

September Faith & Justice Newsletter

Prison Ministry



Catholic Charities' Prison Ministry is collecting underwear and socks for inmates who are in need of clothing. The Camden Jail provides the jumpsuits for the inmates, but not the underwear.

Many of the incarcerated have no money and no family or friends to provide the underwear. Also some come in with underwear in such a condition that it must be disposed of. Therefore there is nothing to give them upon release. What is needed is White Crew socks for men and women. For females – white sports bras and white briefs. For males – white tee shirts and white boxers. All sizes are needed. These items can be dropped off at St. Thomas More or ordered from Amazon and mailed directly to the Catholic Charities Office on 1845 Haddon Ave. Camden, NJ. 08103.

Knights of Malta Pen Pal Program

is also available. If you're interested or have questions, email us stmfaithandjustice@gmail.com. We're thinking of forming a support group for this important work.

“Joseph’s House” 3rd Annual 5K Walk/Run At Cooper River Park---September 24th

This year's event is bigger than ever with the addition of a 5K Run, raffle, auction of sports memorabilia and a 50/50. These have been a challenging few years for our homeless brothers and sisters, what with the pandemic, code blue winters and successive heat waves over the summer. However, Joseph's House has never faltered in providing a welcoming, safe haven and essential support services to its guests.



Their goal this year is to raise \$50,000 to help them continue their amazing work. Click [here](#) to register or just donate.

Refugee Families

Over the past few months, St. Thomas More's Society of St. Vincent de Paul provided food support to two Afghan, two Burmese and one Ugandan family. The Society works with the Diocese's Catholic Charities to find families in need of assistance. Some of these families only needed a couple of months of support due to illness or losing a job.

Others require a longer commitment of support. The Society provides food from our pantry and supermarket gift certificates. The families and Catholic Charities are very grateful for the assistance.

Environment

We have talked about the environment and recently handed out Faith & Justice bags to use when shopping. But you probably still end up with plastic bags. There is an easy way to recycle them. There are drop off boxes at many stores, including ShopRites. We'd like to hear about other locations. Email us at stmfaithandjustice@gmail.com.

USCCB urges support for Federal School Choice

The [United States Conference of Catholic Bishops](#) and Catholic education leaders are urging support for a federal school choice bill that is poised to aid families whose children attend Catholic schools. "This would benefit students who attend Catholic schools in every state because families who meet the income requirements will have significantly increased ability to apply for scholarships for their children to attend Catholic schools," said Mary McElroy, assistant superintendent for government programs for the Archdiocese of Newark.



To learn more, visit the USCCB's Action Center at www.votervoice.net/USCCB/Campaigns/96808/Respond, where you can view additional details about the proposed legislation and use the online platform to send a message to your elected federal representatives.