

Prayer Center Ministry Outreach

We rely solely on donations of caring individuals. There are a number of ways you can join with St. Francis Prayer Center in helping others and the Prayer Center. Some suggestions:

- ✚ **Adopt-A-Family** for Thanksgiving. Donations help us help more families. \$50 per family of 4.*
- ✚ **Adopt-A-Family** for Christmas – gifts & food. Family sizes differ. You shop or we shop. \$200-\$300 per family of 4.*
**Two or more people/groups can go together in sponsoring the Adopt-A-Family ministries.*
- ✚ **Sponsor a Bill.** Your help with paying any or all of a monthly bill lessens our burden.
- ✚ **Limited Food Pantry.** We keep a few items on hand for emergency needs. We could use items such as personal care products, paper products, canned goods – you purchase items or make a donation.
- ✚ **Donate a used car, table & chairs, beds, dressers.** A used car to be sold with proceeds going towards our outreach ministry. Other items can be sold or given to a family in need. A good tax deduction!

Any donation would be considered a gift from God. Those smaller amounts add up. We have many monthly pledgers who send smaller amounts. Over the years, those amounts have kept the Prayer Center going.

We pray for you; please pray for us.



Where Will These Funds Be Used?

A portion of the donations will be used towards our Ministry Outreach Program. A significant number of people are helped between the months of October and December.

As the **FAITH in Flint Initiative** progresses, we continue to be inundated with requests for help. Our Ministry Outreach continues to surpass previous years.

Please be generous in our most needed season to reach out to others. Help us extend YOUR hand to those in need.



St. FRANCIS PRAYER CENTER
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Harvest Appeal 2015
Volume 40, Number 3

Non-Profit
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Newsletters by E-mail

To receive your newsletter via email (PDF format) rather than hard copy, please send a request by email to stfrancisflint@comcast.net

Like Us On Facebook

www.facebook.com/stfrancisprayercenter-flint (no spaces)

Our Web Site

www.stfrancisprayerflint.com

REMINDER:

You can donate online through our web site even if you do not have a PayPal account. You will be asked to use another card.

Help Us
Multiply
the loaves
and fish
just as
Jesus fed the
hungry crowd.

“My house shall be
called a house of prayer
for all people.”
– ISAIAH 56:7

Fall 2015

My Dear Prayer Center Friends,

When Sr. Joanne Chiaverini, IHM, and I started St. Francis Prayer Center in July 1974, General Motors offered 80,000 well-paying jobs and Flint had 200,000 people. Today there are 7,500 GM jobs and Flint has 98,000 people. This has led to many desperate needs such as:

- **40% of residential properties are abandoned**
- **Median income is \$24,834.00 in Flint and \$48,411.00 statewide**
- **62% of Flint's children live in poverty compared with 24% statewide**
- **41% of residents live in poverty compared with 17% statewide**

Many blue collar workers and professionals who have supported St. Francis Prayer Center over all the years are much fewer. When we beg (or solicit funds) for support, we have the feeling of the early disciples of Jesus as they took the "five loaves and two fish" to Jesus to try to feed the huge, hungry crowd.

"What are these among so many?" they asked. Today we ask that question of our resources, "What are these among so many?"

Debra Hawley, our director, works so hard to help meet the needs of countless people who seek assistance and she has multiplied retreat and prayer experiences in remarkable ways, both at the Center and in parishes. But the funds come in too slowly. That is where we rely on you. As a Board member now, I still see the great good we are doing but we really need your help!

- **We need donations**
- **We need people who would adopt a monthly or yearly bill**
- **We need people who would support us for one hour @ \$17 or one day @ \$408**
- **We need people who might help us with a fundraiser**
- **We need people who might help us with writing grants**
- **We need people who would help with the labor to do our decks or tree removal**
- **We need people who would help with crowd-funding (seeking funds via the internet)**
- **We need YOU!**

The first 41 years of the Prayer Center were lived in faith that what we needed would come. **And it did!** We step out in faith again asking for the loaves to be multiplied ... to walk on water.

Please help us as generously as you can.

Gratefully yours in God's Work,
Fr. Philip Schmitter
Co-Founder and Board Member



Upcoming Activities at the Prayer Center

Throughout the year we have a number of activities going on here at SFPC. We hope you will take a moment to check out these dates & see if there is something that will interest you.

- **Leadership School Track 6 – October 9-14 (Friday - Wednesday).** *Forming Others.* This school is intended for those who plan to minister to others. It is not a ministry to those attending. We have other workshops and retreats that focus on ministry to you.
- **Adopt-A-Family for Thanksgiving Baskets.** We need donation of funds as well as people to shop the sales for the baskets. We also need at least 2 people to prepare those baskets. Some help may be needed for distribution since some people do not have a vehicle. *Recipients will pick up baskets on Mon., Nov. 23.*
- **Adopt-A-Family for Christmas.** We ask people to adopt a family and either buy the gifts or give us a donation so the Prayer Center can shop.
- **Prayer Center Christmas Party for Adopt-A-Family Participants** will be held *Saturday, December 19.* We will need people to help decorate, prepare a meal, shop as needed, wrap presents, & help the day of the party.

**Divine Master,
grant that I may not
so much seek to be
consoled as to console;
to be understood as to
understand; to be
loved as to love.
For it is in giving that
we receive, it is in
pardoning we are
pardoned, and it is in
dying that we are born
to eternal life...**

– St. Francis of Assisi

