



Works of Mercy Initiative In Motion

10th Anniversary Edition – February 2022

Participating Parishes: Church of St. Adalbert, Our Lady of Fatima (Delanson), Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Our Lady Queen of Peace: Mission St. Margaret of Cortona, St. Anthony's, St. Gabriel the Archangel, St. John the Evangelist, St. Joseph's, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Luke's, St. Madeleine Sophie, St. Paul the Apostle

Living the Works of Mercy

An Anniversary Message from the Director

Born out of Called to Be Church, the Works of Mercy Initiative launched in 2012 as a pioneering approach to collaborative ministry. Serving the extended Catholic family of Schenectady and the greater Schenectady community for the past 10 years, we have lived our faith by living the works of mercy. Together, we have:

- ❖ Clothed almost **3,000** children in our community through our *Good Neighbor Program*
- ❖ Come together annually on *Called to Serve Family Sunday* to learn about and support programs in our community who serve our neighbors in their times of need
- ❖ Trained and supported visitation ministers who serve the homebound and those in nursing homes and senior residences
- ❖ Been a resource to those who need a helping hand, a listening ear, and a caring heart
- ❖ And much more!

Together, we have served with love and compassion. We have lived our faith through our works. Enduring through the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to continue to serve. Our Good Neighbor Program volunteers quickly and seamlessly adjusted to new protocols so we could continue to provide for the children who needed us. Our annual Called to Serve Family Sunday was held on a virtual platform, offering creative ways for participants to learn and serve consistent with the times. During this time, we also saw an increase in the number of calls from those seeking assistance in finding resources to help meet their needs.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue networking efforts and collaborations amongst our participating parish communities. It has been a humbling experience to serve in a community so full of generosity, dedication, and most importantly, love. With your support and your prayers, we seek to continue our mission in the spirit of Catholic tradition for 10 more years and beyond!

Sincerely,

Kristin Black, MSW

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me...Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did it for me." Matthew 25:31-40



February Fundraising Drive



\$22,000 in 2/2022

We are seeking 220 individuals or groups to donate \$100 during our special **February Fundraising Drive**

Our 2022 budget needs a little love. Your \$100 donation would go a long way to enable us to continue to share the love of Christ through service in our community. To make your donation,

- Visit worksofmercyschdy.org and click the February Fundraising Drive Heart to be taken to our online donation page
- Mail your donation to: Works of Mercy Initiative, % St. Luke's Church, 1241 State St., Schenectady NY 12304-include a memo that your donation is for the February Fundraising Drive

We will share our progress on our website and social media pages!

Called to Serve Family Sunday

SAVE THE DATE: NOVEMBER 6, 2022

Additional information to follow in your bulletins and on our website!

There is still time to participate on our virtual 2021 platform. Choose a day, gather with friends and family, visit our website, and enjoy a day of fellowship, prayer, and service.



Planting seeds in our youngest, fostering growth in our teens and adults

The Good Neighbor Program

Helping children feel comfortable & confident. The families we serve and those who work with them express their appreciation, "All of the families we gave clothing to were so grateful and overwhelmed. Please thank your volunteers and thanks to God for providing!" (From a Schenectady County Social Services Caseworker) Visit our website to see our most urgent needs and find out how you can help.

