

**Outreach Hours  
of Operation**

Monday - Friday

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

(810) 771-7279

11714 S. Saginaw  
Grand Blanc, MI  
48439

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# Holy Family Outreach

Issue 2: Oct 2014



**Isaiah 58:7**

“Thus says the Lord:  
Share your bread with the  
hungry, shelter the  
oppressed and the  
homeless; clothe the naked  
when you see them,  
do not turn your back on  
your own.”



Madonna of the Streets

**Holy Family  
Outreach  
Prayer**

Come Holy Spirit  
Give us patience and  
understanding to live this  
day your way. Bring to us  
the unity of working  
together to help those in  
need. We are here to do  
your plan without being  
prejudice or judgmental  
but with kindness and  
humility. We ask this  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



***Please help in this mission by praying for our clients, the volunteers, and the continued support of parishioners and our partners.***

### ***Did you know?***

*Thanksgiving Mass collection for St. Vincent de Paul society each year is used for the Christmas Food Boxes?*

*Don't forget to make your Thanksgiving donation!*

## **Brian's Corner**

I chose to become a Catholic in 1983. After years of struggling with my faith, it soon became last on my list of priorities. In my search to regain my faith, I attended the Men's CRHP retreat weekend at Holy Family. Those two days changed my life both personally and spiritually. I began volunteering at Outreach in an effort to put my time into helping others.

I developed many friendships with the other volunteers and with Deacon Jack. I am blessed to have Deacon Jack as a mentor and close

friend. I am also blessed to be one of many who make Outreach accessible to those in need.

The Outreach center works side by side with many other charitable programs. The ongoing support of Holy Family parishioners and the many volunteers who give their time, talent and donations to help those less fortunate is really what makes our Holy Family Outreach center possible. We all work together for the common good for our community.

***Brian Holyfield***



## **October is Stewardship Month**

Stewardship month is a time to pray about how you can use your time, talent and treasure to further God's Kingdom. We all have been given gifts of varying types and amounts. We give the first fruits of those gifts as a way of thanksgiving to him from whom they come.

Consider how your stewardship will include helping those in our community most in need of our love and support.

***"For whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you have done unto me."***

**Matthew 25:40**

## A Tale of Courage

One day, at the Holy Family Outreach, a lady entered the center looking for assistance. The volunteer noticed she was wearing pajamas and a surgical face-mask. After receiving the food, the volunteer was drawn to offer to pray with the woman in the mask. She eagerly accepted.

Time had passed. The woman in the mask came back to the Outreach Center and as God willed, the same volunteer that made a connection with her was working that day. Upon her approach to the building, the lady in the mask was startled when she heard a dog barking. The volunteer reassured her the dog belonged to the tenants upstairs and that she had nothing to fear. The lady explained why she wore a mask. She had been mauled by a dog that became vicious and bit her face and neck. She had a court date scheduled. She also needed funds to get reconstructive surgery so that she could remove the mask from her disfigured face and neck.

The volunteer asked if she had

an outfit to wear to court. (She was wearing the same pajamas as the first visit). They headed to the clothing room in the back of the Outreach Center. Fortunately, she found an outfit, along with a few other items.

On another occasion, the lady with the mask came to the Outreach center and through the Holy Spirit, the same volunteer was there. This time she brought pictures of her face and neck from the day of the attack. This volunteer had the grace to be calm and have strength in order to see the graphic pictures. This gave the woman the courage to actually remove the mask and show the volunteer her scars. The volunteer reassured her and said how far she had progressed and that God was at work to help her heal and persevere.

The Outreach center, with generous funding, was also able to help the woman with gas money for commutes to the doctor's offices and for co-pays for her prescriptions during treatment. As a result, we are happy to say that this woman is again just as beautiful outside as she is inside!



*Outreach was happy to support the Holy Family HS Youth Group's September service project with Catholic Charities. Together we supplied job interview and work suitable clothes for their new Work Ready Room.*

## How Can You Help?

Interested in a one-day volunteer event? Outreach has need of a large number of volunteers on Saturday, Dec. 20 at the Fr. Bush Parish Center from 9 a.m. - noon to help distribute the **Christmas Food Boxes**. Volunteers are asked



to bring a hand truck to assist. Please call Brian Holyfield at (810) 771-7279 to sign up.

**More ways you can help...**

Food drive

Computer Assistance

Bread pickup from Sara Lee

Intercessory Prayer

*If you have time, we have a need.*

**Look for our next Partner Profile: Food Bank of Eastern MI and the new Hunger Solution Center**

[www.fbem.org](http://www.fbem.org)



**Donate to Outreach through Online Giving.**

1. Home page:  
Select ->  
Add a New Gift

2. Under Give:  
Select ->  
Outreach Program

You can set up a one-time or a recurring gift.

[www.osvonlinegiving.com/1417](http://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1417)

**Partner Profile: Catholic Charities**



Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties is a wonderful resource for the Holy Family Outreach Center. It has been a provider of human services for over 75 years. Between 2012 and 2013, a total of 98,999 people have and are being served. 38,599 persons have been feed at the Holy Angels Soup Kitchen (including Community Breakfasts). Approximately 47,126 people have been to the Community Closet. More that 600 have taken advantage of the adolescent services and 12,674 people have used the warming center. The Center for Hope is expecting an increase of more than 35% once the Center for Hope’s capital campaign and restoration project is complete.

Of the many great programs, the **Work Ready Room** is the one we want to highlight today. Jobs are scarce. Violence, illiteracy and crime in Flint is on the rise. Young people are being raised in an environment of poverty and despair. According to the Gene-

see Area United Way, Nationwide unemployment is around 13.8%. Flint’s unemployment rate is a staggering 36.6%.

The **Work Ready Room** provides clothing appropriate for job interviews. A volunteer Navigator assists clients regarding local employment service agencies and helps fit them with the proper attire. They also offer seminar/workshops free to the public.

Catholic Charities works in conjunction with Resource Genesee, U of M Flint, Michigan Works, Mott, and various other social service agencies to provide the most up-to-date materials and information regarding employment services and training opportunities. “If you get into the Work Ready Program and put in an effort, there is no reason why you can’t get a job!”, says Brian Holyfield, Holy Family Outreach Coordinator.

**What do our Volunteers have to say?**

“Every time I am in church, I can see the Corporal Works of Mercy through my work at Outreach .” (Observe stained glass in south wing.)

“I volunteer because it gives me a chance to be like Jesus. Jesus would provide for the needy.”

“When I work at the pantry I feel like we are helping people get back on their feet.”

“It is very rewarding to assist people in real need.”

“Think about holding someone’s hand and when touching each finger think about this quote from Mother Teresa, “You did it for me.”



“Paying back what God gave us.”

**THE LOVE OF CHRIST COMPELS US**  
2 corinthians 5:14