



GUESTS SHARE THEIR THANKS FOR HELP RECEIVED

SERVICES REMAIN OUTDOORS THROUGH THE FALL & WINTER

House of Peace



▲ Stephanie (R) picks up school supplies for her children. Nicole (Center) and Dominique (L) help her pick out supplies by age & grade.



▲ Olga visited the Clothes Closet to look for winter clothing for her great grandchildren.



▲ Ruth needed a birthday gift of clothing for her 18 year old grandson. She found a shirt with the tag still attached.

Guests continue to be served by the House of Peace and St. Ben's Community Meal throughout the fall and winter. At the House of Peace guests ask for and receive food from our curbside. Those who need clothing make an appointment, enter through the garden gate on Walnut Street and then select clothing in the garage. We keep the garage open unless it's raining or snowing.



▲ Five friars now serve at Capuchin Community Services. (L-R) Fr. Muthu, Br. Brenton, Br. Robert, Br. Jerry & Br. Carl.

Saint Ben's Community Meal delivers hot meals to people living in three supported housing sites and Cathedral Center. Guests living in St. Anthony Apartments, Capuchin Apartments and Prairie Apartments receive meals they can eat in their apartments. The Cathedral Center offers a place to live for women and children struggling with homelessness.

St. Ben's Community Meal



▲ Kenny (L) & Fr. Muthu (C) distribute meals to the residents of St. Anthony Apartments including Mike Daniel (R). Mike shared that with limited access to area meal programs the meals from St. Ben's Community Meal are critical to all the residents.



▲ Madeline Amos, Cathedral Center staff said, "Children usually check into shelter hungry ... they are grateful for the meal from St. Bens ready and waiting for them!"



▲ Fr. Muthu gives out meals to residents of the Capuchin Apartments. Nick and Mark are among 30 residents receiving meals in the lobby by their mailboxes.

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 - ACCEPTED BY APPOINTMENT

House of Peace & St. Ben's Community Meal

CCS is now accepting in-kind donations of clothing and hygiene items at its two locations. We regret that we cannot accept other items at this time.

The House of Peace: Donations accepted by appointment from 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. To deliver, please ring the doorbell then return to your vehicle. Staff will assist with unloading and provide a receipt.

For appointments and all other services at the House of Peace, please call (414) 933-1300 weekdays from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Saint Ben's Meal: Donations accepted by appointment between the hours of 9:00 am and 11:00 am Monday through Friday. To deliver, please ring the large doorbell next to the Meal Hall doors, and then return to your vehicle. Staff will assist with unloading and provide a receipt.

For appointments and all other services at Saint Ben's, please call (414) 271-0135 weekdays from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Call and Response

by Br. Robert Wotypka, OFM Capuchin
Ministry Director

"For People and the Planet"

In former times at Saint Ben's you hear Kenny on the mic night after night: "Will the driver of the grey minivan, license number ... please move your vehicle – you're blocking someone." At the House of Peace volunteers and staff come back almost out of breath from helping guests carry their Holiday Food Drive boxes, toys, and/or clothing, because they sometimes have to park far away (Okay, that was me).

Yet I read that there are eight parking spaces for every vehicle in the country. Is that possible? It doesn't feel like it. Where are all the spots? As is often true with scarcity, there is enough to go around, but it's not distributed evenly or fairly. New developments must create spaces for residents, customers, deliveries, etc., therefore we add spots *here* even though there's lots of space *there*. We pave paradise and put up a ... you know the rest.

Jesus said, "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do" (Mt 9: 12) – amen, amen, yet Teacher, here's another issue: medical providers build stunning new facilities in well-served areas of concentrated wealth, while in impoverished and/or rural areas doctors and

patients must both go miles and miles to provide and receive essential care.

Have you spent lots of time at home these past trying months meditating on this: what do I have? What do I need? We hope our ministries can help with answers. CCS hosts drives all year round (they're on our website), and we hand on what we receive, gratefully and effectively, as best we can. We thank our donors, and we marvel at your generosity. You're part of the "reduce, reuse, recycle" cycle.

But we are regularly overwhelmed. We ran out of room at the House of Peace less than two weeks after we re-opened to donations. We can't host as many guests each day, so it takes longer to give items away, and we have fewer hands to help. And not everything can be reused. That VHS tape of "Short Circuit 2"? - maybe it's time to toss it? Frankly, the first one wasn't all that great....

As I grow older, I find more value in experiences than objects. Our CCS ministries can provide both, after the model described in Acts Chapter 4. Please discern with us and help us find a balance that will help people and the planet. Thank you. May God give you peace.



► Br. Robert sorts used clothing & household donations in the Capuchin Clothes Closet.



Acts, Chapter 4: 34-35

34 *There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale,*
35 *and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need.*

Coming Soon to a Screen Near You!
(very near!!)

The CCS Virtual Volunteer Thank You Brunch

Saturday, November 14th, 2020 from 9:30am to 10:30am

Meet fellow volunteers (virtually) – make new connections (virtually)

Only 300 seats available. Register for free here:

https://ccs-virtual_vol_thankyou_brunch.eventbrite.com

Welcome Postulants & Br. Brenton

Additional Friar Joins Capuchins' Ministry in Milwaukee

Welcome Br. Brenton

Br. Brenton Ertel, OFM Cap. is a professed friar recently assigned to the ministry joining Brothers Carl, Jerry, Muthu and Robert. "I joined the order in 2013. I've found my time here to be most rewarding. I started before Covid-19 hit. The staff and people we serve are always positive. With all the other challenges of 2020 it's nice to serve in this environment."

Br. Brenton continued, "I help out in both the Emergency Food Pantry and the Clothes Closet. I pack food bags, meat bags and haul gallons of milk to the distribution area. In the Clothes Closet I sort, fold and hang up clothing." "I also help with the data entry system so we can track what items are needed by the people we serve."



▲ Capuchin Br. Brenton Ertel (L) works in the Food Pantry bagging groceries to distribute.



▲ Capuchin Postulant Jaico George helps Jeff, a recent guest with food bags and 2 gallons of milk.

Welcome Jaico George, Postulant

Jaico George was born in India and immigrated with his parents two years ago to Texas. "I felt the call to religious life even then," Jaico said. At the time, he was still in high school. "I graduated at 17 years old and considered diocesan priesthood before finding the Capuchins. Then I lived in the St. Clare Friary in Chicago as a residential candidate for 6 months until I was 18 and old enough to apply."

"I love my assignment at the House of Peace. This is the Capuchin heart, giving food to the people." Jaico paused to help give several food bags and two gallons of milk to a mother in need. He is one of two postulants who are working with Capuchin Community Services. Postulants are men seeking admission into the Capuchin Franciscan Order.

Welcome Francisco Cux, Postulant

Francisco Cux emigrated from Guatemala and has lived in Chicago for the past 9 years. "I always liked working with people and especially supporting poor people," Francisco said.

He continued, "I felt the call to religious life even before I left Guatemala. In Chicago, I was a member of St. Clare of Montefalco Parish where I met the Capuchin friars. Several Spanish speaking friars helped during my search including Brothers Jose Vera and MJ Groark."

Francisco concluded, "This is my first time in ministry and I really enjoy helping Choua in the Capuchin Clothes Closet. I sort and hang up clothing and help accept donations."



▲ Capuchin Postulant Francisco Cux works in the outdoor clothes closet folding clothing for guests.

Our brother Francis followed a vocation that changed his life and the lives of others. Have you heard the same call?

Capuchins minister in hospitals, schools, soup kitchens and jails. They are Franciscan pastors, artists, missionaries, youth ministers and writers. From large cities like Chicago and Detroit to small towns like Appleton, WI and Lame Deer, MT, we are serving the needs of others. You can learn more here: www.capuchinfranciscans.org



Holiday Food Box & Toy Drives Return

Most Coordinators Surveyed Choose Actual Box & Toy Drives

Former Times

Current Times



Over 80 schools, churches, businesses and community groups held Holiday Food Box or Toy Drives last year. We surveyed a cross-section of coordinators to ask if they planned to hold face-to-face holiday drives. These surveys took place in May as we began the planning process. Final decisions were made in August knowing that the health situation in the area might be very different by Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Most of those surveyed said they would hold actual food box and toy drives. To accommodate those who weren't sure we added a supermarket gift card option. Individuals can purchase a gift card for any amount up to \$50 and we'll give those cards instead of food boxes to our guests. Pic 'N Save/Metro Mart are accessible for most of our guests. Gift cards for toys can also be purchased for those who want to contribute but don't want to go into a store. Target and Walmart are accessible to most of those we serve. Visit: <http://bit.ly/CCS-HolidayDrives>.

Holiday Food Boxes

Capuchin Community Services will distribute food boxes to guests for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Here are the items we need to help complete a Holiday Meal Box for a guest and their family:

- 1 box of mashed potatoes
- 1 bag of stuffing
- 2 cans of cranberry sauce
- 4 cans of corn
- 1 box of cake mix
- 1 can of frosting
- 2 boxes of pudding or
Jell-O
- 2 boxes of cornbread mix
- 2 boxes of macaroni and
cheese
- 1 32 oz. can of sweet pota-
toes or yams
- 4 cans of green beans
- 1 can of gravy (No glass
jars, please)

Holiday Toy Drives

The Capuchin friars will distribute toys at Christmas to families in need. Here are some toys our families would like to be able to share with their children:

- Playdoh Sets
- Scooter
- Hot Wheels Cars & Track
- RC Car or Truck
- Music Head/Earphones
- Coloring Set & Easel
- Action Figures
- Jumbo Character Stuffed
- Plush Animal
- Etch-A-Sketch
- Basketball, Football, Base-
ball or Soccerball
- Children's Books
- Other toys for children
birth to 14 years of age

How To Make Stock Gifts

Capuchin Community Services gratefully accept gifts of stock. To make a gift, inform your broker that you will make a stock gift to **The Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order** (our legal name). Please ask your broker to send the stock gift to our broker "for the benefit of Capuchin Community Services". Please call our Development Office at (414) 509-8465 so we can send you a letter for tax purposes.

Please send stock gifts to:

JP Morgan
Attention: Mark Maddock
465 Main Street
Belleville, MI 48111
Account Name: The Province of St. Joseph
Account Number: 741-35014
DTC: 0352
mark.o.maddock@jpmorgan.com or (734) 697-1660

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



[Twitter.com/CapuchinComSvc](https://twitter.com/CapuchinComSvc)



[Facebook.com/CapuchinCommunityServices](https://facebook.com/CapuchinCommunityServices)

YouTube.com/CapuchinCommunityServicesOrg

214N02

Capuchin Community Services

St. Ben's Community Meal
930 W State St
Milwaukee, WI 53233
414 271 0135



House of Peace
1702 W Walnut St
Milwaukee, WI 53205
414 933 1300