

# Mercy Seekers

“... Go and find out the meaning of mercy.” Mt. 9:13

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## Mary's Mercy Center, Inc.

Mary's Table • Veronica's Home of Mercy  
P.O. Box 7563  
San Bernardino, CA 92411

Phone: (909)889-2558  
Fax: (909)386-7704  
E-mail: mmcinc@msn.com  
www.marysmercy-center.org

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR FATHER MICHAEL BARRY, SS.CC.

“O ctober is the month of Mary. Our Blessed Mother was the choice of God to become the mother of His only begotten Son. God even prepared us for it. In the book of Isiah 7:14 where it says. "Behold the virgin shall bear a son" The same message is given to Mary herself in Luke 1. God's ways are not our ways. We are often to "think outside the box", in other words not to settle for what is normal. Mostly we want the normal. Normal settles us. It is a stable comforting word but God's ways are not normal.

A curious term "normal" is. Things are never "normal" at Mary's Table. Why? Because people are not allowed to be normal. The poor, marginalized are judged isolated and put aside as it were. Jesus spoke of them as the 'least' but closest to His Sacred Heart. The closer we are to the poor the closer we are to Jesus. It is time for an change of attitude. Instead of looking at them as abhorrent or to be avoided, can we see Jesus in them? Instead of saying it is not my problem, can we decide to help them? Instead of controlling what and why we should give, can we see that it is a movement of God moving us to give in the first place? Can we see ourselves in them? For example, a lady some years ago came to volunteer and when she encountered the poor and homeless she was overcome with anger and disgust and fled the scene. The poor reminded her of herself. She was confronted with an image of herself, of her woundedness, that she couldn't handle and she couldn't get off the grounds fast enough. You may not know this but what Jesus said about the poor has an anointing to it. It is a captivating experience. It puts us in contact with ourselves not in a bad way but in a good way. We begin to see them as a brother or sister as a fellow human being. In a way we see ourselves with them and not so much us with them looking for a hand out.

So as October is upon us, a month of reflection on the holy mysteries, let us return to Jesus' understanding of the Poor and Homeless and not isolate them but bless them so that they can bless us.

- Fr. Mike



# Seeing double?

No you are not seeing double. Yes there are THREE SETS OF TWINS! They are - in the back on the right Genesis and Amiyah, in the back on the left Michael and Mario with mom, Then front and center are Ivory and Izebella.



SOMETIMES  
*Miracles*  
COME IN PAIRS



## Hands-On art!

The children of Veronica's Home of Mercy participated in a Color Me Mine event. The children painted their own mugs. Seeing the results of their efforts took time as the pottery was fired in a kiln before it was returned to them. They had fun creating something of their very own. Thank you to Sunny and Olivia, and San Bernardino County's Homeless Education Program, for their help and generosity in making the day a lasting memory.

# 29th Anniversary Gala Celebration

Our Fundraiser was a success. Thank you to all who sponsored, donated, attended, bought tickets, bid on the auction items and all of you who kept the event in prayer. It was night of delicious food, lively music and great company. Our congratulations to Terry and Ellie Klenske on receiving this year's Angel of Mercy Award. It was well deserved; they've served on our board and been steadfast supporters for many years. Here are a few pictures of the event. We sincerely hope to see everyone at next year's gala. It will our 30th Anniversary and something special is already being planned.



## AND THE WINNERS ARE ...



- F**irst Prize \$2,500 - Maureen Godfrey
- S**econd Prize \$1,250 - Mary Cuatico
- T**hird Prize \$750 - Alan & Diana Abajian
- F**ourth Prize \$500 - Katherine Uhlsey

CONGRATULATIONS!  
*Winners!*

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We are a non-profit public benefit corporation and organized exclusively for charitable, religious and educational purposes.

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## Did You KNOW



In August 2016 Mary's Mercy Center through its Mary's Table and Mary's Children provided the following services;

Meals served: 6,432 (includes lunches for parolees)

Food Bags: 785 Food bags over 4 Wednesday

Showers (including a change of clothes): 388 with 71 shaving kits

Hygiene kits: 222

Clothing (2-4 outfits and shoes): 46 of which 10 were for extreme emergencies

Children's Program: 33 families' needs were met.

Because of your generosity, we were able to help families with 3 baby strollers, 3 baby jumpers, 1 highchair, 1 small refrigerator, 2 TVs, and 3 tall stools.

*THANK YOU - What we are able to do is possible only because of you!*



**Many Hands Make LIGHT Work**

We need **volunteers** - They are our life blood. They **make things happen** - cooking, serving, food bank, clothing closet, hair cuts, and **our newsletter**. Will you consider giving one day a month to help stuff, tape and label the newsletter? To say yes either call the office at (909)889-2558 or e-mail us at [mmcinc@msn.com](mailto:mmcinc@msn.com).

*Thank you!*