



Caring for those in need and welcoming all as Christ

St. Joseph

SHELTER

MISSION BENEDICT & CASA ADELE

*Founded by the Benedictine Sisters,
Sustained in Partnership with Catholic Community Services*



St. Joseph Shelter

*Founded by the Benedictine Sisters
Sustained in Partnership with*

Catholic Community Services

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ccswv.org/sjs

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Shelter Family Attaining Self-Sufficiency

After the birth of their third child, Shelly and her husband Mike found themselves homeless. Shelly had been working in a restaurant, but shortly after learning she was pregnant, she was let go.

Mike was working at a gas station, but they were unable to provide for their children on his income alone, so the family began staying with friends. They moved from home to home for a year before coming to St. Joseph Shelter. In turmoil, Mike also lost his job.



“It was a relief to finally live somewhere that felt stable so that I could focus on looking for a job.”

Reliable transportation was critical to the job search, and at the shelter, Shelly baked and sold cookies and cakes to pay for the family’s car insurance.

The family received support services and referrals from Catholic Community Services that helped Shelly and Mike in their search for work. A couple of months later, Shelly found full-time employment in an office setting. Within six months, Shelter staff helped the family locate and secure housing. Today, nearly a year-and-a-half later, Shelly remains gainfully employed and the family appreciates their home.

Names and some details have been changed to protect privacy

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Exchange Club Awards \$20,000 for Shelter Parent Aid Program

Catholic Community Services is pleased to announce that the Exchange Club has awarded \$20,000 in funding to provide training and oversight for a Volunteer Parent Aide Coordinator at St. Joseph Shelter.

The Exchange Parent Aide model is the Exchange Club’s most significant and successful method of countering child abuse by working directly with at-risk parents. Parent Aides are trained, professionally supervised individuals (paid and volunteer) who provide supportive and educational services to families facing adversity.

All services are family centered and focus on parental resilience, knowledge of parenting and child development, social connections, social and emotional competence of children and safety, including attention to medical, dental, and mental health care needs.

The Exchange Club is a charter member of the National Child Abuse Coalition and is a Partner in Prevention with the Children’s Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, and US Department of Health and Human Services.

From the Archives



Sister Agatha Meissner and a young shelter resident building a tower and a brighter future

Dinner and Auction Raise \$40,000 for Shelter

Parishioners of St. Mary Church in Mount Angel hosted the 13th Annual St. Joseph the Worker Dinner on Sunday, May 7th at St. Mary Parish Center. The dinner and auction raised nearly \$40,000 thanks to generous donors, corporate sponsors, and table sponsors. The funds will help continue the provision of much needed temporary housing, food and clothes to families facing adversity in Mount Angel and the surrounding area.

More than 125 Mount Angel community members and friends gathered to support these ministries, which operate each day in response to the Gospel message of caring for those in need and honoring St. Benedict’s instruction to welcome all as Christ. *(Continued on page 2)*



CCS Executive Director Jim Seymour with Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer, OSB

May 7 Dinner Raises Funds and Spirits

Thank You

(Continued from page 1)

Special thanks to Father Philip Waibel for his blessing and encouragement, and to all the volunteers, including Ray Eder, Dale & Kathy Eder-Deshon, Sr. Marietta Schindler, Musician Kathy Valdez, St. Mary Parish volunteers, and the Jr. Catholic Daughters of St. Mary Parish.

The dinner was made possible with the support of many businesses and individuals. Please join us in thanking our sponsors listed below.



Fr. Philip Waibel welcomed guests at the 13th Annual St. Joseph the Worker Dinner



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| ◦ Mt. Angel Abbey: Benedictine Brewery | |

Sister Adele Scholarship Recipients Awarded by CASA of Oregon

On May 7 at the 13th annual St. Joseph Shelter dinner and fundraiser, two deserving young women received the 2017 Sister Adele Scholarship. Both women submitted inspiring personal statements and community service project proposals aimed at helping high school youth aspire to education goals beyond high school.

The scholarship was established in 2005 and is presented annually by CASA of Oregon to provide children from Oregon farm worker families the opportunity to further their academic or technical education. The scholarship is named in honor of the late Sister Adele Mansfield, OSB, of the Queen of Angels Monastery and a founding member of CASA of Oregon's Board of Directors.



Future Chiropractor: Maricruz Arias

Maricruz Arias received a \$2,500 scholarship to help continue her studies in exercise science at George Fox University and eventually become a chiropractor. Maricruz was motivated after watching her father struggle with back and knee problems due to long hours in the fields. "By becoming a chiropractor, I will have the opportunity to offer farmworkers my services so they won't have to worry about being unable to communicate or understand, or if they can't afford it."



Future Nurse: Edith Janeth Nunez Castro

Edith received a \$1,000 scholarship. She is originally from Leon-Mexico and attends Woodburn High School. Along with learning English as her second language and graduating from WHS, Edith will continue her studies at Chemeketa Community College and pursue a career in Nursing this Fall. She shared that she is motivated to become a nurse because she has witnessed close friends and family suffering from diseases and illness. "I believe that the feeling of giving myself to a complete stranger in their greatest time of need will be like no other feeling on earth."

St. Joseph Shelter's Volunteer of the Year



★ Volunteer of the Year
Enedelia Guerrero ★

More than two years ago, Enedelia found herself in a dilemma. She had just enough cash on hand to pay an overdue electric bill and was told her power would be turned off if she did not pay. Unfortunately, the cash she had set aside to pay the bill was misplaced and nowhere to be found. Distraught, she visited Mission Benedict and explained her situation. The Mission staff accessed emergency aid funds to help her pay her bill.

Enedelia felt so grateful for the support that she promised to do whatever she could to pay it forward. To this day, she volunteers at the Mission twice a week to help others receive the help they need.

"I feel this opportunity has been rewarding and a blessing to me," said Enedelia. "I enjoy my time here volunteering and knowing we all make a difference in our community. I am so happy there is a place for people to come and find what they need. Everyone is welcome here; no one gets turned away."

Enedelia Guerrero was presented St. Joseph Shelter and Mission Benedict's Volunteer of the Year Award at the recent St. Joseph the Worker Shelter Fundraising Dinner and Auction. Enedelia's selfless commitment to Mission Benedict has been vital in helping the Mission to distribute over 70,000 lbs. of food since January of this year alone.

Mother's Day Purses-of-Hope Distributed

In recognition of Mother's Day, purses were filled with toiletry items and given to 64 St. Joseph Shelter and Mission Benedict moms. The Purse Project is an outreach of caring from the Benedictine Sisters of Mt. Angel to help moms feel pampered and special. Our gratitude to the many donors who contributed to the Purse Project, especially the parishioners of St. Mary Church, Mt. Angel.



Save the Date!



St. Joseph the Worker Dinner

Sunday, May 6, 2018

St. Mary Parish,
Mt. Angel

From the Shelter Manager



The goal of the Shelter's volunteer program is to provide volunteers to support the Shelter's mission and to offer opportunities for the community to connect with the Shelter and its guests in meaningful ways. This month's column is dedicated to the hundreds of Shelter volunteers, past and present, without whom the Shelter could not carry out its important work.

Nearly every single weekday of the year, about a dozen volunteers show up at the Shelter to assist in providing the basic necessities of life to those who are less fortunate. St. Joseph Shelter staff work diligently to make sure all the volunteer positions are filled. We also make sure that our volunteers have the proper training and tools to do their jobs. This is quite a task, as nearly 500 volunteer hours are logged annually at the Shelter.

Thank you to all the volunteers who offer their time and talents to lend a helping hand to the poor in our community. And if you have never volunteered at the Shelter, I encourage you to consider giving it a try. Handing a hungry person a plate of hot food, helping to answer phones, filing, paperwork or offering an aspirin to someone with a headache is a very gratifying experience. I should know; my tenure with the Shelter's work started more than 25 years ago when I decided to give volunteering a try.

Marika

Dear Friends,

A Letter from the Sisters

We are writing to ask for your continued faithful support of St. Joseph Shelter and Mission Benedict. Following 30 years of loving care and service to homeless families and individuals in the Mt. Angel community, we realized this vital ministry needed a strong partnership in order to sustain itself. After exhaustive financial exploration, community research, and a year of management partnership, we have asked Catholic Community Services (CCS) to assume responsibility for St. Joseph Shelter. The CCS Board of Directors accepted our proposal, and it became official on July 1.

CCS operates according to the Principles of Catholic Social Teaching, which call us to serve our neighbors who are the poorest and most vulnerable. There is no better partner than CCS to help the Shelter uphold the dignity of those who are suffering by providing housing, advocacy, referrals, and a supportive community. St. Joseph Shelter is the only shelter serving homeless families in the Mid-Willamette Valley outside the Salem area. The CCS employees at St. Joseph work directly with families to identify and resolve specific challenges with the ultimate goal of self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

Mission Benedict also operates under the CCS umbrella with our continued partnership, distributing food, clothing, and emergency aid to area families and individuals in need. Over 500 low-income families benefit from this joint project each month.

The need for these programs and services continues to increase. A generous donor has issued a challenge grant that will match every gift to St. Joseph Shelter. This means if you give \$100, the shelter will get \$200 in much needed funds to serve our neighbors. Please consider making a gift today.



*“A generous donor has issued a challenge grant that will
match every gift to St. Joseph Shelter”*

Both the Shelter ministry and the daily operation of the Queen of Angels Monastery will continue to flourish with your support. **Please direct St. Joseph Shelter donations to Catholic Community Services PO Box 20400 Salem, OR 97307, and donations to the monastery to 840 S Main St., Mt. Angel, OR 97362.** We are truly blessed by our community's concern for those served by the Shelter ministry. Our deepest desire is for the ministry to continue. We will continue to be present with our founding commitment.

Many Blessings,

Sister Jane Hibbard

Sr. Jane Hibbard, SNJM
Pastoral Administrator, Queen of Angels Monastery
St. Joseph Shelter Advisory Council

Sister Dorothy Jean Beyer

Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer, OSB
Development Coordinator, Queen of Angels Monastery
St. Joseph Shelter Advisory Council