



# Homeless Outreach Ministry

JUSTICE, PEACE AND INTEGRITY  
OF CREATION (JPIC) MINISTRY

# Homeless Outreach Ministry of the Church of the Good Shepherd

## Mission Statement

To work with the greater community to show God's love to our homeless brothers and sisters and to defend the rights and human dignity of the poor and needy.

## What We Do

The Homeless Outreach Group walks the streets of Inwood interacting with our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness. We respectfully make connections with individuals, listening to their stories with empathy, and following up with connections to resources. We learn through trainings and insights from the formerly homeless and advocacy groups. We educate the parish and community about the human dimension and complexities of homelessness. We distribute needed items, prepare meals for shelters, and explore ways to serve those in need and eliminate homelessness in our community.

## Background

The Homeless Outreach Group was launched in early 2018 as part of the Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Ministries formed under the leadership of Franciscan Brother Anthony Zuba with parishioners from the Church of the Good Shepherd and members of the community.



Email us at:

[HomelessJPIC@gmail.com](mailto:HomelessJPIC@gmail.com)

# January 20, 2018

Our first outreach,  
sponsored by the  
JoyJ Initiative







## Hello Sister or Brother

This scarf was made with you in mind. Hoping it keeps you warm and reminds you of God's loving embrace. I'm part of the Religious Education Class at Good Shepherd Parish and part of our service project was to give of our time and make something for someone in need.

It is not perfect, but my Class and I hope that it serves its purpose as a reminder that God does not forget any of his children, and He has given us this talent, so that we can support you. God bless and protect you.

Your Sister or Brother in Christ.

Age: 11 Grade: 6



**Knitted items**  
donated by students  
of Good Shepherd School





**May 12, 2018**

Outreach to the homeless of Washington Heights and Inwood



Our deepest gratitude to all who are helping  
to make this work possible.



Personal care packs donated by  
**Allen Hospital-New York-Presbyterian**



Fresh food donated by  
**C-Town**



Other items donated by  
**individual supporters**



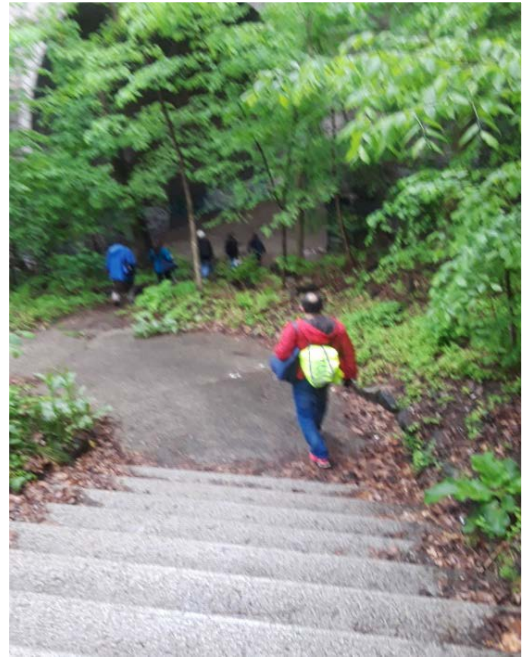
We have also included  
**McDonald's gift cards** in our care bags.

We would like to thank the owners and management  
of Inwood's McDonald's restaurants for their  
welcoming attitude toward our homeless neighbors.









**“Whatever **you did** for one of the **least** of these brothers and sisters of mine, **you did** for me”  
(Matthew 25:40)**



**PICTURE THE HOMELESS**  
ORGANIZING FOR DIGNITY AND RESPECT



“Picture the Homeless is a grassroots organization, founded and led by homeless people. We are organizing for social justice on issues like housing, police violence, and the shelter-industrial complex.”



Saturday, June 23, 2018, 6 p.m.,  
Good Shepherd School Auditorium



Presented by the Good Shepherd JPIC Ministry  
and Altigracia Faith and Justice Works







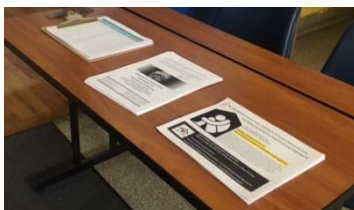
# Sheltering the Homeless: Hospitality and Spirituality

**On Sunday, January 27, 2019, Father Louis-Marie Leonelli, CFR, of St. Anthony Shelter for Renewal, shared his experiences ministering to homeless men in the Bronx with a group gathered in the Good Shepherd School auditorium.**

The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal founded Saint Anthony Shelter in 1993.

They established and run this private shelter to care for the long-term needs of homeless men 18 years or older in New York City. It provides a living environment spiritually rooted in the Catholic tradition while respecting the diversity and conscience of individual guests.

With guidance from friars and volunteers, the shelter community becomes a school and clinic where guests can learn about themselves, their wounds and the subsequent path to recovery.





## Dinner at St. Anthony's

As a follow-up to Fr. Louis's lecture on Homelessness in early 2019, members of the homeless outreach group visited the Bronx on April 27, 2019 to prepare a dinner for the forty male residents of the St. Anthony Shelter for Renewal.

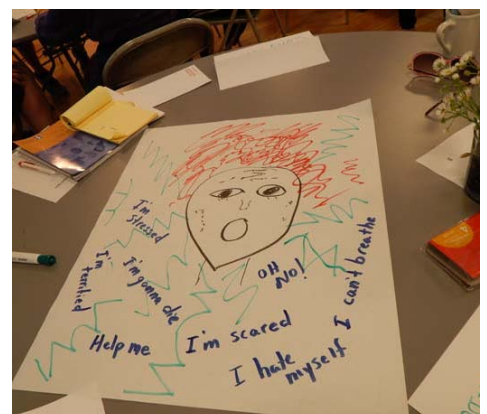
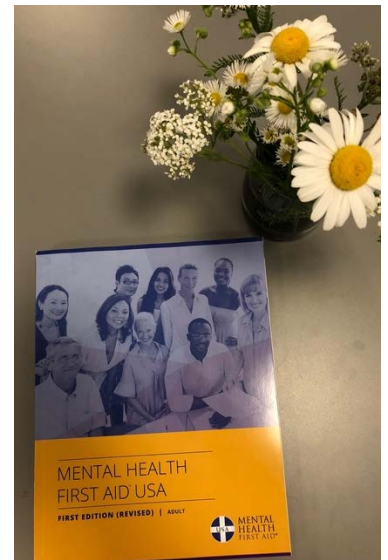




# Mental Health First Aid USA / NY-Presbyterian

Seeing that many of the homeless in our community are suffering from some form of mental illness, the Homeless Outreach ministry invited Mental Health First Aid to present an onsite training event on June 22, 2019 in the San Damiano Retreat Center.

The training's syllabus is offered worldwide which is designed to help people identify, understand and respond to signs of addictions and mental illnesses.



# Querida Amazonia, Querida Nueva York


On June 6-7, 2020, the Homeless Outreach team joined the other JPIC working groups for a virtual retreat. The event took its theme from “Querida Amazonia” (“Beloved Amazonia”), Pope Francis’ call for justice for the people of the Amazon, whose lives, cultures, rainforests and river are under threat.

*“Querida Amazonia, Querida Nueva York”*

Retreat Based on the Apostolic Exhortation “Querida Amazonia”

June 6, 2020

**HOMELESSNESS WORKING GROUP**



### A Social Dream

Each of us, personally and collectively, has connected with our homeless neighbors in Inwood and Washington Heights, creating a *sense of community* “that can integrate and promote all its inhabitants, enabling them to enjoy ‘good living’ ” (QA 8). “Efforts to build a just society require a capacity for fraternity, a spirit of human fellowship. Hence, without diminishing the importance of personal freedom, it is clear that the peoples of the region have a strong sense of community” (QA 20).

- 1.- Scripture: Luke 6:43-49 - Hearing, Doing, and Building
- 2.- Divine Revelations: Reflections From Our Expeditions
  - ✦ Our Stories and Their Stories  
Presented by Tom Hall, Jecelia Rodrigues, Mary Ann McTiernan, Irene Friedland, and Patricia Paredes
- 3.- Healing Prayers for the Homeless
  - ✦ Oremos por la salud de las Personas sin Hogar - Jecelia Rodriguez
  - ✦ *Mi Shebeirach* - Presented by Irene Friedland
- 4.- Memorial to Honor Homeless New Yorkers Who Died During the Pandemic  
A Prayer for Their Eternal Rest - Presented by Mary Ann McTiernan
- 5.- Song - “Pescador de Hombres” Presented by Patricia Paredes
- 6.- Our Journey of Reflection Concludes with a Closing Song .  
There But For Fortune - Phil Ochs