

March 2017 Newsletter



Catholic Charities
of the Diocese of Raleigh

CATHOLIC PARISH OUTREACH

A message from Kelly Rappl



During the Lenten season it is a good time to take an internal inventory and review how we chose to live our lives. Lent has traditionally been a time for penance, almsgiving and self-denial, but Pope Francis has challenged us to expand on that to do acts that enrich the lives of others. So, if we're going to fast from anything this Lent, Francis suggests that even more than candy or alcohol, we should fast from indifference towards others.

Describing the phenomenon as globalization of indifference, he shares that "whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades." He continues that, "We end up being incapable of feeling compassion at the outcry of the poor, weeping for other people's pain, and feeling a need to help them, as though all this were someone else's responsibility and not our own."

CPO is a beacon, a light to our community fulfilling not only our

client's physical needs but also their spiritual needs. We are sharing in the honor of being a part of something beyond ourselves. It is through the selfless acts of our volunteers and donors that we not only give, but also receive many gifts: love, joy, gratitude and peace. By emptying ourselves of our own desires we can be made anew, which is what the Lenten season is truly meant to do.

Thank you for all you do for our community and God bless you during this journey of renewal.

Kelly



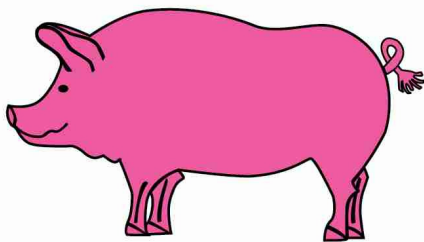
Words of Wisdom volunteer Judy Lamanna

I LAY AWAKE AND IMAGINED A PICTURE OF MY ENTIRE LIFE AS A STEEP MOUNTAIN! ON MY BACK WERE MY PROBLEMS, MY STRUGGLES AS A HEAVY BACK PACK, AND A WARM SUN SHINING. DURING MY STRUGGLES, MY FRIENDS WERE THERE FOR ME; THEY EASED MY BURDEN, BUT I CARRIED IT MOSTLY ALONE— EXCEPT, ALWAYS WITH ME THE SON, WHO GAVE ME MY FRIENDS AND WARMTH. A SMILING CHRIST LEADING, WAS ALWAYS AHEAD OF ME, WALKING UP THE MOUNTAIN!

I WONDER NOW, AS AN OLD WOMAN, HOW WILL I GET DOWN THIS MOUNTAIN OF LIFE? WILL I FALL, AND WILL HE REACH OUT TO CATCH ME? I TRUST HIM FOR THE TRIP DOWN THE MOUNTAIN, THE SAME WAY I DID FOR THE CLIMB UP. "I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS", HE HAS SAID, AND I KNOW AFTER ALL WE HAVE BEEN THROUGH WHILE CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN TOGETHER, MY FRIEND JESUS WILL NOT LET ME DOWN!



Save the Date: Saturday April 29 4th Annual Pig Pickin 4 — 7:30pm



Tweet from Pope Francis

I invite you to join in the fight against poverty, both material and spiritual. Together let's build peace and bridges of friendship.



Cardinal Gibbons Moms volunteering in Feb.



Volunteer Rick Bourbina delivering 70 children's birthday kits from The Franciscan School



We Need Your Used Printer Cartridges

Did you know that we get \$40 a month of office supplies from the Staples rewards program? Your donation of used printer cartridges are worth \$2 each to CPO. You can turn them into Terry or leave them by her office.

Donation Highlights

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| • St. Mary food drive: | 2,314 lbs. of groceries & \$2,016 |
| • Cardinal Gibbons HS food drive: | 5,512 lbs. of groceries & \$274 |
| • St. Catherine baby shower: | 2,169 lbs. of children's items & \$2,473 |
| • St. Francis food drive: | 9,982 lbs. of groceries & \$6,656 |

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Volunteers: Please arrive by 9:30am



Please arrive by 9:30 to help us get stocked up and ready for the day. Check in with the lead Food or Clothing volunteer to see how you can help.

Follow Catholic Parish Outreach!
Facebook (Catholic Parish Outreach)
Twitter (www.twitter.com/cporaleigh)
Instagram (catholicparishoutreach)

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Donation Forms



We so appreciate our community of donors; without them CPO could not have existed for 40 years. If you are interacting with one of our donors, and they ask for a tax receipt, the forms are conveniently located in several locations throughout the

building: Greeter's desk, outside Terry & Kelly's offices, Clothing area, and by the back overhead door. All you need to do is date & sign the form, then give it to the donor. Thank you for making our donors visit a positive experience!

Stats for January

	<u>Jan 2016</u>	<u>Jan 2017</u>
Households served	2,660	2,689
People served	9,283	9,266
Total clothing	737	614
Total diapers	489	462
Total volunteer hours	3,620	3,582
# of new volunteers (includes groups & youth)	53	26
Note: On average a family visits CPO 2.9 times a year		

