

ST. FRANCIS PRAYER CENTER

G-2381 E. Carpenter Rd. • Flint, MI 48505

P: 810-787-5330 • F: 810-787-5399

Easter/Spring 2020

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Easter Blessings

and

Spring Renewal

Blending Together!

Even though the season of Lent & Easter may be over by time you read this, we wish to reflect on them and the activities and hopes for the Prayer Center. We are combining our Spring Appeal with a short newsletter in hopes that we get information out to you more often.

In the book of Mark we read about the 3 women who go to the tomb with spices to anoint Jesus' body. They wondered "who" would "roll the stone away"? They needn't be concerned, it was already done. That is what we here at the Prayer Center feel about all of our helpers and volunteers. **YOU** "roll the stone away" with the generosity of your time, talent and treasure. Thank you for being there to help us with so many things. From those who work to keep the food pantry organized to those who deliver beds and bedding – all are part of our Outreach Ministry.

Just recently, we received a note from a partner agency about the impact our Bed Ministry is having on children and families. We had a picture in our last newsletter with a couple of kids by their FIRST bed. That sentiment has been repeated a number of times. *Is it a lot of work?* Most assuredly! *Is it worth it?* Without a doubt! Are there some downsides to this? On occasion. But, we have a very strong belief that everything works for a reason. This community we serve **is** our Mission Field as we are commanded to do.

Mark 16:1-4

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

Meaningful Experiences!

Along with the outreach part, the "prayer center" part continues as well. Classes are being held regularly. We have held classes in various parishes in the past, but for right now, they are being held at the Prayer Center. If you are interested in attending, please call 810-787-5330 for information.

Two events coming up are:

•May 21-30. **Pentecost Novena Open House.** See our *Winter newsletter for specifics.* •June 26-27 (*correction of dates*). **Praise & Worship Camping Weekend.** Bring your camper or tent for a worshipful experience. Limited beds are available inside the Prayer Center.

Prayer Group continues to meet the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month. New classes are being added as well.

Fundraiser Forecast!

We have a theme! It is Boot Scootin' Boogie Night! Our 2020 Annual Fundraiser will be held on **Saturday, September 26** at St. John Family Center in Davison. We hope that you will give thought to becoming a partner in this very important aspect of St. Francis Prayer Center!

We are looking for Sponsors – both overall and for the food, beverages, decorations, printing tickets & auction book; donations for the Auctions – both Live & Silent; and Big Ticket buyers. All of these add up to a successful, and important, event!

The Spring Appeal & the Annual Fundraiser give us the necessary funds to continue the support those in need around our community. Thank you to all who generously support all of our efforts!

On behalf of the Board, Staff & Volunteers of St. Francis Prayer Center – THANK YOU!



St. Francis Prayer Center Mission Statement:

Secure in God's love, the St. Francis Prayer Center, Flint, exists to serve all people, especially our poor, our parishes and our diocese through the ministries of prayer, evangelization, healing, formation, direct services and social justice.

Great Things Are Happening for the PC!

On Saturday, March 7, 2020, a group of people met to clear rooms at a Hampton Inn of ALL items. That included beds & frames, dressers, TVs, lamps, chairs, sofas, dining chairs, and side tables.

Our helpers included people from Fenton and Linden who are part of God's Love Foundation. (See photo at right and check out their web site at godslovefoundation.org). We also give a big shout out to Venita at the Landaal Warehouse who helped direct storing the items. Director Deb was also on hand to oversee and answer any questions that came up.

Laura & John Carpenter were instrumental in organizing this effort. Others who helped include: Libby Carpenter, Kerry Goodman, Lauren Goodman, Mike Goodman, Spencer Goodman, Tyler Smith, Jordan Compton, Chris Compton, Keith Green, Brandon Green, Heather Green, Tom Hasselbach, and Tim Turczyn – many, many thanks.



While we DO NOT normally do furniture, except for bedroom items, this was just too good an opportunity to pass up. Many families will reap the benefits of this furniture. God has blessed St. Francis Prayer Center in so many ways! Wow! We still marvel at the seemingly endless answers to prayer.

Enjoy the photos from that Saturday spent acquiring rooms of furniture we pass on to someone in need! We hope you enjoy.



While Outreach Ministry is an important part of the Prayer Center, our Prayer Ministry is just as important. We pray with clients that come to us for help and most are receptive to being prayed for and with.

You can help by responding to the enclosed Spring Appeal. Send in the 2-sided form in the enclosed envelope. Your contribution ensures we help those in need. Prayers for all areas are always appreciated!

A Thank You From A Recipient

Alicia L called to let us know she very much appreciates the help and all the items we have been able to provide to her. "Thanks to **all of you** involved." *We gave her hope.*

Like to play in the dirt?

We need a team of helpers to plant flowers and clean up gardens. **May 18, 19, 20** are designated for this work. If you can help us please call the office so Director Deb can make a plan to 'beautify' the grounds. Soup and sloppy joes and/or sandwiches will be available.



Shown here are some flower & trees from our gardens.



There is a time to plant and a time to sow.



Help the Prayer Center **plant** for all to enjoy!

Mark this date on your calendar!

May 21-29, 2020

A 9-day Pentecost In-House Novena Open House

will be held at St. Francis Prayer Center

We plan to have Mass most days with teaching and community prayer each evening. Open 12-7 each day. You may spend a night or two as well. Call the Prayer Center @ 810-787-5330 for more info.

May you each be blessed with the gift of the Holy Spirit in all you undertake each day, knowing you are loved by God, and by all of us at the St. Francis Prayer Center.