

Stewardship In Action: Clement Commits

Since 2003, Saint Clement Parish has been deepening its understanding of being a stewardship parish. The practical spirituality of stewardship is based in the scriptures. Spiritually, this means that each person in the parish is encouraged to spend time understanding how all that they “have” is a gift from God and that each person is uniquely gifted. This leads to the next step of prayerfully deciding how those many gifts will be given back to God. This giving back is sacrificial because individually our time, talent, and treasure are limited resources. Practically, it means that as a parish we make a commitment to give of “first fruits” to needs beyond our parish. We honor this commitment through Clement Commits, which donates 10% each fiscal year from our parish collections.

The Clement Commits committee, which includes our pastor, two parish staff, and five parishioners, reviews reports of how recipient funds are used and evaluates requests annually. In 2016-2017, Clement Commits donations totaled \$234,154 allowing us to allocate \$169,529 to community needs and \$64,625 to Archdiocesan special collections. This report reflects how Saint Clement’s “fruit fruits” are serving needs beyond our parish.

Catholic Charities: Madonna House



Madonna House in Wrigleyville provides private rooms to women and their children with light, airy community spaces. Wrap around case work services help families move from homelessness to self sufficiency.

Clement Commits has helped:

- Raise funds needed to serve 43 homeless mothers and 106 children, including building and grounds upkeep and needed office/living supplies.
- Provide food assistance, sheets, and towels.
- Fund normal operating expenses.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Work on beautification projects for their building.
- Donate clothes and food.
- Sponsor a BBQ or host a carnival.

For more information on volunteering, contact Maggie Hanley at mhanley@clement.org.

Marillac St. Vincent Family Services



Marillac St. Vincent Family Services is a comprehensive social service agency providing extensive programs to strengthen, empower, and give voice to those in need through education and programs that build vibrant communities.

Clement Commits has helped:

- Support the Child Development Program serving inner city at risk children of the working poor, including their anti-violence efforts.
- Expand the Birth to three program in order to serve an additional 52 children.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Support daily operations, fundraising events, program field trips, summer outings, classroom projects, and mentoring. Support also needed for senior services.

For more information, visit marillacstvincent.org.

Su Casa: Catholic Worker Community



Su Casa provides hospitality and a place of healing for Latina families experiencing homelessness. They partner with neighbors to make the community a better place to live and engage in educational and social justice issues.

Su Casa is a new Clement Commits recipient. In 2017-2018 Clement Commits will help:

- Provide transportation, supplies, education, and rent support for the families in need.
- Support special events, outings, and educational retreats.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Serve meals at Frieda’s Kitchen.
- Volunteer for after school tutoring, gardening, and other maintenance projects.
- Pick up donated materials.

For more information, visit sucasacw.org/volunteer.

22 de Abril | El Salvador



22 de Abril is Saint Clement’s sharing parish in El Salvador. Every year a group of parish families are invited on a trip to visit. The focus is to build relationships with those in our sister parish, and the nearby elementary school.

Clement Commits has helped:

- Support construction and repair projects, including the prayer room, parish atrium, and more.
- Provide salary and benefits for a school teacher.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Visit the El Salvador parish to help with beautification and other projects.

For more information on upcoming trips, contact Maggie Hanley at mhanley@clement.org.

This report highlights four of the 26 organizations supported through Clement Commits. To read summaries of each Clement Commits recipient, please visit clement.org/clementcommits.

Stewardship In Action: Clement Commits

Anixter Center



Anixter Center helps over 8,000 children, teens, and adults with disabilities through more than 80 programs and locations in the Greater Chicago area.

Clement Commits has helped:

- Support programs in education, employment, health and well-being, housing and residential services, community support/integration, and volunteerism for children and adults with disabilities.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Volunteer to tutor, lead mock interviews, and assemble adaptive toys.
- Help with beautification projects and play music at the center.

For more information and to help with their current needs, visit www.anixter.org.

Community Health



Community Health is the largest free clinic in Illinois, providing a comprehensive high quality medical home to thousands of low-income, uninsured patients in the Chicago Area with the help of over 1,000 volunteers.

Clement Commits has helped:

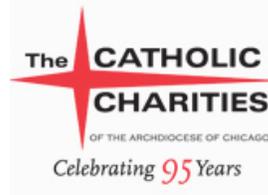
- Provide 17,000 medical visits, 1,800 dental visits to 10,000 patients.
- Provide breast cancer screenings, cervical cancer screenings, and shingles vaccine.
- Support the Take Action Diabetes Education Program.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Volunteer as Spanish and/or Polish language interpreters.
- Volunteer if a licensed Pharmacy Technician.

For more information and to help with their current needs, visit www.communityhealthy.org.

Catholic Charities: Refugee Resettlement



Refugee Resettlement secures housing and provides food, clothing and household items to Chicago area refugees. Also assists with benefits applications, scheduling required health screenings, addressing emergency health problems, and more.

Clement Commits has helped:

- Provide financial assistance for rent, food, and other necessities for refugee families experiencing financial crisis due to job loss.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Volunteer as a Family Mentor providing practical assistance like ESL tutoring, homework help, budgeting, public transit orientation, and providing a supportive and friendly presence.

For more information, contact Joseph Schenk at jschenk@catholiccharities.net.

Erie Neighborhood House



Erie Neighborhood House enables undeserved children in low-income, primarily Latino families in the greater West Town area of Chicago through educational programs, access to critical resources, advocacy, and collaborative action.

Clement Commits has helped:

- Provide support for Tutoring to Educate for Aims and Motivation (“TEAM”) personnel salaries, program supplies, and administrative services.
- Support Youth’s Options Unlimited program helping over 100 high-school and college bound students.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Volunteer to partner with elementary students to focus on individual skills, provide literary assessments, and work on lesson plans.

For more information, visit www.eriehouse.org.

Stewardship In Action: Clement Commits

Lincoln Park Community Shelter



Lincoln Park Community Shelter provides comprehensive social services to nearly 400 homeless individuals each year. Saint Clement has been integral since it opened its doors 32 years ago.

Clement Commits has helped:

- Provide kitchen utensils and cover the costs of meals when other volunteer groups are unavailable.
- Support LPCS's new project, Lincoln Park Beautification Project.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Join a group of parishioners providing and preparing an evening meal for shelter residents.
- Check LPCS site for information on volunteer needs such as cooking and serving meals, overnight supervision, and much more!

For more information, contact Joanna Krynski at jkrynski@clement.org.

Little Sisters of the Poor



Little Sisters of the Poor is an independent, assisted living, skilled care, and day services facility for low-income seniors in the Chicago area. They offer enriching services and social interactive gatherings.

Clement Commits has helped:

- Provide more than 150 field trips and outings.
- Upgrade facility's security system.
- Providing operating support for 24 hour care for 76 nursing home residents.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Escort residents to doctor appointments, to the dining room at meal time, to and from their private rooms.
- By visiting residents who don't have friends or family nearby.

For more information, www.littlesistersofthepoor.org.

Iraqi Student Project



The Iraqi Student Project helps war displaced Iraqi students obtain undergraduate education in the United States at partner colleges, specifically Safana—a student at DePaul University.

Clement Commits has helped:

- Provide 82% of Safana's expenses for books and supplies throughout the school year.
- Provide a printer and Internet services.
- Provide fees for Safana's June 2018 graduation.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Support expenses like room, board, books, insurance, transportation, etc.
- Help with beautification projects and play music at the center.

For more information visit, iraqistudentproject.org.

Our Lady of Mercy



Our Lady of Mercy is Saint Clement's "Sister Parish." Our on-going relationship with the parish provides many opportunities for giving, particularly within their large Religious Education program.

Clement Commits has helped:

- Support the Religious Education program for over 600 students.

Ways parishioners can get involved:

- Volunteer to be a part of the annual Service Day beautification project at the OLM location.
- Support Jesse Tree with gift contributions.
- Join the legal clinic team.
- Donate to our annual school supply drive.

For more information, contact Maggie Hanley at mhanley@clement.org.

Special Collections for the Archdiocese of Chicago

In lieu of taking up second collections during Mass, we contribute a portion of our Clement Commits funds to Archdiocesan special collections each year. If you would like to make a separate donation to one of these collections, please find an envelope at the back of the church or go to clement.org/clementcommits for online donations.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development: This collection addresses the root causes of poverty in America through promotion and support of community-controlled, self-help organizations and transformative education. Grants are awarded by the Subcommittee on the Catholic Campaign for Human Dignity with the approval of local bishops.

Fund for Retired Priests: The only annual collection for Retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Chicago. This collection will benefit just the retired priests of the Archdiocese and is not associated with the Annual National Campaign for Retired Religious (nuns, priests, and brothers). Sponsored by the Priests' Retirement and Mutual Aid Association.

Retirement Fund for Religious: Provides funding to any religious institute in the U.S. that is listed in the religious institute section of the OCD with an identifying OCD number, and that has an unfunded past service liability. It distributes direct care, planning and implementation assistance from the fund to religious institutes based on a formula and criteria approved by the conference of major superiors and bishops.

Seminarian Education: This fund provides support for the training and education of men studying for priesthood in the Archdiocese of Chicago. The fund helps to cover the cost to educate each archdiocesan seminarian as they proceed through the various stages of formation before ordination as a priest for Chicago.

Missionary Co-Op: The Missionary Cooperation Plan supports foreign missionaries who serve the poorest of the poor through evangelization, education, health care, and basic human services. Your donations contribute to missionary dioceses, religious congregations, and lay mission organizations that help people simply live with dignity.

Collection for the Church in Latin America: This collection supports pastoral programs as awarded by the Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Projects include the work of evangelization, formation of laity, religious and seminarians, as well as youth ministry and catechesis. Funding is limited to programmatic expenses and excludes building construction except in cases of emergency.

Aid for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, "CCEE": This collection provides aid by the Subcommittee on Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe through bishops' conferences of Central and Eastern Europe and the ex-Soviet Union to meet the needs of rebuilding the Church. It focuses on training seminarians and lay leaders, supporting social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral and catechetical centers, schools, church construction and renovation, and evangelization through Catholic media.

World Mission Sunday: In 1926, Pope Pius XI instituted Mission Sunday for the whole church with the first worldwide Mission Sunday collection taking place on October 1927. The Mission Sunday collection is always taken on the next to last Sunday during the month of October. That day is celebrated in all the local churches as the feast of catholicity and universal solidarity so Christians the world over will recognize their common responsibility with regard to evangelization of the world.

Peter's Pence: This collection enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to the neediest throughout the world—those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters. It also provides the faithful with a tangible opportunity to not only empower the weak, defenseless, and voiceless, but also sustain those who suffer.

Catholic Charities Mother's Day Collection: Saint Clement does hold a second collection for this organization. This collection can change the course of a mother's life and the lives of the children who depend on her. No one should know the pain of losing a child to violence or the darkness of gang life. Struggling families have the right to raise healthy children, safely. Help us counter the effects of mounting violence in the most troubled neighborhoods of the city and suburbs.

Other: Our parishioners also support the Annual Catholic Appeal and Lenten Almsgiving (CRS Rice Bowl & Romero Scholarship) directly, outside of Clement Commits.

2016-2017 Clement Commits

Total distribution:
\$234,154

Our Lady of Mercy (OLM, our local sharing parish): \$66,379*

Immigrant Ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago: \$15,000

El Salvador - 22 de Abril Parish: \$12,000

Madonna House: \$11,000

Catholic Charities Refugee

Resettlement Project: \$10,000

Erie Neighborhood House: \$10,000

Lincoln Park Community Shelter: \$10,000

Marillac St. Vincent Family Services: \$10,000

Anixter Center: \$8,000

Community Health: \$5,000

Little Sisters of the Poor: \$5,000

Su Casa: \$4,000

Immaculate Conception: \$1,650

Iraqi Student Project (year 4 of 4 for our second student): \$1,500

Archdiocesan Collections:

Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD): \$11,500

Retirement for Religious: \$11,250

Retirement for Priests: \$11,250

Seminaries: \$8,900

Missionary Co-Op: \$8,450

Church in Latin America: \$4,625

Aid for Church in Eastern Europe: \$3,300

Peter's Pence: \$2,675

World Mission Sunday: \$2,675

**OLM received an additional \$2,137 from our Community of Shepherds Clement Commits Share.*