

Mercy Seekers

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

November 2017 • Volume 252



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.marysmc-center.org

Board Members

Father Michael Barry
President/Chairman of the Board
Michael Hein
Vice-President/Administrator
Agnes Bryant
Secretary

Board of Directors

Mary Bradfield
Sr. Maura Feeley
Jerry and Nell Hackbarth
Carl Jones
Terry Kent
Terry and Ellie Klenske
Dena Larson
Cindy Ludvigsen
Ed Lugo
John Morrissey
Harriet Roggenbuck

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

November is traditionally known as the month to remember the dead. Even the scriptures remind us to pray for the dead. "It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be freed from their sins" There is a whole liturgy set aside to remember the faithful departed and it is with kind and memorable thoughts that we think of them.

There is a whole other group that I would call the walking dead. These are people while living in all respects could be considered dead. They are avoided and rejected. Nobody cares about them or for them. They are considered a blight on our society. They are forgotten. They might as well be dead. These are homeless men. Such false judgments have been made against them that the very oxygen they breathe is forbidden them. We are coming close to Christmas where there was no room in the inn for Jesus. There is no room anywhere for these homeless men. We can answer catastrophes and storms and events which take lives and destroy people with care and help but to homeless men there is no help and consequently no hope. They may as well be dead. We are trying to give life and hope to these men in San Bernardino. I asked them what they needed and these were some of their responses:

"a safe place to sleep, to eat, to shower, and to relax from a hard day on the streets ... many of us are on the streets not because we want to but because we didn't have anywhere else to go." ~ Javier
"meaning ... help for housing ... help to put life in perspective ... a roof over head ... safety most of all from the street life ..." ~ Israel

- Fr. Mike

Live Thanksgiving

"Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Col 3:16-17

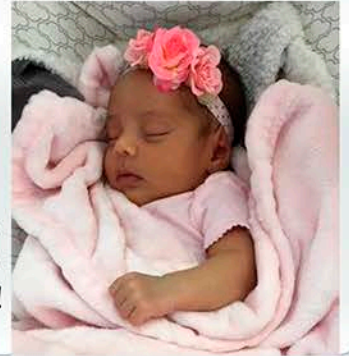
Congratulations



Veronica's Home is happy to congratulate Emily on completing Options House's 20 week course on Domestic Violence Awareness. According to the National Coalition for the Homeless Domestic Violence is the third leading cause of homelessness. This is why it is important for the moms at Veronica's Home of Mercy to learn the warning signs. Twenty weeks is a serious commitment and we applaud Emily for her dedication to completing this course.

& Welcome Home

Our newest baby girl. Born Sept 23rd, Elizabeth came into this world at 6-lbs 6oz and 18 inches long. What a cutie pie!



We thank United Center of Hope for coming to bring goodie bags to the families of Veronica's Home of Mercy. We were touched to receive their note saying - "We appreciate the work that you are doing for the community. The families look happy and very well taken care of. You guys are doing awesome work." The goodie bags were appreciated by the families and their words of appreciation were uplifting to the staff.

Christmas is around the corner!



Twens are just that, between children and teenagers. It is a difficult time of transition. Still we can make it a little brighter by making sure there is gift for them when they come to visit Santa at our Christmas Party. We realize it is a tough task to find a gift for the 9-12 year old. The selection is smaller and so much of it depends on the kid's interest, yet we know some of you can rise to the challenge. We ask you to pray about the gifts you buy that God would bless the tween that will receive it. God is faithful and will bless you in return.



Walgreens

at the corner of
happy & healthy®

Cold and flu season is fast upon us. It is hard enough to be homeless without adding illness into the equation. We thank the people at Walgreens for holding a vaccination clinic for our guests.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
FULLERTON



Cal State University Fullerton School of Nursing students came to Mary's Table. They provided health information, this time around they focused on falls and fall prevention, and general health screenings. We thank them for sharing their time and knowledge with our guests.

The Unexpected



Sometimes life's events unexpectedly touch us in ways that are sad, surprising and uplifting. Here at Mary's Table we have many guests. Some are working low paying jobs with few hours, some have mental issues, and yes some have substance abuse problems (the sad part.) One of our guests gave a \$20 bill as a donation to Mary's Mercy Center (the surprising part.) Knowing he eats here every day we suggested he must have need of the money for himself. His reply (the uplifting part) was that he wanted to give it because Mary's Mercy Center "is" his salvation. The meals, the showers and the clothing keep people going - giving a sense of normalcy to a difficult life but also it is the compassion and acceptance given to our guest. Isn't it great to know that together we are making a difference!

Mary's Mercy Center

PO Box 7563
San Bernardino, CA 92411

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

November 2017 • Volume 252



Veronica's Home of Mercy is funded in part by Arrowhead United Way



NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SAN BERNARDINO, CA
PERMIT #944

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Did You KNOW



In September 2017 Mary's Mercy Center through its Mary's Table and Mary's Children provided the following services;

Meals served: **5,747** (*includes lunches for parolees*)

Food Bags: **518 bags**

Showers (including a change of clothes): **386**

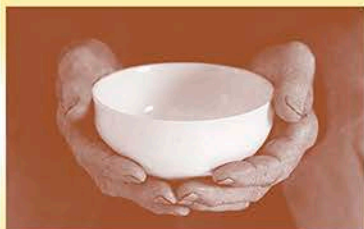
Hygiene kits: **339**

Clothing (2-4 outfits and shoes): **65** of which all 65 were for extreme emergencies; **38 pairs of shoes**

Children's Program: **27 families' needs were met. This included 3 car seats, 14 baby blankets, 1 play pen, and 100 pounds of baby clothes.**

We were also able to help a family with a loveseat sofa bed.

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



"Let us remember that, as much has been given us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as from the lips, and shows itself in deeds."

Theodore Roosevelt