



Summer 2019

ST. FRANCIS PRAYER CENTER

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

P: 810-787-5330 • F: 810-787-5399

For Everything There is A Season

As summer comes to a close, it seems fitting that we prepare both physically and emotionally for the next season. Very soon, we will be sharing our bounty with dozens of families for Thanksgiving. Local folks help us adopt them, and St. Jude, DeWitt has helped us with the food the last few years as well. It would be quite impossible for us to reach so many without that help.

As they drive through the St. Francis parking lot, many are 'unprepared' to be asked "how can we pray for you?". Emotionally, they are moved to see people who care enough to even ask the question. Hopefully, they see Jesus in us. We don't know until we ask ... what season it is for them? Are they scattering stones or gathering them? Is it time for them to embrace, or let go?

On the heels of that 'season,' we are in high gear preparing to adopt the 40 or more whole families for Christmas. Advent prepares us for the coming of Jesus; both in our

often. He loved to get a huge real Christmas tree for the kids to see all lit up. He cooked oodles of hot dogs for the Revival in the fall, and was my go-to guy for fixing anything! It was a season of letting go for me; and a season of hanging on and embracing God for him.

Thank you for the many prayers, flowers, cards and thoughtful calls and texts. Fr. Phil was my rock, as I prepared to accept this difficult 'season.' Jean, Robin and staff kept the Center running during this time. I was so blessed to have so many loving, attentive people surrounding me.

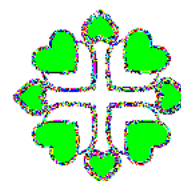
The bright colors of summer are melding into the warm muted colors of deep orange and muddy golds, rich reds and earthy browns, nature's way of embracing its next season; letting things go to seed and die, so it can return in another time, new and refreshed. **John 12:24** "Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But, if it dies, it produces many seeds."

The Prayer Center has never been so busy; never been so absolutely vital to the lives of so many. We need so many more of you to see the vision God has laid out for us here. There are so many who need us.

Could it be your season to sow deeply in St. Francis Prayer Center?

Please, prayerfully consider how you can 'help us, help them.'

—Director Deb



Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.

² A time to give birth, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.

³ A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build.

⁴ A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

⁵ A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.

⁶ A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away.

⁷ A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak

⁸ A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace

hearts and in our daily lives lived out. There is indeed a 'season' for everything!

This year, I too, have had to move with the seasons God laid out for me. My husband died at the end of March after 90 days of heartbreaking illness. He loved the Prayer Center, and helped out

Upcoming Events @ the PC



- **Sept. 3.** Ads are due for Fundraiser Auction Book
- **Sept. 9.** Auction items are due for the Fundraiser
- **Sept. 28.** *Annual Fundraiser* – Theme: *Great Gatsby/Roaring 20s*
- **Oct./Nov./Dec.** Sign up to Adopt-A-Family for Thanksgiving or Christmas!
- **Nov. 24.** Packing Thanksgiving baskets
- **Nov. 25.** Thanksgiving food basket pickup
- **Dec. 14.** Annual Christmas Party for Adopted Families

Mission Makeover 2019

What teamwork! St. Francis has waited 3 years for the completion of our decks. We waited several years to just get them built and put in! Big thanks are in order for this amazing team of young people. In high 80s every day, they worked so hard to scrape, sand and stain the floors and miles of hand rails on our decks.

We are so very grateful for all your hard work, and also the work and dedication of the parents who also helped. Well done, good and faithful servants. Matt 25:23. Director Deb, and staff of St. Francis. Now, come back on Retreat sometime and have fun!



Pictured above left is the group of Youth from Holy Family who participated in our Mission Makeover! Pictured below left is a glimpse of how the boards around our deck looked before all the painting! We are so very thankful for these volunteers.

Donated Truck

Holland Heating and Cooling are new supporters of the Prayer Center. They recently donated a 14' cube truck for us to do deliveries. Praise God! God bless you folks at Holland Heating.



Christian Meditation for Today's Busy Lives

Class will be held **Sat., Oct. 26** from 1:00-4:00 pm @ **St. Francis Prayer Center**. Presenters: Fr. Phil Schmitter, Priest at Christ the King & Dr. John Varani, PhD in Psychology, Spiritual Direction, does counseling and is supervisor at Christian Institute for Counseling in Fenton.

Christian Meditation is now led throughout the world by Fr. Laurence Freeman, OSB.

This class is for both beginners and experienced. Call the Prayer Center to register.

A Special Thank You to Joe Buffa for the fantastic job of a fb fundriaser!

**Plan your next Retreat @ St. Francis Prayer Center
Booking now for 2020**



Director Deb receiving twin XL frames & beds from MSU dorms. Many, many families have gone from sleeping on the floor to sleeping in beds.

Bed Ministry News

To date we have delivered about 300 beds to children and their mothers. We expect to do another 200 by year's end.


Our guys Joe, Pat, Mark, Bob E, Bob S. Craig, Dick, Chad, and Andy work tirelessly 2 days a week or more delivering and setting up beds. Rain, shine, snow and sleet ... they're on it!! Thank you so much.

NEW CLASS

Discernment of Spirits by Fr. Timothy Gallagher

Learning to Discern God's Will Using Ignatian Spirituality

10 sessions, Thursday evenings starting October 4th from 6:30-8:30. Cost \$45.00. Call to register.



Become A Fundraiser Sponsor



During the past year, St. Francis Prayer Center has become a very real resource for beds, blankets, food, and personal care items for the many families whose resources do not go far enough or last for a month. On **September 28, 2019** we will hold our Annual Fundraiser at St. John Family Center in Davison. *Our theme is Great Gatsby/Roaring 20s.*

We invite you, *our Business Community & community as a whole*, to partner with us in a variety of ways. Your sponsorship will allow us to continue with the needs of those living on the edge. Please consider joining with us to help those in need by choosing one of the following sponsorships:

1. **EVENT SPONSOR – \$5,000.**
 - Receive 1 full table (4 Big Tickets & 8 dinner tickets);
 - Large banner;
 - Full page Ad in Auction book;
 - Misc. promos on social media.
2. **DINNER SPONSOR – \$2,500.**
 - Receive 2 Big Tickets & 4 dinner tickets;
 - Medium banner;
 - Half page Ad in Auction book;
 - Misc. promos on social media.
3. **BLIND PIG SPONSOR (Liquor) – \$2,500.**
 - Receive 2 Big Tickets & 4 dinner tickets);
 - Medium banner;
 - Half page Ad in Auction book;
 - Misc. promos on social media.
4. **ROARING 20s SPONSOR – \$1,000.**
 - Receive 1 Big Tickets & 2 dinner tickets);
 - Small banner;
 - Quarter page ad in Auction Book;
 - Misc. promos on social media.
5. **AUCTION BOOK SPONSOR – \$1,000.**
 - Receive 1 Big Ticket & 2 dinner tickets;
 - Small banner;
 - Quarter page Ad in Auction Book;
 - Misc. promos on social media.
6. **EVENT DECORATIONS – \$500.**
 - No Big Ticket;
 - Small banner;
 - Listed on Sponsor page in Auction Book.
7. **TABLE SPONSOR (50 Max.) – \$500.**
 - Small banner;
 - Listed as Table Sponsor in Auction Book;
 - Business Name and information on Table.
8. **AUCTIONEER/MUSIC – \$500.**
 - Receive 1 Big Ticket & 2 dinner tickets;
 - Small banner;
 - Recognition on Sponsor page in Auction Book.
9. **FRIENDS of the PRAYER CENTER – \$100.**
 - Just to support SFPC ;
 - Listed on Sponsor page in Auction Book.

All sponsors will receive recognition in a future newsletter. Please contact St. Francis Prayer Center at 810-787-5330 for more information.

We may be small, but we are Mighty! Businesses and individuals continue to bless us with donations for our bed ministry, our food pantry, and other outreach areas! May each of you be blessed for your very thoughtful consideration!



Our 38th Annual Fundraiser – Sat., 9/28/2019 @ St. John Family Ctr, Davison

SFPC BIG TICKET & DINNER TICKET ORDER FORM *(Please Print)*

Name: _____ Main Phone: (____) _____
 Address: _____ Work Phone: (____) _____
 City/St/Zip: _____ Other: (____) _____
 Email address: _____

Please reserve # _____ Big Tickets @ \$100.00 each. Total enclosed: \$ _____

_____ YES. We will be attending the party and would like the 2 dinner tickets included with each drawing ticket.

_____ NO. Sorry, we cannot attend, but will pray for your success.

_____ YES. We will sponsor _____ ticket(s) but cannot attend. Total enclosed: \$ _____

Raffle License
R53194



Seating limited to first 400 people. Contact us @ 810-787-5330 if you are interested in Guest Tickets.

BE SURE TO LET US KNOW IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING! We need to let the caterers know.

Please clip and respond ASAP to St. Francis Prayer Center, G-2381 E. Carpenter Road, Flint, MI 48505



ST. FRANCIS PRAYER CENTER

G-2381 E. Carpenter Rd., Flint, MI 48505
Phone 810-787-5330 • Fax 810-787-5399

Summer 2019
Volume 44, Number 3

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Flint, MI
Permit #453

Newsletters by E-mail

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

Like Us On Facebook

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

Our Web Site

www.stfrancisprayerflint.com
Donate through PayPal. Don't have an account? You can use your credit card by clicking on the "Don't have a PP account?" icon.

Adopt-A-Family

It will soon be time to start thinking about Thanksgiving and Christmas. WHAT?? Yes. It seems far off right now, but those calendar pages just seem to flip by too fast.

Are you in a position to adopt a family for Thanksgiving? ...and what does that entail? Well, we ask you to either purchase food for a particular family size or make a donation towards the purchase of food and turkeys so the Prayer Center can put together baskets of food – including a turkey for families in need.

Last year we served 32 families for Thanksgiving. Our appreciation goes out to all who donated money and/or food for the baskets including: Monica Kline, Marilyn Reid, Mary D, Bess & Louis Stornello, Barb Carrette, Andrea Anson, Melissa Anderson, Frank & Kathy Mercier, Shirley Pincombe, Robin DuCap, Emmanuel Prayer Group,



and St. Jude in DeWitt who collected food for 25 baskets. Thanks to everyone!!

The number of Christmas families adopted was 42. Another 15 families were adopted by the Fenton Gabriel Project.

Those PC adoptees included: Rhonda Hawley & the Mid-Michigan Derby Girls, Monica & Stephen Lanphear, Pilgrims Way Group @ Holy Family, Agnes Taylor, Dana Hamblin, Linda Noll, Genna Riopelle, Debi & Bob Swales, Knights of St. Mary, Mt. Morris, Ann Turgeon, Laura Johnson, Jaymie Petronzi with BAAC, Janet Simmer, Lisa Haas, Laura Carpenter, Montrose Prayer Group, Samantha Wright, Stephanie Flynn, Debbie Alexander Mark Reaves, Brenda Winters, Ann Kaczmarczyk, Stephanie Sines & Mary Jo Kolenda, Knights from Holy Family and St. Mary Mt. Morris, Evelyn Mazzola, Ted Zahrfeld, Tim Mazur, Kathleen Wyeth, Jacqueline Prevost, M.J.

Kolenda, Karen Boike, Marie Psenski, Samantha Wright, Mark Reaves, Brenda Winters, Carol Latusm, & Special Anonymous Givers (you know who you are). Plus all those who shopped for and wrapped gifts that were purchased with donations.

WHEW! You are all so awesome!

We pray you will continue to help with this effort by adopting a family. You choose the size of family you wish to adopt. You shop for and wrap and label the gifts.

Please consider helping these families this year.

