

Capuchin Community Services

www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org



“And who is my neighbor?” (Luke 10: 29) *Capuchin Community Services strengthens neighborhoods*

The Walnut Street Social Gathering Club has been meeting at the House of Peace for over three decades. The mission of the Club is to celebrate community: past, present and future. They are long-standing supporters of the House of Peace and Capuchin Community Services, and they are our good neighbors.

One of the newest neighbors of CCS is the Saint Anthony Apartments, which opened in November 2018. Saint Anthony's, like the House of Peace, is more than a building – it is a mission. The mission of the Saint Anthony's is to help end homelessness in Milwaukee. Mission takes ministers, and ministers serve.

Michael Daniel, a resident at Saint Anthony's, has been serving the CCS mission since Saint Anthony's opened. He has been ever ready to give public witness to the way that Saint Anthony's has transformed his life. In Michael's own words, “We moved in on December 6th, and life is fabulous!” There was some adjustment, some shifting needed for his new apartment to go from “house” to “home.” He told us, “I think of it as my home. You gotta understand: if you're staying in a homeless shelter, there's lots of rules. One homeless shelter I was in, when I got there they said to me, “If you've ever been in prison, or if you've ever been in the military, you're gonna fit right in here.”

After he moved in to Saint Anthony's he explained there was a transition time: “Getting out of

the shelter environment, it even takes you time just to de-compress, just to get back to figuring out what is normal.”

And now? Let Mike tell it: “I don't think the fact that they're brand new apartments is the most exciting thing – that's more like the whipped cream on the top of a sundae. Having a place to call home: this is invaluable.” Just as he was being asked if Saint Anthony's was a neighborhood yet, Mike saw a family leaving the Saint Ben's Meal hall. He gestured toward the mother and children and said, “There – there's your neighbors. This (pointing to Saint Ben's) is your neighborhood.”



▲ Michael Daniel shared his story with dignitaries at the ribbon cutting for St. Anthony's and expressed his thanks for their hard work.



▲ Frank (far left) and Miriam (center) receive their evening meal from a volunteer at St. Ben's Community Meal.

Two other enthusiastic members of our new neighborhood are Frank and Miriam Dorsha. As Miriam will proudly tell you, they are the only married couple living at St. Anthony's. They were separated due to health issues which made it difficult to find housing.

Frank said, “Before I moved into St. Anthony's I lived in homeless shelters, most recently the Guest House. My wife has a serious heart condition and she lived in an assisted living facility.” Miriam excitedly picked up the story: “Frank called and told me he'd been accepted to get an apartment last December. He said I should apply as well and we could be together again!” Today Michael, Frank and Miriam live in community together because of our donors' generosity. Much thanks for all your support!

WORKS OF MERCY

Scheduling Summer & Fall Now

House of Peace

Food & Clothing Pantries - Prep & Assist:
May-August, Mon-Fri, 8:00am-4:00pm

- Volunteers needed to sort food, clothing and hygiene supplies. Shelve food and prepare pantry packs. Inspect clothing and hang on rods by gender. Create gender-specific hygiene bags.



St. Ben's Community Meal

Meal Service: Sun-Fri, 4:45-6:45pm

- Volunteers needed serving meals, pouring beverages, providing condiments, retrieving trays and resetting tables. Scheduling 2019 now.

Meal Hall Cleaning: Sun-Fri, 1:30-3:00pm or Saturday afternoons

- Volunteer groups needed to clean the Meal hall. Opportunities to clean on weekdays in the early afternoons and Saturdays.

Front Office Reception: Mon-Fri, 9:00am-12:30pm and 12:30pm-4:30pm

- Volunteers needed to help in the Front Office greeting visitors & guests plus minor office duties.

Front Door Ministry: Thurs-Fri, 12:30pm-4:30pm

- Volunteers needed to support our guests in the Front Door Ministry including scheduling showers, laundry and other services.

Eyeglasses Distribution: July-October, Wednesdays, 12:30pm-4:30pm

- Volunteer needed to help with the selection and fitting of eyeglasses for our guests. Eyeglasses distributed Wednesdays only.

Next Steps

To volunteer or ask questions, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 414-271-0135, x2219 or ccsvol@thecapuchins.org.

Call and Response

by Br. Robert Wotypka, OFM Capuchin
Ministry Director

"And who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10: 29)

This is the verse before Jesus tells what is perhaps his most memorable parable: the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-37). The brilliance of Jesus' parables is that they don't generate answers – they generate thoughts. And thoughts generate responses. And responses generate actions. And actions are the core of mission.

What can we suppose about the Good Samaritan? That he came from somewhere else; that he perhaps practiced a different faith; and that maybe he was in a different social class. But seeing the man "who fell victim to robbers" (v. 30) he was "moved with compassion at the sight" of him beaten and stripped and left for dead. So he went out of his way to help him.

The story of Capuchin Community Services, a volunteer-driven ministry, is the story of people going out of their way to help their neighbor. The next time you come to Saint Ben's, take a look around. To the west is Milwaukee

Area Technical College, which like Saint Ben's is a place of promise and hope. South of MATC is the Milwaukee Police Department headquarters, and heading west is the county Public Safety Building. Across the street is the county jail, and to the west is the county Secure Detention Facility. These are tough places to be, for the people who serve there and for the people brought in. And they are all our neighbors.

Maybe it's corny, but remember the words of the opening song from "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood"? It

is literally a plea: "Won't you please? Won't you please? Please won't you be --- my neighbor?" Maybe Fred (an ordained minister, after all) understood Jesus' parable better than most. I will imitate him and end with a plea: that to carry on the work of CCS, with the increased burdens our expanded services have placed on our budget, and to support the new neighbors we are called to walk with, "Please won't you be our neighbor?" Thank you. May God give you peace.



▲ House of Peace guest Gary Brown and Br. Robert Wotypka, Ministry Director pose during a food bag distribution.

Welcome Fr. Muthu!

Capuchin Fr. Muthu Savariappan has been assigned as the new Pastoral Director for Capuchin Community Services. He was ordained in India in 2015. After several years of ministry in India Fr. Muthu moved to the United States to work with the Province of St. Joseph. For the last three years Fr. Muthu, as he likes to be called, has worked at St. Lawrence Seminary High School.

Fr. Muthu shared his impressions of his first few years of ministry with the Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order. "The friars are very good, very hospitable and caring. I feel at home even when I miss my homeland. The people I've worked with and serve are also so respectful and appreciative of my talents."



▲ Fr. Muthu recently visited the St. Ben's Friary to plan his move to Milwaukee.



► Br. Robert met Archbishop Jerome Listecki at the Archdiocesan Human Concerns Committees' Summit.



School Supply Drive Now Open

Children served by House of Peace & St. Ben's Meal need your help

Each summer families with children turn to the House of Peace and St. Ben's Meal to help feed their children. Those families also turn to Capuchin Community Services' two sites to clothe and prepare them to return to school. This drive was a favorite of Br. Booker Ashe, OFM Cap. who founded the House of Peace.

Could you help Capuchin Community Services provide families with school supplies for the next school year? Here are some of the schools supplies we are collecting this summer for our late August distribution event:

backpacks	child-safety scissors	loose-leaf paper
#2 pencils, pkg.	colored markers	3-ring binder
pink eraser	index cards	spiral notebooks
ball point pens	combination lock	construction paper
pencil sharpener	pocket folders	scotch tape
calculator	Kleenex	crayons
hi-lighters	ruler	glue sticks & Elmer's Glue

Prefer to skip the lines at the store? You can use our Amazon and Target Gift Registries to purchase school supplies. They'll even ship them right to the House of Peace for distribution at both sites. You can also make an online gift that will be designated to support the School Supply Drive. Our goal is to have the school supplies in house by August 16, 2019 for distribution before school starts. Visit www.capuchincommunityservices.org/ways-to-help/special-drives/school-supply-drive to learn more.



▲ Last year Br. Robert (center) helps Jasmine (left) and Miriam (right) select backpacks for their children. The mothers then filled them with school and hygiene supplies to start the new year.



▲ Dominique McGhee, Food Pantry Manager (right) helps Tonja (left) pack shampoo so her children start school healthy and ready to learn.

The math for a successful school year



▲ Your gift of backpacks.

+



▲ Your gift of school supplies.

=



▲ Will you help Vivivan Conners and other parents give their children a successful start to the school year?

Who We Are

Capuchin Community Services is a ministry of **The Capuchin Franciscan Province of St. Joseph**, a religious community of friars inspired by St Francis of Assisi. Our friars live and work with those who are in need of help... the poor, the disenfranchised, and the needy.



Our Ministry Council

Capuchin Community Services is advised by a volunteer Ministry Council consisting of leaders in our community. Current Ministry Council members include:

- Diane Knight
- Julie Darnieder
- Anthony Myers
- Chuck Cmeyla
- Felice Green
- Sara Zirbel
- Wendy Hermann
- Pam Meyer
- Duncan Shrout
- Br Robert Wotypka, Ministry Director
- Jeff Parrish, Director of Provincial Ministries



HOW TO DONATE

To make an online gift to our Capuchin ministry go to:

www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org

Or mail your gift to:

Capuchin Community Services
P.O. Box 5830
Milwaukee, WI 53205-5830

Capuchin Community Services is a ministry of the **Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order, Inc.** Unless otherwise directed, donations support the local ministry and the Province.

The **Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order, Inc.** is a 501(c)(3) organization. Gifts made to our ministries, Capuchin Community Services, St. Ben's Community Meal and/or the House of Peace, are tax deductible as allowable by law.

Capuchin & Staff Member Bike Across Wisconsin

Become a "Spokes-Person" and support them as they ride for the ministry

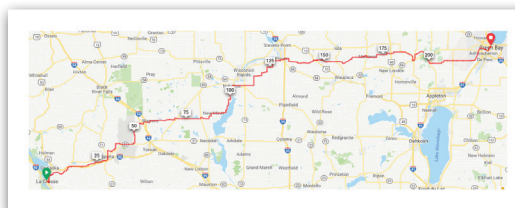
Milwaukee is our CCS home and it's a beautiful city – but isn't it good to be in God's great open spaces too, especially in Wisconsin, where the summers are brief? Still, the work of mission goes on. What if there was a way to combine the two – R&R (rest and relaxation) with M&M (ministry and mission)? Perhaps there is

In a few weeks Brother Robert, the CCS Ministry Director and Jessica Grochowski, Grant Writer for the Saint Joseph Province will take part in the annual Ride Across Wisconsin. This is a 225 mile two day bike ride from LaCrosse to Green Bay. And they'd welcome your prayers and support on this journey from the river to the bay.



▲ Br. Robert practices for the upcoming Ride for the Hungry.

▼ Fr. Robert's route for the Ride for the Hungry.



Brother Robert makes bike pilgrimages whenever he can, and Jessica has done several MS Bike Rides. Her plan is to ride the Sunday portion, 90 miles from Plover to Green Bay.

Would you consider becoming a "spokes-person" for St. Ben's Community Meal and the House of Peace? If so, please pledge to our website, www.capuchincommunityservices/Ride4Hungry. Thank you.

► The Madonna del Ghisallo is the patron saint of bicyclists. Fr. Robert will carry her image while bicycling across Wisconsin. Art reproduced with permission. Learn more here: www.thekaleidoscopedesigns.com/collections/patron-saints/products/patron-saints-st-madonna-del-ghisallo



Memorials, Celebrations & Welcomes

St. Ben's hosts memorial service, says goodbye to Br. Rob and welcomes new staff



◀ Gerard Campbell, Area Manager for Heartland Housing, lights a candle in memory of a homeless person who passed away during the winter. Gerard manages St. Anthony Apartments adjacent to St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church where the memorial service was held.



◀ St. Ben's Meal Community Meal site welcomed three new staff members last month. From left to right: Armando Diaz, Kenny Howard, Nikita Godbolt and Joshua Finch. Kenny is the St. Ben's Community Meal site director. Nikita is the first female hospitality minister hired to serve at the community meal.



▲ The Front Door Ministry is staffed primarily by volunteers. They recently held a Goodbye Luncheon to thank Br. Rob Roemer for his ministry among them. Br. Rob is seated second from the right.



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Support our ministry: www.CapuchinCommunityServices.org/Donate or by mail to PO Box 5830, Milwaukee WI 53205-0830