



Spring 2025

CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY[®]

OF CLEVELAND

WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

CHAPTER AND VERSE

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

Spring is a season of renewal, and this March, we were blessed to welcome 18 new members at our Installation Mass on March 19. Their enthusiasm and commitment ensure we can carry our mission forward. On the same day, we also celebrated the milestone anniversaries of 49 dedicated members – including one remarkable member who has served for 60 years! Their devotion is truly inspiring.

A heartfelt thank you to **Marty Stein** and **Linda Cochran** for shepherding our provisionals through their journey to Installation. Your guidance and support have been invaluable in welcoming our newest members. **Monica Bruck**, your thoughtful planning and management of the Legacy Luncheon created a beautiful celebration. And **Cindy Hyland**, your orchestration of the Mass and program were seamless and uplifting. Bravo to all of you!

Our Angel Annual Appeal, which began on Ash Wednesday, will conclude on Easter. Your generosity makes a lasting impact, and we are so grateful for your support. The final results will be shared in the June newsletter.

Looking ahead we have exciting opportunities to grow our chapter:

- **Membership Information Gathering – May 7:** Invite family and friends to learn more about our mission. We always need more volunteers, and the more, the merrier!
- **Red Wagon Luncheon – May 21:** Our biggest fundraiser of the year! Gather a table of friends and family to enjoy a wonderful afternoon featuring a stunning fashion presentation by Toni's of Chagrin Falls, fabulous boutique vendors, exciting jewelry raffle, sweet treats, beautiful baskets. This event is always a highlight of the year and promises to be better than ever!

May this Easter season fill your hearts with hope, joy, and the blessings of the risen Christ. Wishing you and your families a happy and blessed Easter.

With gratitude,
Kathy Michael



MOTHER'S DAY - MAY 11TH

Consider a layette donation as a gift in honor of your loved one(s) this year. A special Mother's Day acknowledgment card will be sent on their behalf. Donations to our Endowment Fund can be made online or through the Christ Child Office.

CCS CLE NEWS!

Dates You Need To Know **NOW!**

April 9	Executive Committee Meeting Zoom, 9 am
April 16	Board Meeting Office, 9:30 am
April 25	CCS Cathedral Mass Cathedral of St. John, Noon
May 7	New Member Information Gathering Office, 10 am
May 14	Executive Committee Meeting Zoom, 9 am
May 21	Red Wagon Luncheon Holiday Inn – Rockside
May 27	CCS Cathedral Mass Cathedral of St. John, Noon
June 4	Executive Committee Meeting Zoom, 9 am
June 11	Board Meeting Office; 9:30 am
June 18	General Meeting / Spring Luncheon Aviator; 10:30 am

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We are seeking volunteers to serve on a committee to review the CCSC By Laws. If you are willing to help, please contact **Kathy Michael**. Thank you for your support!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Headstart Reading Program

First and Third Tuesday, 9:30 am - 11:00 am
Saint Ignatius of Antioch. Volunteers will use SignUp Genius.
Contact: **Andrea Loya**

Hygiene Program

Second Tuesday, 10:00 am -12:00 pm at CCS Office
Contact chair, **Linda Kacenjar**

Ladies of the Cloth

Second Wednesday, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
at Showcase Fairview Park
Contact: **Margo Cengic**

Layette Packing

First Monday, 10:00 am -12:30 pm at CCS Office
Contact: **Anne Stolfer**

Merrick House Reading Enrichment

First and Third Thursday, 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Contact: **Joan Mayer**

"My Stuff" Bags

Third Thursday, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at CCS Office
Contact: **Cindy Hronek**

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Library Program

Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:30am – 12:15 pm
Contact: **Karen Rebholz, Kathy Bush, Karen Tinley**

Portable Crib

First and Third Tuesdays, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm
Contact: **Pam Moritz**

St. Rocco Library

Mondays, 8:00 am - 12:00 p
Contact: **Laura Cengic**

SHOWCASE NEEDS HELP ON ALL DAYS!

Showcase Lakewood

Shifts available Tuesdays – Saturday
11:00 am - 2:00 pm/11:00 am - 4:00 pm/12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Contact: **Use SignUp Genius to sign up to volunteer at Lakewood or contact Sharon Harwat**

Showcase Fairview Park

Shifts available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday
11:00 am - 2:00 pm/11:00 am - 4:00 pm/12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Contact: **Use SignUp Genius to sign up to volunteer at Fairview Park or contact Kathy Cole**

***Contact information can be found in the Chapter roster.**

Christ Child Showcase Resale Shops

Net Income for January 1, 2025 – February 28, 2025:
Showcase Lakewood & Fairview Park – \$15,951
Great job and thank you to all our volunteers!!



Spring Luncheon & Annual Business Meeting

Wednesday, June 18, 2025

Aviator Event Center

Gabriella's Room

20920 Brookpark Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44135

Annual Business Meeting 10:30am

Luncheon immediately following the Annual Business Meeting

Mary Virginia Merrick Award Presentation

RESERVATION FORM

Reservations can be made online at christchldsocietycleveland.org

Payment Must Accompany Reservation Form

Please Reserve: _____ Tickets \$60pp _____ Silver Patron \$80 _____ Gold Patron \$90
(\$20 tax deductible) (\$30 tax deductible)

Reservation Deadline Friday, May 30th

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Seating Request: (Tables of 10) **CIRCLE: Member **(M)**, Guest **(G)**, Other Chapter **(O)****

List your name and the names of those you **have confirmed** will be sharing your table.

CIRCLE MEAL CHOICE: Regular **(R) Vegetarian **(V)****

_____ **M G O R V** _____ **M G O R V** _____ **M G O R V** _____ **M G O R V**

_____ **M G O R V** _____ **M G O R V** _____ **M G O R V** _____ **M G O R V**

_____ **M G O R V** _____ **M G O R V**

Dietary restrictions: _____ **No seating preference** _____

*Incomplete tables will be filled with other Christ Child members and their guests.

I am unable to attend but would like to donate \$ _____

Checks Made Payable to the Christ Child Society

MasterCard Visa American Express Discover

Cardholder Name: _____

Account Number: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ CVC: _____

Mail reservation form with payment to:
Christ Child Society, 7901 Detroit Ave., Suite 300, Cleveland, OH 44102
Attn: Spring Luncheon

MARY VIRGINIA MERRICK AWARD 2025

For the past 42 years, our Chapter has recognized a member whose spirit, values, and service exemplify those of Mary Virginia Merrick. This year, the prestigious Mary Virginia Merrick Award will be presented at the Spring Luncheon on Wednesday, June 18. Who do you believe is deserving of this award? Who do you believe has given of herself in the name of the Christ Child Society of Cleveland, either publicly in the "front lines" or quietly and consistently "behind the scenes?" Please consider nominating the member you believe deserves this special recognition. Your nomination is important...your opinion matters...your thoughts count!

NOMINATIONS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING BY MAY 16, 2025.

Please include your nominee's name and why you believe she deserves the 2025 Mary Virginia Merrick Award. All nominations are confidential and are due by May 16, 2025. For a list of past recipients, please refer to page 1-6 in the Christ Child Roster. If you have any questions or need additional information, contact **Kathleen Gallagher**. Her email or phone number is listed in the Membership Directory.

Mail nominations to:
Christ Child Society of Cleveland
ATTN: MVM Award
7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

LEGACY LUNCHEON

Never certain what to expect from the weather on a March Day in Cleveland, Ohio, we were sure our Legacy Luncheon on March 19th would be a blessed one as we celebrated our newly recognized Christ Child Society members, and our milestone anniversary members, on St. Joseph's Day.

Members enjoyed an opportunity to socialize, enjoy lunch, and fabulous views of the city from the top floor of the Ariel International Center. Linda Sheehan, celebrates 60 years of service this year, while 48 others have served from 5-50 years. We are so thankful to all of our members who, year after year, continue to serve the needs of children in the greater Cleveland area. This gives us hope for many more years of Christ Child service!

Thanks, and gratitude to **Marty Stein** and **Linda Cochran** for working to help prepare our new active members. A special thank you to the ladies who assisted with many details of the day: **Irene Bellomo, Kathy Cole, Paula Conrad, Katie Gallagher, Cathy Harbinak, Lisa Leduc, Andrea Loya, Sharon Skotko, Anne Stolfer, and Leslie Vecchio.**

Monica Bruck



Congratulations to all the women recognized at our Annual Legacy Installation Mass and Lunch, March 19th. It was a double celebration day as we welcomed our newest “active” members the Provisional Class of 2024, and recognized our cherished members who have given of their time and talents over many years! Thank you all for your dedication to the Christ Child and serving the needs of others.

Welcome to the Installed Class of 2024

Karen Chapman
Helen Gaidelis
Elizabeth Gaitaneres
Kathleen Guarente
Phyllis Joeright
Irene Kish

Kate Matthews
Mary Miranda
Charlene Nagy
Kathy Nieberding
Terry Offenberger
Christina Petousis

Mary Jean Price
Trudy Salim
Gloria Solarz
Shirley Nolan Toth
Beth Vancik
Cindy Weiss

2025 Membership Milestones

60 Years

Linda Sheehan

50 Years

Sheila Hubman
Eileen Rini

45 Years

Ann Farrall
Kathy LaPorte
Dolores Leiden

40 Years

Mary Brinn

35 Years

Carolyn Duprow
Rose Dziak
Marilyn Gibel
Barbara Johns
Donna Kelly
Connie Kinner

30 Years

Mary Jo Dailey
Kathy Gibel
Carole Kealy

25 Years

Audrey Dvorak
Annette Gorris
Joan McAuliffe
Donna Scarcella
Jane Toma

20 Years

Peggy Culp
Janie Nickodem
Liz Niehaus
Iris Pieschalski

15 Years

Donna Broski
Laura Cengic
Mary Karam
Jo Ann Lamb
Arlene McNamara
Colleen O'Shaughnessy
Marilyn Palisin
Dianne Svihlik
Lorene Varley

10 Years

Andrea Conover
Kathy D'Amato
Marsha Gleine
Peggy Rallo
Marlene Rydzewski
Susan Simon
Marlene Suchma

5 years

Adrienne Dziak
Mary Essig
Kathleen Fillar
Sharon Hensel
Dibbie Higgins
Kathy O'Neill
Pamela Rable
Terry Tomon



VENDOR TABLES

**LITTLE RED WAGON
SWEETS & TREATS**

**FASHION SHOW BY
TONI IN STYLE**

BASKET RAFFLES

JEWELRY RAFFLE
TICKETS AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

Red Wagon Luncheon

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025

Doors open at 10:30 am | Luncheon begins at 12 noon

HOLIDAY INN-INDEPENDENCE

6001 Rockside Rd, Independence, OH 44131

Enjoy a wonderful day with your family & friends
supporting Christ Child Society CLE

INVITATIONS MAILED BEGINNING ON APRIL

**This is our only fundraiser this year*

CASH: Bills and coins- start saving them now for our Little Red Wagon Sweets & Treats Shop at our Red Wagon Event, Wednesday, May 21st. This year, we **"prefer" cash only!** That's over 30+ days to stash your cash for something delicious to take home; what a sweet way to spend your money.

JEWELRY RAFFLE

We are thrilled to share with you this year's beautiful piece donated by Peter & Co. Jewelers. A 14kt. rose gold cross pendant/necklace set with natural Abalone in striking blue-green iridescence, and accented with a round natural diamond in the center of the cross. 18" length chain with a lobster claw clasp. Value: \$1,000.



TICKETS: \$20 each or 3 for \$50
Purchase through our website
or by sending a check to the
Christ Child Office.

Contact **Paula Conrad** for more
information.

BASKET RAFFLE – REQUEST FOR HELP

The Basket Raffle Committee is reaching out to EACH of you for your help in making this year's Red Wagon Luncheon a rousing success!

It is worth repeating that the Red Wagon Luncheon is the **ONLY** fundraiser in 2025. It is significant as we continue our mission, Challenging Childhood Poverty in Greater Cleveland.

May we count on you to donate a basket for this worthwhile and fun-filled event? We are hoping for 35 to 40 raffle baskets. How about joining your respective Christ Child Society classmates in putting together a basket (or two)! Use your imagination! Be creative! Be generous!

Need a basket? There are baskets at both of our Showcase shops, stop by and see the variety!

The Basket Raffle Committee is happy to help in any way, including putting the baskets together - if needed - and making them "bid-on-me" appealing.

If you have any questions, please contact us. Thank you!

Susan Mulhern and Paula Conrad
Red Wagon Raffle Committee

EASTER BLESSINGS TO OUR CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY FAMILY

As we celebrate the joy of Easter, may we be reminded of the hope and renewal that Christ's resurrection brings to our lives. This sacred season calls us to deepen our faith, share His love, and continue our mission of serving children in need with compassion and generosity.

May the peace of the risen Lord fill your hearts and homes and may His love shine through all we do together. Wishing you and your families a blessed and joyous Easter!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The membership renewal and volunteer hours form will be published in the June 2025 newsletter and will need to be returned no later than July 15th. To maintain an "Active Member" status which enables a member to make motions, vote, hold office and sponsor new members, you must have a total of 50 volunteer hours between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025. Please make sure to keep track of your volunteer hours so they can be accurately reflected on your membership renewal form. Volunteer hours are extremely important to both our chapter and National CCS in the acquisition of grants and to show the overall impact of our organization.

Thank you,
Marybeth Baucce, Membership Chair

Remembrance/Endowment Report

January 7 - March 3, 2025

Memory

David J. Bornhorst
Mary Frances Bruck
Ken Ciolek
Lexi Cerio
Pauline Garvey
Patricia Halligan
Diane Kosman
Russell McPherson
Carlos Molina
Kay Norris
Michael Tomon
Dominic Vecchio
Mary Vetter
LuAnn Votruba
Goldie Weiss ('86)*

*Member

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of:

Mary F. Bruck, mother-in-law of (Monica Bruck '93)
Carlos Molina, son of (Paulina Molina '91)
Kay Norris, mother of (Kathy Michael '98)
Micheal Tomon, husband of (Terry '20)
Dominic Vecchio, husband of (Leslie '13)
Mary Vetter, aunt (Monica Bruck '93).
May Christ's peace comfort and console them at this difficult time.

Cathedral Mass for living & deceased members, family and friends. Noon at St. John the Evangelist Cathedral:

Friday, April 25th
Tuesday, May 27th
Our website provides a list of the monthly Masses thru 2025.

****PLEASE NOTE:** Additional documentation for tax purposes will not be sent. Should you require something other than your canceled check or credit card statement for layette remembrance donations, please email: Monica Bruck

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: Acknowledgment you received when purchasing layette(s) serves as a tax receipt. No additional document will be sent.

Please notify the Christ Child office regarding deaths of CCS members or their immediate family members.

Send Remembrance/Endowment checks to:

Christ Child Society of Cleveland,
7901 Detroit Avenue, Suite 300, Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Donations January 7 - March 3, 2025	\$4,635
TOTAL FOR FISCAL YEAR TO DATE.	\$13,585

Online Remembrance Giving available on our website at christchildsocietycleveland.org

Acknowledge you receive when layette(s) are purchased serves as your tax receipt.

May 11, 2025 is Mother's Day, why not consider a donation to the Layette Endowment Fund in memory or honor of your mother, aunt, sister, friend? A special card will be sent to them acknowledging your gift to them.



Christ Child Society of Cleveland

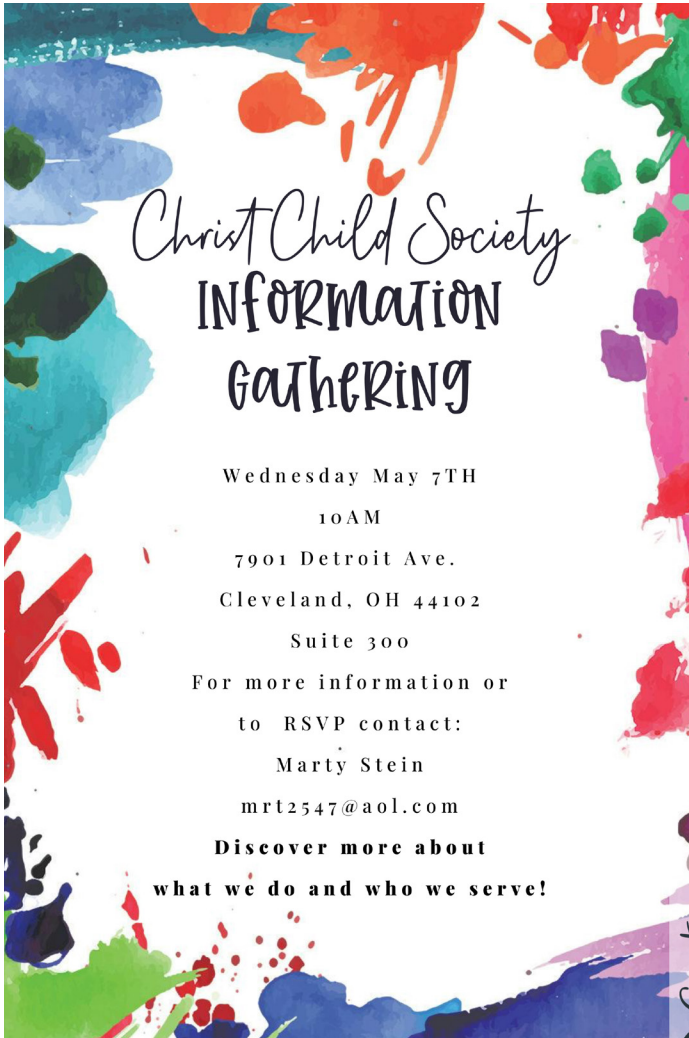
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www.christchildsofcietycleveland.org

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL: Please deliver by April 1st.



Articles for the Newsletter

Please contact **Lisa Leduc** if you have any special needs or volunteer requests for the newsletter.

Kathy Michael
President

Cathy Harbinak
President-Elect

Kathy Cole
Service VP

Monica Bruck
Organization VP

Sharon Skotko
Recording Secretary

Yvonne Schiffer
Corresponding Secretary

Sheila Gulick
Financial Secretary

Monica Bruck
Endowment/
Remembrance

Paula Conrad
Past President

Lisa Leduc
Newsletter Editor

Rev. Daniel F. Schlegel
Spiritual Advisor