



Dear St. Francis Church Members,

Thank You, Thank You!

The following quotes are from some of the “Thank You” notes received for Giving Tree Gifts.

“We would like to extend a big thank you to the generous parishioners at St. Francis of Assisi for their Advent Tree contributions. We received an abundance of needed items from St. Francis for the families who come to us for help. We help between 90 to 120 families per month and your generosity is truly appreciated. When our clients receive used clothes and equipment, they are thankful but when those clothes and equipment are new, they are ecstatic. You have touched many lives by your kind donations. Thanks again from all of the volunteers, moms, dads and babies at **Problem Pregnancy Help.**”

“Thank you all for the beautiful things you have done for us. You are special people in caring for us. Love, Patricia”
 “I thank you for my Christmas presents. The two sweaters will be put to good use. Tom” “Thanks for the slippers & gloves. Renee” “Thank you for the beautiful sweatshirt and turtleneck! What a beautiful thing you have done. Kim”
 “Hello, Thank you for the book “Kate Remembered”. The book is very good. Happy New Year. Audrey” **From members of Project Transition**

“Our children sometimes may not even understand where all this attention that makes them happy comes from. However, they know that many friends care for them and this makes a big difference in their life. We all appreciate your kindness.” Fr. Joseph, St. Louis Center

“The residents at Superior Woods HealthCare Center – Nursing Home would like to thank you for the support you gave them during the holidays!” Superior Woods Activity Director.

“All of the individuals who received gifts from St. Francis Church were heartened and happy with the kind support and gifts. Thank you for your generous charity this Christmas season towards the clients of Community Support and Treatment Services.” CSTS Job Coach.

Thank you very much for your thoughtful Christmas presents.

We particularly appreciate that your church includes adults in your gift giving, for they too love being surprised with a present in this season. We thank you and your church for your continuous outreach. So many of our families struggle financially in ways we can hardly conceive of. Your partnership lightens the load and reminds us we are a community. Thank you, Community Action Network, Hikone & Green Baxter Communities.

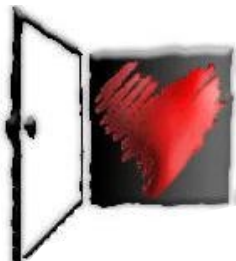
“I am writing to personally thank you for your gift of Christmas presents. Your partnership keeps high quality early childhood education programs accessible to our community’s most vulnerable families. Through your generosity, we have been able to reach 160 families with early childhood education and family support services this year. Your gift comes at an especially critical time as state and federal funding for such programming has been severely reduced. We value your confidence in our mission and strive to maximize every dollar entrusted to our stewardship.” Sandra Hilton, Executive Director, Perry Nursery School

“On behalf of the entire CSS staff and Board of Director, and especially the thousands of children, adults and families we serve, we are grateful for your belief in our efforts. You gave 180 gifts which we valued at \$2000.00. Your generosity enabled our clients to have a much brighter holiday season this past year. Thank You” from Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County (CSS).

Because of your compassion and generous spirit of giving the families that were adopted by your giving tree were able to experience the real meaning of love at Christmas time. Hope Clinic

Social Ministry

St. Francis Parish Helps the Poor!



Thanks for the Shelter for Homeless

We hosted approximately 18 homeless men from our community in **the St. Francis Gym, February 2005.**

"I drove in the mornings for the shelter and everyday some of the guests told me what great hospitality they have received. Today, one individual insisted that I pass on his thanks to all those who have made it possible."

Jim



"It was our pleasure to help out. Nice job to all who thought it out and organized it so well. "

Ed

Special Thanks to all that helped!!!



Food & Groceries Freely Given!

St. Francis truly shares the bounty of the Lord! At least **2520 bags of food & groceries** are freely given each year by St. Francis Parish members.

Every week of the year, all year long, members of St. Francis Parish bring to church non-perishable food items that are then delivered by volunteers to local pantries. Additionally, three major food drives each year distribute bags of food & groceries – in February (for local pantries), June (for Detroit) and November (for households in Ann Arbor & Ypsilanti).



Thanks to all of you that donate the food, and especially thanks to those of you that help deliver.



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic School
 4th Annual
Educational Trust Fund Benefit

Friday Evening, April 22
 Kensington Court, Ann Arbor

Featuring Keynote Speaker
 Bob Sornson, Ph. D.
"Parenting in the 21st Century"



Bob Sornson of the Love and Logic Institute will help you discover life-changing techniques that make working with the children in your life a joy!

Master of Ceremonies

Lucy Ann Lance
 Morning Show Host ~ Talk Radio 1600 WAAM

Proceeds from this special benefit will help build the corpus of the Educational Trust Fund for St. Francis School.

\$125 per person

Enjoy cocktails, dinner, an uplifting message
 and One-of-a-Kind Treasures.

Visit www.stfrancisa2.com/etf to preview a sampling of Treasures.

Call Colleen Pierce at 821.2208 to reserve your seat today!



Quench Your Thirst with "Theology on Tap"

**Theology on Tap ~
 in Winter?**



No, you are not confused, there was a *winter session* of Theology on Tap. For two weeks in January adults from our parish gathered at Arbor Brewing Company to take a break from the bitter cold winter doldrums and enjoy some good food and even better fellowship.

Our two presentations were excellent. Michael Sullivan talked about *The Spirituality of Work*. Rave reviews came from his talk as many people could identify with the challenges and graces of being a Catholic in the workforce. On the second night, Barb Pott, from Catholic Social Services and formerly of the diocesan office for Catholic Relief Services, spoke on *Catholic Social Teaching* and a bit more specifically what CRS was doing to aid those affected by the tsunami and other disasters.

Don't worry if you missed Theology on Tap this season, it will be back in July for our summer session!



Seniors @ St. Francis

meet MONTHLY & have a lot of Fun!

See more photos on our Web page: www.stfrancisa2.com/seniors/



Visiting The Detroit Institute of Arts, Murano Glass Exhibit in December was delightful. And, here you see us in February celebrating Mardi Gras with a Party, including our very own homemade PACZKI prepared fresh in the PAC kitchen.



Join us for . . .

Tuesday, March 8: envision *The Concept of Age-ing to Sage-ing*® that gives a life-affirming spark.

Tuesday, April 12: *The Surprising Benefits of Massage Therapy* to your Health & Well Being

Tuesday, May 10: *A day trip to Pious Union – St. Joseph Shrine* in Brooklyn near the Irish Hills.

