

The Story of Two Monstrances | *by Jim Gannon*

Recently, I was given a tour of one of our newer parishes (of course, in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, new is under a hundred or more years old). It was a lovely building and when one takes into account how long it will be in use and how many Masses, weddings, baptisms and funerals will be celebrated in the building, it is hard to criticize the cost of both its construction and maintenance. During my tour, however, Father, with a little pride and at the same time humbleness, showed me a monstrance that was donated to the parish.

This couple was making a statement of affinity and oneness they felt with Christ through the Holy Eucharist. They were no doubt aware in visiting our parishes here in the Archdiocese that a monstrance is not regularly replaced and that generations upon generations will see their testimony to the importance of the Holy Eucharist. The monstrance is a statement of the couples' unity with Christ through the Eucharist, to how miraculous the Eucharist is, and the reverence and importance that we as Catholics must place in the Eucharist. Our car was time-limited capital equipment purchased on a five-year depreciation schedule.

We in the field of service and charity might be tempted to say, "Oh, but what use could I have put that money to"; further, we might suggest that such a gift was easily tarnished by the words of Christ in Matthew 25. We would be so wrong to say or make such judgments or even put on the shoes (actually, sandals) of Christ and make such bold statements. We would have rushed and made a statement not through the eyes of Christ, but through the eyes of ordinary people, without the full knowledge of the relationship that this couple and Christ share.

The monstrance in question was a gift of faith and a gift of the importance that the Holy Eucharist plays in two persons' lives; the monstrance they donated is a legacy of faith and hope for their community as well. How many will gaze upon the Eucharist inside the monstrance and find a renewal or strengthening of faith? Such faith and such desire to express without words the importance of Christ in our lives cannot be under-appreciated or marginalized by the human fragility of a desire to judge. We so want to hold others accountable. I rather think and suggest, this couple is equally aware

It was quite lovely and turned out to have cost quite a bit more than the cost of what Catholic Charities spent recently on a new car for our case managers to use in making family visits. Our priests are pretty perceptive, and I guess my expression gave a bit away as my mind quickly ran through the numbers of families struggling with homelessness, the number of children in our Learning Center, the number of folks coming as refugees, and adult students that we could help for that amount. Father quickly sought to combat my calculations by sharing how, when meeting with the couple, they discussed that perhaps one of a more moderate price could be purchased, and the parish could put the balance to use in other ways. But the donors were set on this very grand and elaborate monstrance for their parish.



Executive Director, Jim Gannon

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CORE VALUES

The principles that guide us and constitute what we believe

FAITH

Being an inter-faith community
Hoping for the things unseen
Believing with strong conviction

LOVE

A sense of underlying oneness
Manifesting charity

CARING

Compassion for all
Empathy for all

RESPECT

Dignity of others
The individuality of others
The uniqueness of others

INTEGRITY

Honesty
Transparency
Trustworthiness
Fairness

INCLUSIVITY

Openness
Diversity
Reconciliation of differences

COLLABORATION

Partnering with others
Seeking others with the abilities to find solutions



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Combined Federal Campaign.*

The Story of Two Monstrances

◀ *Continued from page 1*

of the second type of monstrance used by the Church in paying homage to the Eucharist. Knowing its importance they surely take action to assure these monstrances continue to exist in our Church as well.

Where can you find this alternate monstrance? Parishioners can spy around the Church next Sunday or drop by and do a thorough search for it during the week, but they probably will not find it within the walls of the church building. This monstrance is both of a physical and spiritual nature. It was built by human hands, as well as forged in a furnace of faith. It is not anything like the shiny objects of fables or forged by angels, but it is the product of brows of sweat and tears of faith. Where are these miraculous monstrances and where must we go to gaze upon the essence of our Lord, you ask?

Our pastors do not hide them away. They are actually out in plain sight 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They can be found at 5629 Isleta Blvd, 2010 Bridge Blvd, 218 Iron Ave, 4020 Barbara Loop, 219 Cathedral Place, and many more locations. They are the monstrances shaped like a child's classroom, they may

resemble a doctor's examining room where a mother and child seek relief from an earache, they may be a cardboard box containing cans and sacks of groceries to satisfy the pains of hunger, or they may be a meal, shower and clean sheets. Nonetheless, these are the monstrances of Christ and the Holy Spirit working in tandem with their Church to strengthen the faith within us. These monstrances contain the essences of the Eucharist's nourishment of our souls.

So often we think of the charitable works of the Church as missionary work, as evangelism, but this work and places in which we do it are among the most holy shrines of the Church. If we stop and gaze into these monstrances we will see Christ, and we will find our faith strengthened as we show the appropriate reverence to the Eucharist. Faith is strengthened by participation in the Holy Eucharist and by adoring the Eucharist encased in the monstrance on the altar. But it is when we recognize and see the Eucharist in our community, and in those who surround us, and we show it reverence, that we are blessed. It is application of our Faith in the community that completes our Catholic Identity.

Ways to Give

There are many ways to support the community changing work of Catholic Charities. Volunteering your time and talent increases our capacity. Online donations (www.ccasnm.org), direct charitable gifts, as well as donor directed contributions through United Way, the Combined Federal Campaign and other work place giving programs, support Catholic Charities work of creating hope for those in need. Designating Catholic Charities with your grocery shopping at Smith's and Albertsons generates corporate support of our work through your patronage. For more information on how to donate contact Liz Lozano-Lopez, Director of Development at 724-4693.

Federal Employees

Use **#31653** when designating Catholic Charities with the Combined Federal Campaign this year.

Designated Giving Contact Information

Casa de Corazon Capital Campaign
Beth Chavez - (505) 724-4637

Development and General Operations
Liz Lozano-Lopez - (505) 724-4693

In-Kind Contributions
Tim Ashby - (505) 724-4678

Volunteer Services
Cathy Aragon-Marquez (505) 724-4634

A Call To Action | *by Joey Sinclair*

My name is Joey Sinclair. I am currently a senior at St. Pius X high school. One of our service requirements is to do 40 hours of community service, 30 of which must apply to a corporal work of mercy (i.e. feeding the hungry, caring for the sick). The hardest thing about these service hours isn't the amount of time or the work put in, but rather finding a cause for which you are truly inspired and can make a difference. My inspiration came in the form of Catholic Charities and their work with refugees.

The word "refugee" comes from the shorter

word "refuge", meaning a safe place. Refugees are people who seek shelter from persecution in their previous countries. They may be persecuted for their race, religion or some other reason. Regardless of these refugees' backgrounds, it should be our duty to help them. America is the land of the free and home of the brave, but more importantly, it is a beacon of hope, a sign to others that there can be a better life. As U.S. citizens, we owe it to all to make that hope a reality by allowing those who have already suffered to live a good and fulfilling life. I am asking each of you to take

Casa de Corazon Capital Campaign Gains Momentum



In April Catholic Charities received a challenge grant of \$500,000 from the Mabee Foundation, a private charitable foundation with its office in Tulsa, Oklahoma. This grant will be awarded if the campaign reaches its goal of \$4 million by April, 2015. Since learning of the challenge grant, Catholic Charities has raised over \$600,000. Individual donors along with Southwest Capital Bank, The Catholic Foundation and Our Lady of the Annunciation, St. Jude Thaddeus and Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes have fueled this incredible response to the challenge. The vision of Casa de Corazon - a Catholic Charities campus which will house hope for those building better lives for themselves and their families is moving closer to reality.

For more information on how you can get involved with the Casa de Corazon Capital Campaign contact Beth Chavez at 724-4637.

steps with me in helping these refugees. All it takes is a simple donation, whether in the form of some of the items we need or money. Your generosity can have a tremendous impact on those who receive it.

Please contact Catholic Charities for a list of items needed for refugees in Albuquerque. I hope you will try in some way to lend a hand. These refugees are relying on our kindness.

Thank you in advance for your kindness,
—Joey Sinclair



Please pray for those in need in our community, and pray that Catholic Charities may find ways and means to more effectively help them.

An Amazing Team | *by Cathy Aragon-Marquez*

Early this summer, I was searching for volunteers to help at our World Refugee Day. We wanted to provide a variety of fun activities for the kids to make this a memorable day for all.

As I reviewed the volunteer roster, seeking volunteers listed under “special project”, I came across a volunteer, James, who listed “soccer” as a special skill. A light bulb moment! Maybe, James could come out and kick a few balls around with the kids. I contacted James with my idea. He replied quickly. Unfortunately he would be in Canada on that date, but he would ask a couple of his teammates to come out and help.

True to his word, a few days later Luke contacted me. He is the Sports Coordinator

for the UNM Men’s Soccer Team. Holy Cow! James told me he played soccer, he didn’t tell me he was on the UNM Men’s Soccer Team. So imagine my surprise when the UNM soccer Coordinator contacted me about specific expectations for the players. I don’t know anything about NCAA regulations, but all was approved.

On World Refugee day Luke and six soccer players, dressed in their team uniform arrived promptly at 11:30 a.m. When the young children in the community room heard the word “soccer” they all raced out to the field. The players set up a mini soccer camp for the young refugee children. It was fun to watch these young men, running the kids through various drills and engaging them in conversation. They brought small soccer balls

which they passed out and signed autographs. The young men were friendly, well mannered, and very respectful of the diversity of cultures represented at the event. They undoubtedly are the type of role models we want our youth to emulate.

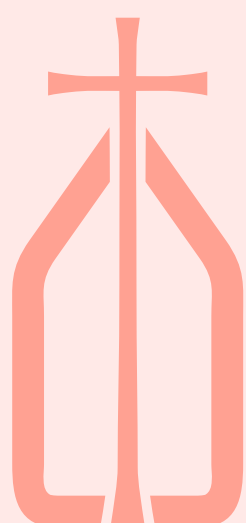
Thank you, Luke, Mathew, Patrick, Nicholas, Lucas, James and Patrick for sharing your time and talent so generously with these children, which clearly made this a very special day for them.

Thank you to Coach Fishbein for encouraging your team to make a difference in the community. And thank you James Rogers, for getting the ball rolling on this, literally. Have a Super Season. **Go Lobos!**



Rental Assistance Program Experiences Record Numbers

The Center for Self-Sufficiency and Housing Assistance received 90 calls in the first 10 minutes that the program was opened for rental assistance screenings this month. The Center provides economically disadvantaged families with basic housing needs to ensure that they are living safely and securely in their communities.



Our Mission

Catholic Charities’ mission is to create hope for those in need by promoting self-sufficiency, strengthening families, fighting poverty and building community. For 69 years, Catholic Charities in New Mexico has been dedicated to finding solutions to some of the most pressing social challenges individuals and families in our community face. Working with local churches and secular community organizations, 80 staff and over 200 volunteers, we assist more than 12,500 individuals and 5,400 families throughout Bernalillo, Santa Fe and Sandoval counties each year. Catholic Charities addresses the needs of those in our community regardless of race, religion, country of origin, disabilities, gender or sexual orientation. Our goal is to provide clients and their families with the tools they need to become self-sufficient.



Save the Date!

An Enchanting Evening of Charity, Dining & Dancing.

Saturday, November 22, 2014

Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa
 1300 Tuyuna Trail, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM

Featuring:

- The St. Nicholas Ball
- A Chocolate & Coffee Bar
- Silent & Live Auctions
- 5:30 p.m. to Midnight —
 Dance to the music of BLACK PEARL

Tables - \$1,500

Tickets - \$150

Contact Liz Lozano-Lopez at
 505.724.4693 or lopezl@ccasfnm.org
 for ticket & sponsorship information.

To donate to the Live & Silent Auctions, please contact Maria Bustamante at
 505.724.4626 or bustamantem@ccasfnm.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, September 25th

Volunteer Orientation and Abuse Awareness Training

Make a difference in someone's life; become a Catholic Charities Volunteer. Please call ahead to register.

Friday, October 17th

Mobile Food Pantry

Catholic Charities hosts a mobile food pantry in conjunction with the Roadrunner Food Bank of New Mexico

Thursday, October 23rd

Volunteer Orientation and Abuse Awareness Training

Saturday, October 25th

High School Equivalency HSE Graduation (formerly GED)

Join us in celebrating our students' educational mile-marker.

Friday, November 21st

Mobile Food Pantry

Saturday, November 22nd

11th Annual Festival of Trees Presents The St. Nicholas Ball

An Enchanting Evening of Charity, Dining and Dancing Catholic Charities' largest annual fundraiser where the magic of Christmas glows brightly as beautiful trees transform the ballroom at the Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort into a joyful celebration of hope and charity. Dance to the music of Black Pearl and enjoy a late evening Chocolate and Coffee Bar.

Friday, December 19th

Mobile Food Pantry

For information regarding these events, call (505) 724-4670



Surprise Visit



Sister Rose T. Wich, S.C., entered the order of Sisters of Charity in 1944. Her career spans sixty years of service as teacher and administrator. In 2005, she retired as Principal from Our Lady of Annunciation Catholic School in Albuquerque, NM. After a brief sabbatical to England and Italy, she returned and became a Volunteer Trip Coordinator for Senior Transportation Services at Catholic Charities. She spent seven years planning trips and responding to requests, as well as accommodating patients at Presbyterian Hospital as a Eucharistic Minister.

In August, 2012, Sister Rose moved to the Mother House in Cincinnati, Ohio. She is fondly remembered by staff members as quite the celebrity about town. Often pausing for a quick visit when recognized by former students, families and those she thoughtfully served at the hospital. Upon speaking to Sister Rose, individuals who called Catholic Charities always commented on her sweet and spiritual demeanor. “We all minded our P’s and Q’s around Sister”, said Cathy Aragon-Marquez, Volunteer Developer/Program Coordinator.

On a recent trip to Albuquerque, Sister Rose celebrated her 88th birthday at a special luncheon hosted by Catholic Charities’ staff members. Monsignor Bennett Voorhees, Our Lady of Annunciation Parish, surprised her when he dropped in to wish her a Happy Birthday. What a blessing it was to see her smiling face again. We keep her in our thoughts and prayers.

Children’s Border Crisis



Catholic Charities Staff Members who traveled to El Paso, TX during the Children’s Border Crisis — Lisa Burns, Lorena Orozco, Maria Bustamante, Beatrice Villegas, Diana Leal, James Walker, (Not pictured - Andy Najjar, Marshall Jensen)

Catholic Charities responded to the humanitarian crisis at the border in early July focusing on the plight of unaccompanied minors. Staff members assisted case managers with the screening process, interviewing children as young as five years old to identify their legal needs and provide additional information regarding their rights in immigration law. Upon returning, staff members shared their experience and the stories the children revealed of their arduous journey, many escaping dangerous conditions, abuse and violence in their home countries.

“I left the interview hoping he (Luis, an unaccompanied minor) would be eligible for the Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) and that he would be successful in what he set out to do. Luis not only presented a picture of need and innocence, but a picture of a hard-working, responsible young man who did not seem afraid of life and had good values that were most likely instilled by his grandparents. I thought to myself, this is the kind of person you want coming into the U.S., someone who will contribute positively to the U.S.”
—Diana L., Catholic Charities staff member

“I felt that Catholic Charities was both needed and appreciated to respond to this crisis. More importantly, that the real needs of these children, especially as it pertained to their legal and human rights were addressed in a timely manner. I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of a team that was there to provide a friendly and hopefully helpful face to a scared and vulnerable child.”
—James W., Catholic Charities staff member

“All the kids whom I interviewed were, in my mind, unmistakably refugees; they’re not immigrants.”
—Bob E., Catholic Charities volunteer

“After hearing so many stories of suffering, from some children as young as 7, I was moved to the core by their outward display of human strength and resilience. They were making this dangerous journey to the U.S. from their home country, alone, to seek a better life, away from danger, to seek an education, to help lift their families out of poverty and yet despite all the “bad things” that happened to them, they still spoke of hope.”
—Maria B., Catholic Charities staff member



Summer Time in the Garden Center for Family Self-Sufficiency & Housing Assistance

Four year old Shanisty, Zyus and Clayton planted their first garden with the help of case manager Andy Najjar, Center for Family Self-Sufficiency & Housing Assistance. The family planted corn, tomatoes, zucchini and pumpkins in their apartment’s backyard.

Center for Immigration and Citizenship Legal Assistance

My name is Lilian K. Casias. I was born in Mexico and migrated with my parents to the United States of America (USA). At the age of nine, I was enrolled in a public elementary school in New Mexico. After high school graduation, I attended The University of New Mexico (UNM), where I graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. Success posed barriers, especially without a social security number (SSN). My parents struggled to pay tuition fees for both me and my sister but they assured us it would pay off. They believed that with hard work, good things come. They were honest and made their living fixing apartments while paying their share of taxes, which demonstrated that overall, there is a right way to accomplish things. Upon graduation, without a SSN, I found little to no use for my degree and could only find work in retail. Increasing university costs for a higher education degree and related citizenship requirements became overbearing.

In late 2012, President Obama's executive order of the "Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program" (DACA), provided not only a work visa but hope. I could finally work and/or do graduate research in my field of study. I began my doctorate degree/research at UNM in January of 2013 under Dr. Sanjay Krishna, working in the INfrared Detector Laboratory at UNM's Center for High Technology Materials (CHTM). In August of that year, I married a wonderful man that supports me in everything I do and is also an engineer. We decided to apply for my green card through Catholic Charities in 2014. With the great help of Isabel Otero, Center for Immigration and Citizenship Legal Assistance, we were able to get my application submitted and approved in just a few months. We are very appreciative.

Center for Educational Opportunity

Yaciel Tellez Toledo has been involved in several of Catholic Charities' Centers of Excellence, first as a participant and now as a volunteer in the Center for Educational Opportunity.

Yaciel came to the U.S. by boat after fleeing the harsh economic and political conditions in Cuba in October of 2010. In Cuba, he completed two bachelor degrees, became fluent in English, and had been teaching in a university. Upon his arrival to the U.S., he became a participant in Catholic Charities' Center for Refugee Settlement and Support and also received his Lawful Permanent Residency through the Center for Immigration and Citizenship Legal Assistance. Shortly after, received his Master of Business Administration degree through the University of Phoenix.

Now, after working in a local elementary school, at UNM Hospitals, and receiving two types of teaching licenses in New Mexico, he works with the New Mexico Public Defender's Office as a Windows Systems Administrator. Yaciel is currently working toward his PhD in Management Information Systems with Northcentral University and enrolled in the Albuquerque Christian College to become a minister.

In his free time, Yaciel volunteers with the Center for Educational Opportunity to assist students enrolled in citizenship classes in the preparation of taking their naturalization exams. Yaciel said he decided to volunteer with Catholic Charities because, "It was time for me to pay back to Catholic Charities [for] all they did for me when I came to this country." He also enjoys helping the students because of his interests in teaching and assisting those in need.

Balloon Fiesta Volunteer Opportunity



Here is an exciting opportunity to help us raise Funds and awareness for Catholic Charities.

Catholic Charities has agreed to work the Merchandise Tent at Balloon Fiesta and needs 20 volunteers. Must be 18 years or older.

Saturday, October 4, 2014
Balloon Glow & Fireworks
4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Balloon Fiesta Park
Entrance and Parking Pass Provided

For Details Contact: Kathy Freeze at 505-724-4694 or freezek@ccasnm.org



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