Community Outreach Food Drive 2018 is Here!

Each year we collect funds and food for our food drive to directly support 8 families in the city of Houston. St. Joseph and St. Steven’s Social Ministry provides us with the names of the families and we deliver the food to the families. In the past people wrote checks to cover the cost of food which usually equates to about $2,500.00 in food/supplies. Annually we have a second charity supported by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (Fr. Ray’s Religious Order). In past years we raised money for Oblate Missions in Haiti and Puerto Rico. This year we are running the food drive a bit differently to allow more involvement from both students and community members.

1st Charity Outreach - The Food Drive itself

Instead of collecting money to buy the food, we created a tag which is on the bulletin board outside the church. Take a tag and purchase that item. You can take as many tags as you’d like; there are plenty to go around! Please return the item(s) anytime during the week during business hours, up until 7:30pm on Wed and Thurs. or on Sunday. Pull in the alley and drop the item (along with the tag) in the large room of the CSC. You may also provide items that are not on a tag and we will distribute those accordingly. If you would like to provide additional support to St. Joseph and St. Stevens Social Outreach you may also write a check directly to them. You can place the check in the collection basket by November 18th.

2nd Charity Outreach Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate

The Oblates of Mary Immaculate have missions all around the world. One of the Oblate missions is to provide the Gospel to young adults and encourage them to be leaders in their faith. That is how I ended up at Rice University! The Oblates provide me all my living expenses and we would like to show our appreciation to Oblates and support their ongoing missions. To support the Oblate Mission this year during our charity outreach you can write a check to the Oblates of Mary Immaculate (Federal Tax ID 52-2133725) and Fr. Ray will present them with checks the week of December 10th. Checks can be placed in the collection basket or mailed to the CSC at 1703 Bolsover St. by December 9th. One of the Missions that Fr. Ray supports is Victorious Missionaries. The Oblates founded this spiritual support group for people with disabilities or who were chronically ill. Its purpose was to encourage those with disabilities to reach out to others with disabilities, sharing their gifts of prayer and the Gospel. This group offers spiritual support via retreats, letters, small group meetings, and phone calls.

Their Mission: We, the members of the Victorious Missionaries, commit and dedicate ourselves to offer to God and to each other our giftedness, our visions, and our dreams. We will create and foster an atmosphere where all members are encouraged and empowered to come to a deeper understanding of the call to live out of our Gospel Values and bring God’s message of love to all people.

I would like to dedicate this year’s Oblate Mission Collection to Victorious Missionaries. You may also mark the check for a different Mission (i.e. Mission to Young Adults, Native Americans, US Border Ministry, Disaster Recovery, etc.) by marking the memo on the check.

I know last year we simply wrote checks St. Mary’s and marked it for Food Drive or Oblates. This caused some confusion with accounting, thus the shift in process this year. Thank you all for your presence, participation and support here at St. Mary’s!

Peace,
Fr. Ray

Reading 1

Thus says the LORD: Shout with joy for Jacob, exult at the head of the nations; proclaim your praise and say: The LORD has delivered his people, the remnant of Israel. Behold, I will bring them back from the land of the north; I will gather them from the ends of the world, with the blind and the lame in their midst, the mothers and those with child; they shall return as an immense throng.

They departed in tears, but I will console them and guide them; I will lead them to brooks of water, on a level road, so that none shall stumble. For I am a father to Israel, Ephraim is my first-born.

Reading 2

Brothers and sisters: Every high priest is taken from among men and made their representative before God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal patiently with the ignorant and erring, for he himself is beset by weakness and so, for this reason, must make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people.

No one takes this honor upon himself but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

In the same way, it was not Christ who glorified himself in becoming high priest, but rather the one who said to him: You are my son; this day I have begotten you; just as he says in another place:

You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Gift of Sight: What Will You See? by Father Ray Cook, O.M.I. SEE PAGE 3
Community and Student Announcement

Thanksgiving Food Drive

As in past years, the Thanksgiving Food Drive will have two parts (functions) this year, and we will have 3 weeks to collect and sort food. The food will be delivered to on Sunday, November 18th, the last Sunday before Thanksgiving. Here are the brief details - more extensive details are in the back if the bulletin.

Thanksgiving Food/Grocery effort for the 8 families of St. Joseph - St. Stephen Social Ministry here in Houston.

How can you help?
1. Take a Tag and purchase that item and return it asap
2. When we know the makeup of each family (number and ages of the family members) and see a need for any additional items, such as, diapers for a baby, those items can be purchased and delivered to the Student Center as well.
3. Additional gift cards can also be purchased and provided to St. Joseph and St. Stephen Social Ministry.
4. We need volunteers to perform the following functions:
   - Sorters - sort the food and groceries for each family
   - Box getters - to find delivery boxes for the food and groceries.
   - Packers - pack the food for each family.
   - Drivers - people willing to use their cars to deliver the food to the families (November 18th after the 10:00am Mass).

Again, Please read the back page of the bulletin for all additional details including how to write check for the 2018 outreach and the types of ministries supported by our efforts.

Mass Intentions Schedule
Sunday, October 28, 2018
10:00 am Mass - for Laura Ribette
12:00 pm Mass - Open
4:30 pm Mass - Open

Liturgy Collection for Sunday, October 21, 2018 - $1,964. Thank you