

SAINT TERESA OF KOLKATA

TERESA OUTREACH NEWSLETTER SPRING 2022

TERESA'S OUTREACH PROGRAM

Teresa's Outreach Program is the parish's umbrella program supporting the parish's outreach services. Teresa's Outreach committee is excited to share with you updates on services and to thank you for all your support.

This newsletter outlines programs and services that the program leaders, committee and volunteers worked on throughout the 2021-2022 year.

Services were identified by the results of the Spring 2021 Survey (the survey results are located on St. Teresa's website, GET INVOLVED, click on Teresa's Outreach Opportunities), then Survey Results.

LIST OF OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Operation Safety Net
Shepherd's Heart Fellowship
Saint Vincent de Paul Community Food Bank
Teresa's Table
Walk with Moms
Wednesday Night Table
Grow Living Stones

LIST OF SERVICES

Bereavement Group
Book Club
Computer Classes
CPR/AED/First Aid Classes
Environment Awareness
Family Movie Night
Fire Safety Classes
Guest Speakers
Language Classes
Phone Ministry
Prayer Shawls
Small Faith Groups
Weekly Exercise Classes

COMMITTEE

Fr. Jim	Pastor
Julie Schoppen	Chairperson
Colleen Farrell	Co-chairperson
Shawn Bernarding	Teresa's Table
JoAnn Brown	Shepherd's Heart Fellowship
Debbie Brust	Teresa's Table
Bridget Burns	Wednesday Night Table
Mary Diskin	Speakers
Chris Gedid	Language
Pauline Hoffman	Operation Safety Net
Maggie Mitro	Exercise Class
Chuck Reynolds	Brookline Food Bank
Patty Schwerin	Staff Liaison

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

OPERATION SAFETY NET is a medical and social service outreach to the homeless population of Pittsburgh. Outreach services include basic medical care, food and water, clothing, and referrals to services. This program is a part of the Pittsburgh Mercy network of service providers. Saint Teresa of Kolkata Parish, prepares 60 bag lunches for the Street Outreach program every second Wednesday of the month at the Resurrection church hall.

SHEPHERD'S HEART FELLOWSHIP serves those who are poor, vulnerable, and homeless. Free lunches and dinners are provided every day, transportation services to appointments and errands are available on shuttle buses; bus passes and gift cards for clothing can be provided to individuals and families in crisis; and *House of Hope* veteran's home houses and provides counseling services for formerly homeless men. Saint Teresa of Kolkata Parish collects food, clothing items, etc. for Shepherd's Heart and our volunteers take those donations to Shepherd's Heart monthly.

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SAINT VINCENT de PAUL COMMUNITY FOOD BANK operates at Saint Catherine and is open on the second and fourth Saturday of the month. Packaged and canned goods are provided, along with fresh produce and meat, when available. Those weeks, volunteers pack grocery bags on Thursday afternoons and distribution are on Saturday mornings from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. For all requests you can call St. Teresa's St Vincent de Paul at **412-342-8836**.

TERESA'S TABLE is our meal ministry. To provide for our sisters and brothers in need, we will always have meals and soups in our freezer. Meals are available for delivery to the homes of those who may be coming home from the hospital, or who are just struggling in some way. Meals are also distributed through our parish programs, such as the Food Pantry and Walking with Moms, and after the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass at St. Pius the 3rd Saturday of every month. Just reheat and relax and know that you are loved!

WALK with MOMS-Our newest outreach is the Walk with Moms program, which seeks to offer a welcoming hand to new life as well as providing a web of support for pregnant women, moms, and families. Saint Teresa of Kolkata Parish hopes to support local pregnancy centers and can find and share other local resources with pregnant and parenting women. We currently make Teresa's Table meals available, when needed. Contact the Evangelization Coordinator at **412-563-0858** for more information regarding this ministry.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT TABLE- St Teresa of Kolkata Parish prepares and serves the Wednesday meal at St. Mark Lutheran Church monthly, dinners are available for those in need and those in the community simply desirous of fellowship, every Wednesday evening. We provide an entrée, veg or salad, drink, and dessert and sometimes special gifts. Volunteers are always needed to purchase, prep, cook, serve, or to clean-up. Please call or text **412-583-3443** if you would like to join our meal team. Also, please feel free to come by and share a meal with our friends in Christ, even if you're not working with us that day.

SERVICES

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE - Bereavement Ministry is being re-activated, the goal of the Bereavement Ministry is to serve parish families who have suffered a recent loss of a loved one to death.

BOOK CLUB (formally St. Pius Book Club) -the book club meets at the RCIA room on the 1st floor at St. Pius School Building. Any questions, please call **Kathleen Blassey 412-563-1847**. Attendees share a love of reading and enjoy the fellowship of making new friends. Members choose a month to share. Each month's book selection is published in the bulletin and our website. Anyone can join us—just come and give us a try!

COMPUTER CLASS-one-on-one classes with Bridget Burns, Chris King, and Patty Schwerin began in November 2021. Parishioners are able to get instruction on electronic devices – from phone to laptops, help with email and social media. To participate, please call **412-563-0858**. Leave your name and phone number and/ or email and tell us about the type of instruction you would like to have. A member of our team will be in touch with you to discuss your needs, access to computer equipment, and day/time of availability.

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CPR/AED/First Aid Class- The City of Pittsburgh Emergency Medical Services (EMS) came to St. Teresa of Kolkata on December 11 to teach parishioners about CPR/AED/First Aid. The paramedics, Fred and Matt, did a wonderful job with the attendees. Attendees' overall comments were that they were patient, friendly, and presented the attendees with lots of emergency procedural information. Most importantly, attendees felt confident about what to do when faced with a medical emergency.

FIRE SAFETY CLASS AND FREE SMOKE ALARM EQUIPMENT- Teresa's Outreach hosted their first Fire Safety Class. presenters from the City of Pittsburgh Fire Department and Department of Hearing & Deaf Services provided lots of great information on fire safety and free equipment. If you were not able to attend and you are a City of Pittsburgh resident, it's not too late to get a FREE smoke detector by calling City of Pittsburgh Response Center at **311 or 412-255-2621**. For persons with hearing loss or who are blind and live within the city of Pittsburgh are eligible to receive a FREE flashing/vibrating smoke detector by contacting Center for Hearing & Deaf Services, Inc. and register to attend a class. Call **412-281-1375** or smorris@hdscenter.org. Additional resources are available by accessing <https://www.hdscenter.org>). **Dormont residents** can contact the Dormont Fire Department to get a FREE smoke detector by calling **412-563-8826**. Teresa Outreach will be hosting future Fire Safety Classes in 2022.

LANGUAGE CLASSES – Learn Spanish- plans are being worked on to offer Spanish classes for anyone that wants to learn Spanish. English classes are available.

ENVIROMENTAL-Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Environment: An in-depth look at 'Laudato Si' – this program will be focusing on environmentalism, ethics, and care for our common home. More to come!

PHONE MINISTRY – volunteers reach out by phone to parishioners that are homebound. For updates and new requests for priest visits or bulletins to be mailed at home, contact the Parish Office at **412-531-2131**.

PRAYER SHAWLS—if you, or if you or someone you know would appreciate a blessed prayer shawl to bring them comfort in a trying time, please contact Patty Schwerin **412-563-0858**.

PARISH EXERCISE GROUP - Exercise Classes with Maggie Mitro – parishioners gather to exercise to Maggie's' play list – from Elvis to Johnnie Cash. Attendee's swing, glide, and kick with pride while their spirits soar as their weight drops to the floor.

STK LENDING LIBRARY— St. Teresa of Kolkata has formed a parish lending library. It has been set-up in the St. Pius X church entrance. If it is utilized, the library will be expanded to the other church sites. Please visit and borrow one of the biographies or inspirational books. There are instructions for borrowing and returning items. If you have any questions, please email Donna at derisman@comcast.net

SMALL FAITH GROUPS – parishioners gather together to discuss topics of interests. Call Patty Schwerin at **412-563-0858**

SPEAKERS -guest speakers will be invited to come and speak on topics of interest to the parishioners.

Coming Events:

Megan Loftis, Esq. will be talking about wills, estates, and other topics.

Teresa Outreach Program chairpersons will talk about the Outreach Programs.

Contact the parish office at 412-563-2135 to participate as a volunteer, to request services, or for more information. Financial donations may be placed in the **Teresa's Outreach** collection envelopes.

WATCH FOR UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE WEEKLY BULLETIN AND WEBSITE.