



ACTION CONTEMPLATION FAITH

Ideally, ministry combines these three movements in every person and in every encounter.

During this emergency, however, there is some separation, at least in part.

We wait in hope for the day when staff, volunteers, and guests can be together, serve together, share, and reflect together at CCS sites.

Until then, here's where the spirit is alive at the House of Peace and Saint Ben's. The reflections come from our volunteers, who were again asked to share, this time in a new way:

Action



▲ When Don isn't preparing meals for delivery he deep cleans the St. Ben's Meal kitchen.

Contemplation

Foolishly, I thought that I would be a blessing to those who I served, but you now what? - I am the one who is blessed beyond measure. I miss St. Ben's and cannot wait to start back serving on the floor. - Myrtle

Action



▲ Br. Robert delivers the meal to the Cathedral Center.

Contemplation

It is very rewarding personally to know that I was able to ease the burden of my fellow man by offering them a meal or a bed or just simple conversation. I look forward to a time when I can return to help serve. - Tom

St. Ben's Community Meal



Faith

I wear ... a blessings bracelet, with Benedictine crosses. The prayer that accompanied the bracelet says, I am blessed, and I must help those that have less... the lessons learned from being with our guests ... are invaluable. - Molly



Hope



▲ At the end of every week Brother Peter (L) and Brother Baudry (R) find that the shelves in the HOP pantry are nearly empty. Hope becomes trust, then faith, each time the shelves are restocked.



Love

Serving ... guests provided an opportunity to directly experience the love that God reveals whenever I can be open to each ... that I was able to serve. - Bill



Action



▲ Nicole Fair, Volunteer Coordinator does the tasks volunteers would have done. Nicole (Center) helps a guest (R) to carry groceries to her car. Another guest (L) holds her ID to the lobby door. Food pantry and other services are available to all those who seek help.

House of Peace

WORKS OF MERCY

VOLUNTEERING PAUSED

House of Peace

&

St. Ben's Community Meal

To protect the health of our volunteers, CCS has paused all volunteer assignments until the COVID-19 health crisis has passed. For updates please connect with our Volunteer Coordinator, Nicole Fair. She can be reached at her office number: **414-933-1300, x1123** or email: ccsvol@thecapuchins.org.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

House of Peace

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St. Ben's Community Meal

Please check our website and social media for updates on our ability to accept in-kind donations. Hours for each location are available here:

www.capuchincommunityservices.org/ways-to-help/special-drives

St. Ben's Community Meal has been required to buy and prepare all food served through our delivery ministry. If you would like to support this ministry, please donate online:

www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org/Donate



▲Roundy's driver (L) & Br. Baudry (R) unload donated food items for the House of Peace Emergency Food Pantry.

Call and Response

by Br. Robert Wotypka, OFM Capuchin
Ministry Director

"Knowing & Serving Better"

I hope you and yours are well and calm and safe. Just to know that you have this newsletter in your hands and in your home, that you're walking with us – please know what a comfort and source of hope this is in these uncertain and unpredictable days. Our staff and the ways they are sustaining our ministries was what we shared previously. In this edition we again called on volunteers, in a virtual way, to share what their contributions to CCS mean to them. A lot, as you have read. So ... staff, volunteers, partners – but no mention our guests, the people who turn to CCS for help. It's been hard to stay connected with them. Yet in this is an opportunity and even a call to change how we serve.

The House of Peace needs detailed information on the people who come for the Emergency Food Pantry and a USDA "stock box," pantry items made available to all seniors. Our community partners require it, as do the agencies with whom they partner. At Saint Ben's we ask for ID for some services such as mail, and for those staying at the Warming Center.

At the Community Meal, however, it has always been, "All are welcome, no questions asked." This is of God, as revealed to the prophet: "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, buy grain and eat; Come, buy grain without money, wine and milk without cost! (Isaiah 55: 1)" There is no better starting point. But what comes next?

One of the things I learned at anti-hunger events is that no one knows for sure how many

people in our community are hungry. Those who feel ashamed to ask for help, who use food pantries that are informal and/or temporary – these people can remain unknown. This is not of the Gospel. Paul writes of love and the destiny of love, "At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known" (1 Cor 13: 12). Let's find ways to know each other better. And from this we'll be able to serve each other better. Let this desire inform our ministries as they evolve and transform. Thank you for the ways you serve CCS. May God give you peace.



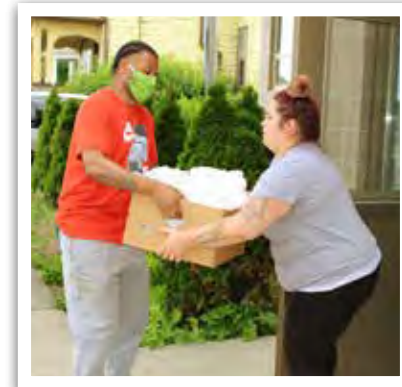
► Br. Robert signs thank you letters.



▲ Br. Robert (L) & Dominique (R) thank the sponsors of the Capuchin Virtual Walk. A banner was hung at St. Ben's Meal also.



▲ Capuchin Fr. Muthu loads the van for delivery of the St. Ben's Community Meal.



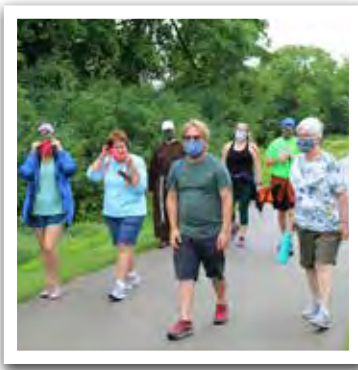
▲ Staff member Armondo Diaz delivers meals for formerly homeless people.

CAPUCHIN *VIRTUAL* WALK FOR THE HUNGRY

OVER 1,530 PEOPLE PARTICIPATE, NEARLY MATCHING LAST YEAR'S "LIVE" ATTENDANCE!

Despite the cancellation of this year's Polish Fest due to Covid-19, the Capuchin Walk for the Hungry performed very well. Last year 1,556 people attended the live event. This year 1,538 people registered, made gifts or purchased bandanas.

In addition, 52 teams formed and almost 60% of those who registered were members of teams. The Virtual/Actual walk raised more money than last year, great news for St. Ben's Community Meal and the House of Peace. Thousands of households will be fed as a result this fall and winter.

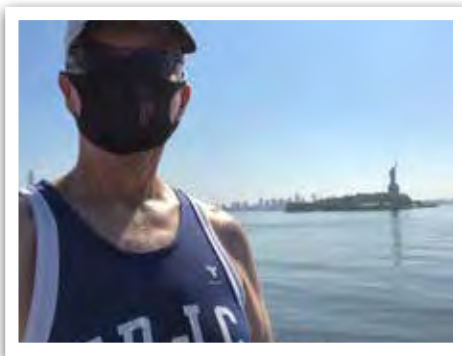


▲ Capuchin friars assigned to CCS walked with 8 different teams on July 17th & 18th.

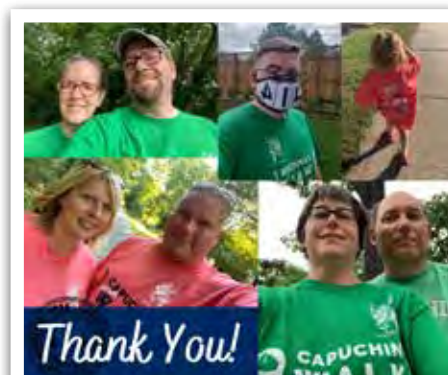
The 'virtual' event had an actual component. The CDC recommends that people continue to get exercise for both better physical and mental health during the shutdown. Many people and some teams met for actual and socially distanced walks in their neighborhood or park.

Due to postal delivery delays the shirts did arrive late. Many groups wore shirts from prior years and others waited. Either way, participants' support made it possible to continue to feed people who are hungry.

From New York to Chicago and out to Hawaii...



and all around Wisconsin...



people walked to help the Capuchins feed hungry people.



DRIVES CONTINUE, WITH CHANGES

Hygiene Bag & Food Drives Continue, Clothing Drives Prepare to Restart

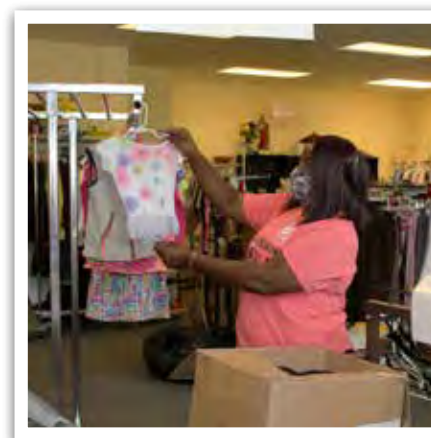
Despite the pandemic, Special Drives have continued. Hygiene Kit drives re-started after being suspended in March, and we welcome new drives. Food pantry drives have also resumed, and the need is expected to rise. Several companies donated food including Grebe's Bakery, Usinger's Famous Sausage, and Pick 'N Save. The Clothing Closet re-opened with donations already in-house.



▲ Fr. Muthu receives donations of hygiene supplies from the employees of Strattec Corp. These gifts were distributed at the House of Peace.



▲ Ron Awe (L) and Br. Robert (R) pause after loading food donated by St. Peter, Slinger, Resurrection, Allenton & St. Lawrence, Hartford.



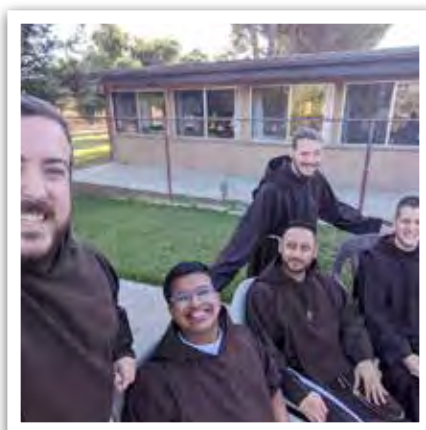
▲ Brittney is our new Administrative Assistant. Each afternoon she sorts clothing for distribution at our outdoor Clothing Closet.

YOUNG MEN GO WEST

POSTULANTS COMPLETE FIRST YEAR OF SERVICE WITH CCS

Many of our volunteers will recognize most of these men. They spent their first year in Capuchin formation at CCS. Christopher Woods and Norman Valenzuela served at the House of Peace, and C.J. Webb and Anthony Youssef served at Saint Ben's. C.J. was particularly faithful to "Brother Carl's Takeaway Deli," the to-go meal service provided at Saint Ben's on Friday nights in addition to the Meal. Shebin Philip served at St. Francis of Assisi parish.

When the state's Safer at Home order was imposed and we asked volunteers to suspend their commitments, it was our postulants who in great part saw us through and allowed us to keep serving. The public health emergency affected their formation, too.



They stayed in Milwaukee longer than initially planned, and instead of having additional preparation with their other Capuchin classmates from across North America and Asia-Pacific, as happens every year, they went directly to San Lorenzo Seminary in Santa Barbara for their next journey and their new lives. All the while, they kept serving joyfully.

They are bound in a unique way to CCS, and we to them, because we saw each other through our struggles and through our faith. Please pray for them and their vocations. Brothers (as of July 19th, when they were invested in the habit, each one became "Brother"), please hurry back.

Our Ministry Council

Diane Knight • Julie Darnieder • Anthony Myers • Chuck Cmeyla • Felice Green • Sara Zirbel • Duncan ShROUT
Br Robert Wotypka, Ministry Director • Jeff Parrish, Director of Provincial Ministries



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Facebook.com/CapuchinCommunityServices



YouTube.com/CapuchinCommunityServicesOrg

Capuchin Community Services

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