

W I N T E R 2 0 1 7

# St. Patrick Church Outreach Ministries

With the Mary House Meal Kitchen and Food Pantry  
244 Smith St. Providence, RI 02908  
Ph: 401.274.6286 Fax: 401.751.7085

## *Mary House Hours of Operation:*

Meal Kitchen  
Monday 3:30pm-5:15pm  
Food Pantry\*  
Wednesday 5:00pm-7:00pm  
Thursday 9:00am-12:00pm

*\*Closed first full week of every month*

## Knitting Club...

On December 2nd, 2016 Mary House was invited to participate in a "Giving Party Luncheon" organized by the Kent County YMCA's AOA Knitting Club. Club members knitted and crocheted many beautiful items including blankets, baby socks, hats, stuffed dolls, and more. These items were distributed during the month of December.



*Handknitted blankets and  
stuffed dolls donated by the  
AOA Knitting Club 12.2.2016*



*The Famous Bike*

## *"And a little child shall lead them..."*

An anonymous 9-year-old girl from Immaculate Conception Church, Cranston, saved her money for an entire year just to be able to make another child happy this Christmas. With the money she saved, she bought a brand new bike and a helmet for one of the children on our wish list. She even wrapped the entire bike with wrapping paper! We do not know her name, and yet this child has taught us so much about the real meaning of Christmas.

## Mary House by the Numbers

July & August:	September & October:	November & December:
<b>Meal Kitchen:</b> 1,170 Meals	<b>Meal Kitchen:</b> 1,414 Meals	<b>Meal Kitchen:</b> 1,532 Meals
<b>Food Pantry:</b> 215 Families	<b>Food Pantry:</b> 236 Families	<b>Food Pantry:</b> 245 Families



Thanksgiving Meal 11.21.2016

## There is much to be grateful for...

On Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016, 220 meals were served at Mary House's annual Thanksgiving meal.

### Thanksgiving Bags—Food Packed With Love

In preparation for Thanksgiving, 539 individuals across 126 families received assistance through the Mary House Food Pantry. Families were provided with two large bags that contained items such as: stuffing, potatoes, gravy, apple juice, cranberry sauce, pasta, cookies, a frozen turkey, and more. Additionally 32 individual people also received Thanksgiving assistance.



Thanksgiving Bags 11.18.2016



### Apple or Pumpkin?

For the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row St. Joseph's Church in Providence has worked with the Eastside Marketplace to provide delicious apple and pumpkin pies for our families during the Thanksgiving and Christmas Season. They have assisted us with over 400 pies these past 3 years! Thank you St. Joseph's and Eastside Marketplace!



### Dear Friends,

During Thanksgiving and Christmas, due to the generosity of so many people, Mary House, our parish's outreach ministry, was able to assist so many people through food and gift donations. It was so moving to see such kindness and mercy in action as people were fed and gifts distributed to parents for their children. On behalf of all who were assisted, thank you.

Also, I'd like to add three additional words of thanks. First, thank you to Ms. Marlyn Batista, Coordinator of Mary House Ministries, for her excellent work in coordinating the ministry's outreach and services. Secondly, thank you to all of our benefactors, volunteers, partnering agencies, and churches. Without you, our works of mercy would not be possible. Thirdly, I thank God for the blessing of being able to be a part of His work of mercy. It is privilege for our parish to serve. God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. James Ruggieri, Pastor

Everyone can help bring about a culture of Mercy, in which no one looks at another with indifference.—Pope Francis

1.11.2017

“..for unto us a child is born.”

December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 was truly a joy-filled morning! With a team of about 40 volunteers, Mary House served 275 meals to the guests present at the annual Christmas meal. This is 55 more meals than were served in 2015. Guests were served chicken soup, ham, roasted potatoes, glazed carrots, tossed salad, pineapple sauce, and apple sauce. Additionally, due to the generosity of LaSalle Bakery, Providence, and Ron's Pastry Gourmet, Providence, we were also able to serve a wide variety of delicious desserts.



Christmas Meal 12.25.2016



Santa's Workshop 2016

“...give to the one who asks you.”

By the grace of God, and with the help of all the individuals, churches, and organizations who work tirelessly to advance the work done through Mary House, **we were able to provide Christmas assistance to over 300 children!** This is more than double the number of children served by Mary House 2 years ago. Additionally, because of the overwhelming generosity of our supporters, we were even able to provide assistance to all of the families on our waiting list. Thank you for helping us to give to all those who asked of us this Christmas. Without you, we could not have done this!

“...with his stripes we are healed.”

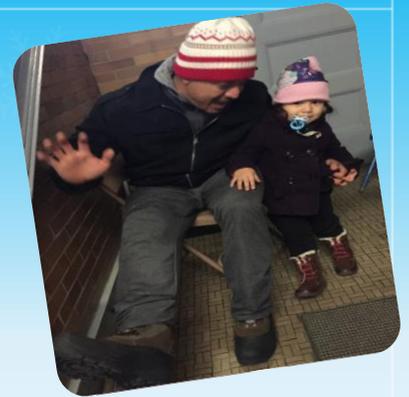
This past Thanksgiving and Christmas Mary House was blessed to partner with an organization of Christians called *Fifty Three: Five*. The mission of *Fifty Three: Five* is to help people in need of God's love by bearing witness to the Good News of his Son Jesus Christ. They attain their mission by providing both spiritual and material assistance that is guided by faith, hope, and love. Just before Thanksgiving *Fifty Three: Five* prepared and delivered 80 re-usable bags each containing a frozen turkey, canned goods, and a prayer card. Additionally, during the Christmas season, *Fifty Three: Five* put together more than 175 drawstring backpacks filled with loose leaf paper, notebooks, pens, pencils, erasers, and other school supplies. Thank you *Fifty Three: Five!*



Drawstring Backpacks filled with school supplies prepared by Fifty Three: Five  
12.20.2016

## Walk in my shoes...

Thanks to the generosity of parishioners at St. Mary Church, Cranston, Mary House was able to distribute over 200 pairs of shoes to families in need this Christmas. Each of our guests had the opportunity to sit down and try on a wide variety of boots, sneakers, slippers, and sandals.



## Thank You!

St. Patrick Church Outreach Ministries  
With the Mary House Meal Kitchen and Food Pantry  
244 Smith St.  
Providence, RI 02908