

## Ministry Outreach



There are a number of ways you can join **St. Francis Prayer Center** in helping others. Here are a few suggestions:

✚ **Bed Ministry.** Did you know there are families in our area living in apartments or houses without beds? Our bed ministry started with Beds-for-Babies (*and we still do that*), but now we are helping the whole family with beds. We take donations of gently-used twin, twin XL, full, & queen, as well as frames, dressers, & gently used bedding.

✚ **Food pantry.** We can always use paper products, personal care items, cleaning supplies (laundry & dish soap, bleach or other cleaning solutions, garbage bags. People can visit us once a month for emergency food and other items.

✚ **Consumers Energy help.** Although the rules change periodically, we continue to help where we can through St. Vincent de Paul-Detroit.



✚ **Adopt-A-Family** for Thanksgiving. You can shop for a particular family size or just make a donation of food from our list, a turkey or of money.\*

✚ **Adopt-A-Family** for Christmas. You may choose to provide just gifts, or food/food card. Family sizes range from 1 to 8. We choose to do gifts for the whole family. Suggested amount \$50-\$75 per person.\*

*\*Two or more people or groups can go together to sponsor a family.*

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

**We pray for you; please pray for us.**

## Comments from those we've helped...

### Dollar Store Cashier

St. Francis Prayer Center provided Christmas for me & my children a couple years in a row. We were so grateful for the meal, gifts & love.

### Bed Ministry Recipient

"You gave me hope when I didn't have any. I now have joy – you helped me believe again! –Sherry

### Bed Ministry Recipient

We have not slept so well in a long time. Thank you for the beds and blankets.

### Food Pantry Recipient

There were times I thought we would not have enough to eat without the help from SFPC.

*"My house shall be called a house of prayer for all people." Isaiah 56:7*



## ST. FRANCIS PRAYER CENTER

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To donate online, go to our web site:

[www.stfrancisprayerflint.com](http://www.stfrancisprayerflint.com).

Under **Contact Us** select **Donating Online**.

Click on the "donate now" button.

If you do not have a PayPal account, you can then choose to use another credit card

## ST. FRANCIS PRAYER CENTER

# Spring Appeal

## New Growth with A Spirit of Giving



What does a hungry child look like?

*"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."*

*- St. Francis of Assisi*

## Dear Prayer Center Friends,

As this is being written, the extreme cold is still with us, but nature promises to send us into the 40's soon. Praise God!

Those temperatures made it miserably difficult for the poor to get to us, and for us to deliver the multitudes of beds. Roads and sidewalks were slippery and covered with ice which made the sacrifice of our dedicated delivery guys, very real. Many are retirement age guys with a heart for children and the poor. God Bless them.

Most of those getting this newsletter don't really 'see' the poorest we have with us in Flint. Frankly, until my work here began, I didn't either.



It's one thing to read about or see on the news, but quite another to meet these folks and their children, pray with the moms, and see with your own eyes the poverty they live with on a daily basis; to understand, most do not have the basics just to live—not to mention with any sort of dignity! Many give blood at plasma places just to survive.

As church people, we understand the meaning of 'parish' as our own community at our own respective church. But, in reality, it is a geographical district. So, too, the very poor as they live among us in the abandoned houses; the subsidized apartments; and on the streets are 'our parish people' too.

Please understand, you likely pass some these people of God every day as you go to work or church.

The Prayer Center is a vital source for countless people who cannot find help anywhere else. The **Love of Jesus** compels us to be a beacon of hope for the 'least of them.' Matthew 25:45 "I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me."

We have easily quadrupled the outreach in the last 7 years. They need us—they need you! Please consider doing a monthly pledge of some kind, or possibly a onetime larger donation. It all helps us help them.



Notice that we are using the remainder of the Harvest Appeal envelopes for this mailing to minimize costs. Thank you for your support.

In His Heart, With Our Hands,  
Debbie and Staff @ St. Francis Prayer Center

## SOME WAYS YOU CAN HELP

  
Become a  
Monthly  
Pledger

  
Become a Prayer Warrior  
for the Prayer Center. We  
know the power of prayer!

  
Become involved in  
our Bed Ministry



  
Give a 1-time  
donation.  
\$50, \$100, \$250,  
\$500 or more.

  
Donate laundry & dish  
soap for our food pantry  
(the large containers can be  
broken down into smaller units)

  
Help with Spring  
(or Fall) Cleanup  
of Prayer Center  
property.

  
A dollar a  
day for 30  
days.

  
Donate a car or delivery truck for us.  
Help a family become self-sufficient &  
help keep us in the delivery business.

Make a connection with those who  
desperately need your help!