a patient and compassionate leader."

Volunteer Opportunities

Are you interested in giving back and volunteering in your community?

Whatever your interests, skills and schedule, Catholic Charities has a volunteer opportunity for you.

RECEPTION SUPPORT

Greet visitors and answer the telephone, available days and times: Mondays and Fridays noon – 1 p.m.

For more information, or to get started, visit www.volunteerbridge.com or call Catholic Charities Volunteer Relations (312) 655-7322.



Students Learning about Service

On Friday, August 22, Trinity High School had a Service Day. Nine students volunteered in the Cicero office helping in the clothing room and food pantry and four helped at Accolade Adult Day Care Services in Oak Park. Thank you to all who participated for making a difference.

SAVE THE DATE



**Thursday,
March 12, 2015**

FitzGerald's

6615 Roosevelt Road, Berwyn



Catholic Charities
of the Archdiocese of Chicago
West Regional Services
1400 S. Austin
Cicero, Illinois 60804

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



West Regional Services

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Regional Board Members

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| | Douglas Kurtenbach | |

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SERVICE INFORMATION

- FOOD PANTRY OPEN**
Monday, Tuesday
9 - 11 a.m. and Noon - 2 p.m.
Thursday, 2 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- CLOTHING ROOM OPEN**
Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- CLOTHING DONATIONS ACCEPTED**
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.
- VIRTUAL CALL CENTER**
(Financial, Rental Assistance)
(877) 426-6515
- COUNSELING**
Call (312) 655-7725
to schedule an appointment
- HELP APPLYING FOR PUBLIC BENEFITS**
(TANF, SNAP, ALL Kids, Medicaid, Medicare Benefits)
Call Margarita Gonzalez, (708) 329-4025
Monday – Friday, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
to schedule an appointment.
- IMMIGRATION SERVICES**
Call Janette Martinez, (708) 329-4031
Monday – Friday, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
- VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**
Call Maricela Gomez, (708) 329-4023
Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.