



Schenectady Area Roman
Catholic Churches

Works of Mercy Initiative *in Motion*

Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Our Lady Queen of Peace, St. Adalbert's,
St. Anthony's, St. Gabriel the Archangel, St. John the Evangelist, St. Joseph's,
St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Luke's, St. Madeleine Sophie,
St. Margaret of Cortona, St. Paul the Apostle

A Gift from the Heart

Pope Francis once said, "It is not enough to experience God's mercy in our lives. It is necessary for those who receive it also to be a sign and instrument for others. ... It is not a question of making great efforts or superhuman gestures. The Lord shows us a far easier path, made up of little gestures but which, in His eyes, have great value." (en.radiovaticana.va/news/2016/10/12)

This sentiment is the core of the mission of the Works of Mercy Initiative. Every clothing care package given to a child in need, every visitation minister who sits and listens to someone's suffering and helps them to feel the comfort of Christ, every person who finds renewed strength by attending an evening of reflection and enrichment, every child wrapped in the love of a prayer blanket, every seed that is planted at Called to Serve Family Sunday with endless capacity for growth....when you support the Works of Mercy Initiative, your generosity helps bring the Catholic tradition of the Works of Mercy alive in your parish and surrounding community.

Your support is needed during your parish annual second collection supporting the Works of Mercy Initiative. Please visit our website to learn more about our programs and activities at worksofmercyschdy.org

Making Kindness Count

On November 12, families from around the Schenectady area will gather for an afternoon of prayer, learning, and hands on works of mercy at our annual **Called to Serve Family Sunday**. Participants will find out how simple acts of kindness can make a big difference. This year we will be completing projects to donate to several local organizations whose missions foster the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. We are looking forward to sharing another great day with our parish families!

WE CANNOT BE
PART-TIME
CHRISTIANS!
WE SHOULD SEEK TO LIVE
OUR **FAITH** AT
EVERY
MOMENT OF
EVERY
DAY
POPE FRANCIS
OFONTITEX



Newsletter Features

- **A Gift from the Heart**
- **Making Kindness Count**
- **Comfortable, Confident & Ready to Learn**

CORPORAL
WORKS of
Mercy

Feed the hungry
Give drink to the thirsty
Clothe the naked
Shelter the homeless
Visit the sick
Visit the imprisoned
Bury the dead

SPIRITUAL
WORKS of
Mercy

Instruct the ignorant
Counsel the doubtful
Admonish sinners
Bear wrongs patiently
Forgive offenses willingly
Comfort the afflicted
Pray for the living and the dead

Comfortable, Confident & Ready to Learn

Almost 150 children have been provided with clothing care packages so far this school year. Many children and teens right here the Schenectady County community live in poverty. Living in poverty means many things, including not knowing where your next meal will come from, not knowing if you will have a stable place to call home, and not knowing if you are going to be able to afford other necessities in life such as clothing and shoes. Thanks to your help, the **Good Neighbor Program** continues to provide local children and teens with clean, weather appropriate clothing care packages to solve one small piece of the puzzle for families who are facing many challenges. We believe that when kids feel more comfortable, it helps give them confidence. When they have confidence, they are better prepared to learn. Here are some of the reasons why your donations matter:

“He was SO EXCITED to wear his new sneakers and show them off. It was so nice to see him feeling good about himself and most importantly wearing shoes that fit so that he is comfortable.” (Schenectady City School Social Worker)

“All of the families we gave clothing to were so grateful and overwhelmed-please thank your volunteers and thanks to God for providing!” (Schenectady County Social Services Caseworker)

Please help! **Our inventory is either completely depleted or very low on the following:

- Gently used or new **Boys** sizes 5T, 5, 6, 10, 12, 14 (we especially need bottoms: long pants, shorts sweat pants)
- New Boy's underwear, all sizes
- New Men's underwear and socks (for our high school kids!)

**We accept all clothing sizes infant through adult. The above list shows our most urgent needs.

The Works of Mercy Initiative Good Neighbor Program

For clothing drop off information please call (518)347-0871

List updated 9/26/17



The **Works of Mercy Initiative** is funded in part by the annual collection taken up in each of the 13 participating Schenectady area parishes, grant awards, fundraising events and individual donations. Your support ensures that the Works of Mercy Initiative will be able to continue to fulfill its mission to identify those who are most in need and connect them with others to experience Christ's healing touch.

Thank you for considering a gift today!



Here's how you can help:

Online: go to www.worksofmercyschdy.org/donate

Mail: Make your check payable to “**Works of Mercy Initiative**” and mail to: **WMI**, C/O St. Luke's Church, 1241 State St, Schenectady, NY 12304

Collection: Place your donation in an envelope clearly marked “**Works of Mercy Initiative**” and drop into the collection basket at your home parish.

For more information about the Works of Mercy Initiative contact:

Kristin Black, MSW

worksofmercyschdy@live.com

C/O St. Luke's, Church, 1241 State St., Schenectady, NY 12304

(518) 347-0871 www.worksofmercyschdy.org

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