

Mercy Seekers

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

November 2018 • Volume 264



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

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

November is a unique month. By that I mean it begins with the feast of all saints, followed by the feast of all souls and ends with the feast of Thanksgiving. In between are the feasts of different saints. November derives its name from the Roman calendar which had ten months in the year and November with the word novum meaning nine was the second to last month of the Roman year. November also with the ancient Saxons was a month of animal sacrifice when the Saxons sacrificed animals which provided food for the long and cold winters ahead. November at Mary's Mercy Center has all of the above referred elements. It is a time when there is a greater demand for food by the poor and less fortunate. It is a place of Thanksgiving not only for the poor but also for you, a faithful witness. It is in a certain way a holy time. We open with the saints, and then the departed, and then the ordinary but that is just not enough. We give thanks but is that all there is? We should be aware that the best way to give thanks is to remember those who have less and who have no reason to give thanks. May you become their thanksgiving. They give thanks because of you. You are there for them - this is the stuff of saints. In Jesus words ***“As long as you did it to the least of my brothers and sisters you did it to ME”***

- Father Mike

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President/Chairman of the Board
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Vice-President/Administrator
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“For Me to Be a Saint Means to Be Myself

... At the heart of this understanding is accepting who you are before God. ‘For it was you who formed me in my inward parts, you knit me together in my mother’s womb,’ says Psalm 139. “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” The beginning of sanctity is loving yourself as a creation of God ... More often than not, those very weaknesses are the most important paths to holiness, because they remind you of your reliance on God.”

James Martin, SJ

Congratulations



We are proud of the work the moms at Veronica's Home of Mercy do to improve their lives and the lives of their children. To the left is Maria. We congratulate her on her acceptance to Concord Career College, where she is studying to be a medical assistant. It is a diverse job: a mix of office tasks and handson duties. When Maria has her certifications and her



degree, she will get a job and may find herself taking a patient's vital signs one moment and manning the front desk the next .

Above and to the right is Andrea who received recognition as Student of the Week in her IBHS program. We congratulate her. These first steps in moving forward are BIG and this award shows she is working at it with all her heart to better herself and the lifer of her child.



Thank You!

We thank Santa Claus Inc. for bringing birthday bags for Josie, Evan, and Kevin. Also for the costumes for all the children of Veronica's Home of Mercy. We will have some very cute 'Trick' O 'Treaters' this year. Again thank you for the fun this has brought to the children.



1ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS!

Divine Connections, Hope - Presented 'UNVEILED' a conference full of testimonies, and God's word to unveil and raise awareness of Domestic Violence. Residents of Veronica's Home of Mercy attended the conference. Our moms were very inspired and enjoyed the spiritual focus of the event.

AND THE ADWARD GOES TO...

We are grateful to Liberia del Pueblo, Inc. for the affirmation of giving Mary's Mercy Center their 'Legacy of Exemplary Service Award.' The company of selected organizations was inspiring: Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino, Legal Aid - San Bernardino, and more. At the event Mary's Mercy Center also received certificates of recognition from: Cónsulado de México en San Bernardino – Cónsul Enrique Salomón Rosas Ramírez, State Assembly 47th District - Eloise Gomez Reyes, San Bernardino County Board - Supervisor James Ramos, and the City of San Bernardino. It has taken many people to give life to Mary's Mercy Center: Fr. Barry, the heart and soul; Mike Hein, the navigator; and our Board, volunteers, donors and prayer warriors, the doers. This award is for all of you and we thank God for you. Let's keep up the good work!



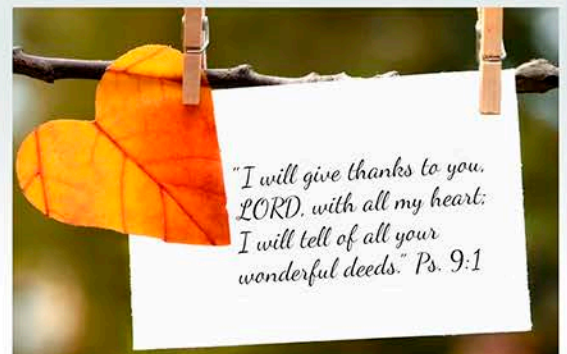
We are blessed and thankful that every year for Thanksgiving many people come to help serve. We are also grateful for those who donate food items for the bags given out the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Here are food bag donation ideas: potatoes (bagged, canned or instant), sweet potatoes, canned vegetables (corn, green beans, peas, carrots, etc.), stuffing mix, gravy mix, cranberry sauce, canned fruit (peaches, pears, pineapple, applesauce, etc.) For our homeless – please consider ready to eat items like non-condensed canned soup, chili, tuna, canned pasta (spaghetti's, ravioli, etc.), peanut butter, jelly, fruit cups, instant tea/coffee/milk.

There is so much to be thankful for!

Volunteers - there is a core of people who come every month, some every week and even some almost every day. Their dedication and hearts are a tremendous blessing. There are the student nurses who volunteer their talents and knowledge to provide health screenings and education. The dentist, oral hygienists and students who give their services during the dental clinics. The organizations like Kaiser-Permanente, Walgreens, and Loma Linda University who provided flu shot clinics and organizations like Target, Keller-Williams and Wells Fargo, who at least once a year send teams to make light work of keeping things clean and organized at our center.

Donors - the steadfast individuals who give from their hearts to keep the lights on, the water flowing, and so much more. The churches who hold food and clothing drives to make sure our clothing closet and food bank can meet these needs of our guests. The organizations who provide the extras that bring some joy into the lives of the poor we serve. Not least those of you who hold us in prayer.

We appreciate you and thank God for you.

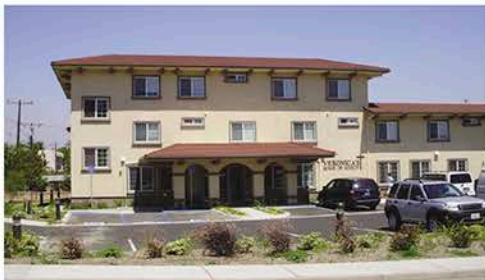


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PO Box 7563
San Bernardino, CA 92411

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

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



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Did You
KNOW



In September 2018 Mary's Mercy Center through its Mary's Table and Mary's Children provided the following services;

Meals served: **5,841** (includes lunches for parolees)

Food Bags: **489** (over 3 Wednesdays)

Showers (including a change of clothes): **436**

Hygiene kits: **307 plus 143 shaving kits**

Hair Cuts: **14**

Clothing (2-4 outfits and shoes): **112 of which 98 were for extreme emergencies**

Thursday Giveaway: **210 individuals & families**

Children's Program: **25 families' needs were met. We also gave 4 car seats, 2 strollers, 3 boxes of toys, 80 pounds of baby food, and 160 pounds of clothes**

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

*Let them give thanks to the Lord
for his unfailing love and his
wonderful deeds for mankind!*

Psalm 107:31

*Have a blessed and...
Happy Thanksgiving!*

