

Corpus Christi Outreach Committee

Corpus Christi Catholic Community in Piedmont formed the Outreach Committee to serve those in the Oakland Diocese that most need our help. Our focus is on finding ways to make life better for our most vulnerable friends and neighbors. We sponsor the following collections and projects:

1. A warm winter coat collection for men, women and children that runs January through March each year. Items are distributed through St. Vincent de Paul Visitation Center.
2. A women's clothing collection that stresses clothing suitable for work and/or job search-also distributed through St. Vincent de Paul.
3. A men's clothing collection also stressing clothing suitable for work and/or job search.
4. Infant clothing and diapers for new mothers and their babies who are clients of St. Vincent de Paul in downtown Oakland.
5. School supplies collection to help Community Education Partners. CEP works with kids who are homeless providing books, supplies and tutoring to our neediest kids.
6. Working with refugee families to make the transition from their culture to ours as seamless as possible.
7. Providing yearly fundraiser for Elizabeth House-a residential home for moms and their children who are recovering from domestic abuse or other tragedies in their lives.
8. Collecting Christmas gifts through our parish Giving Tree for distribution to St. Vincent de Paul clients at Visitation Center.
9. Our volunteers work with St. Mary's shelter to provide monthly dinners during the winter months for elderly homeless folks. We coordinate with other church groups in Oakland to provide this service.
10. We continue to search for other ways we can contribute to our community well being.

We pray that we in Outreach will continue to find community work that will make a difference in our neighbors' lives.

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Madeline Briar **(510) 530-6316**

The Oakland Catholic Worker

The Oakland Catholic Worker is now in its 33rd year of offering sanctuary, hospitality and accompaniment to recently arrived migrant Latin American families. Families stay approximately four months while we help them find employment, long-term housing and link them to services to help them re-establish themselves.

Additionally, we help our East Oakland neighbors in need. We offer two food programs: providing hot food on Mondays and Wednesdays to anyone who comes to our door. On Thursdays, with the assistance of the Alameda County Community Food Bank, we provide fresh produce and groceries to approximately 325 families each week. Last year, the ACCFB provided us with over 400 tons of food valued at more than \$1.3 million.

We offer ESL classes for three eight-week sessions throughout the year. Basic conversation is also included to supplement our program offerings. We include information sessions on tenant and worker rights, community resources offered by the Oakland Public Library and other topics of interest to our students.

We hold that culturally-sensitive liturgies, para-liturgies and devotional services address the spiritual longings of our guests and extended community. Celebrations of birthdays, feast days, anniversaries and special memorial days are also included.

Finally, we are participants in a number of local, statewide, national and international

coalitions that strive to promote and uphold the dignity of migrants and their fundamental human rights and responsibilities. We have recently partnered with Catholic Charities-East Bay to accept, house and accompany migrants and refugees who are vetted and served by their programs.

Contact: OaklandCatholicWorker@yahoo.com

www.OaklandCatholicWorker.org

Genesis

Genesis is a growing coalition of thirteen faith, youth, labor and differently-abled people organizations united to challenge and change unjust and inequitable policies in the Bay Area. We aim to transform our leadership base by uniting people across geographic, economic, and racial backgrounds. By engaging individuals from our member institutions, we create space for leaders to emerge and a robust electorate to build.

Youth and Transit

Genesis has been focused on expanding the Free Youth Bus Pass program of Alameda County and ensuring that transit is available to youth so that they may have access to opportunities. Because of our organizing, Year Three of the Program started in August, 2018. Currently, 21 schools in seven school districts are part of the program. More than 10,000 students are participating and new students continue to enroll.

Ending Youth Incarceration

Genesis has been the key player in convening the primary restorative justice organizations of Alameda County to build on this campaign. We have learned from Chief Wendy Still (Alameda County Probation and Parole) that many public officials who impact youth incarceration have little to no understanding of Restorative Justice. Because of this, we are pushing for a round table to educate at least 100 public officials so that we can replace a system that emphasizes punishment over healing.

Disability Justice

The Genesis Justice for People with Disabilities team is examining the disparities in services that are provided to white people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) versus people of color. Genesis convened several organizations who serve families with children with I/DD who state that they have trouble engaging caregivers for their children because the rates that the state pays is so low. In October 2018, we gathered over 500 people so that their voices could be heard by state and local officials.

Contact: **John Claassen** jpclaassen@comcast.net

JustFaith

The JustFaith program invites participants to gain deeper understanding of contemporary issues through the lens of Christian faith. It is designed for people who want to live more simply, love more compassionately, and make a difference in the world. JustFaith is comprised of three phases, which explore caring for the poor, for each other, and for the earth.

Here at Corpus Christi, we will gather together in one or two small groups to pray, learn about issues, engage in deep conversation, and encounter the needs of the world.

We will begin with Phase I, “Living Compassionately – Caring for the Poor,” in which we will focus on poverty, consumerism and the Gospel call to care for the poor.

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Nancy Midlin midlin.nancy@gmail.com

**None of us can think we are
exempt from concerns for the
poor and for social justice.**

-Pope Francis-

Catholic Charities of the East Bay

Rooted in compassion and human dignity for all, Catholic Charities of the East Bay works with youth, children, and families to promote self-sufficiency, strengthen families and pursue safety and justice

We serve and work in partnership with all and celebrate the diversity of our community, including people of all backgrounds, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, and religious or spiritual affiliation or belief.

Catholic Charities of the East Bay is a faith-based service organization with strong core values.

- We *respect* others by showing concern and care for the dignity of one another.
- We *inspire* trust and display honesty, integrity and tolerance as we create an environment that is supportive and collaborative.
- We strive for *excellence* and *innovation* as we set high standards for the quality of our services, programs and team.
- We are *accountable* to the goals we set and take ownership of our work.

We help people facing difficult circumstances so that they can move forward in life with greater independence.

Welcoming the Stranger — Immigration legal services so that people can live and work without fear and refugee resettlement and support services for people fleeing violence or persecution;

Fostering Self-sufficiency — Financial assistance for qualified families and seniors facing eviction; family literacy programs to help people gain skills that improve opportunity;

Healing Trauma — Crisis counseling, victim support, restorative practices, and training to help individuals, families and schools in the aftermath of homicide or pervasive violence; support for children overcoming the trauma of trafficking.

Contact: Volunteer Coordinator - (510) 768-3166
www.cceb.org

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (or "Vincentians") are men and women who strive to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to individuals in need. We are young and old. Our members come in every shade of skin color. Some of us are wealthy, some are financially poor, but all of us are blessed with an awareness that our blessings (time, talent or treasure) are to be shared with our brothers and sisters in need.

We know that we are not alone. We are part of an international society of friends united by a spirit of poverty, humility, and sharing, which is nourished by prayer and reflection, mutually supportive gatherings, and adherence to a basic Rule.

Energized by the awareness that service to our brother or sister in need is in fact an encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ, members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are keenly aware that poverty, suffering and loneliness are present for millions in our communities. For that reason, we collaborate with all who seek to relieve need and address its causes.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul offers tangible assistance to those in need on a person-to-person basis. It is this personalized involvement that makes the work of the Society unique. This aid may take the form of intervention, consultation, or often through direct dollar or in-kind service. An essential precept of the Society's work is to provide help while conscientiously maintaining the confidentiality and dignity of those who are served. The Society recognizes that it must assume, also, a role of advocacy for those who are defenseless or voiceless. More than 5 million persons are helped annually by Vincentians in the United States.

The list of services of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States is endless. No work of charity is foreign to the Society. To quote our patron, St. Vincent de Paul: "Charity is infinitely inventive."

The mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Alameda County is to provide relief and support to those in need through person-to-person assistance and collective action guided by Vincentian principles of fellowship.

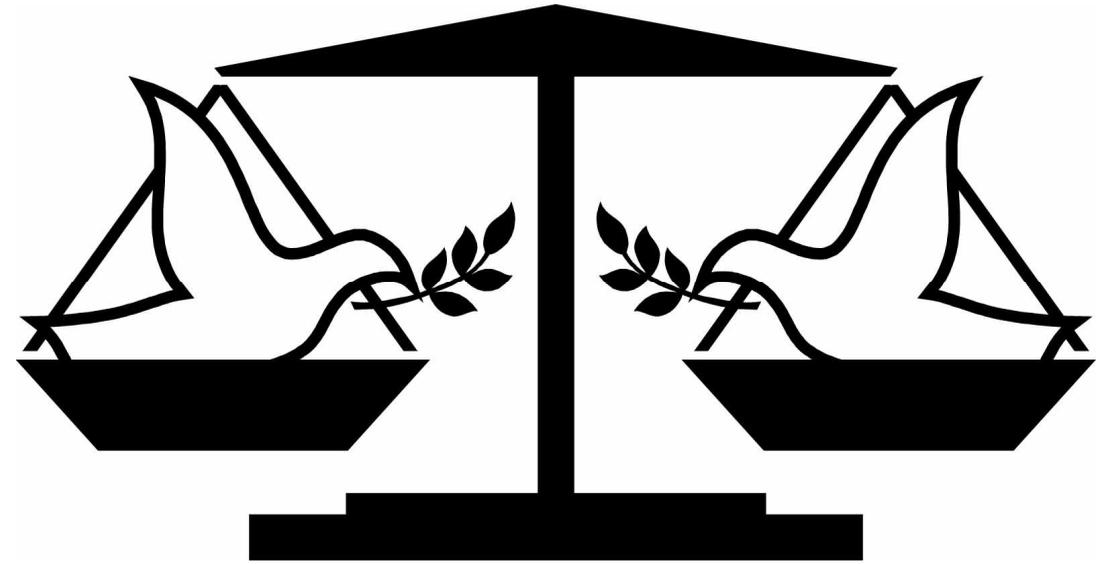
Contact: (510) 638-7600 www.svdp-alameda.org

*Corpus Christi is a welcoming
Catholic community grounded in Faith,
nourished by the Eucharist,
and dedicated to stewardship and service.*



Corpus Christi Catholic Church
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www.CorpusChristiPiedmont.org

Corpus Christi Church Social Justice Faire



Almighty and eternal God, may your grace enkindle in all of us a love for the many unfortunate people whom poverty and misery reduce to a condition of life unworthy of human beings.

Arouse in the hearts of those who call you Father a hunger and thirst for social justice and for fraternal charity in deeds and in truth. Grant, O Lord, peace to souls, peace to families, peace to our country and peace among nations.

Amen.