

OPEN JULY 3RD  
& JULY 4TH  
8 AM-11 PM

HUGE  
SELECTION!  
LOW PRICES!  
GREAT CAUSE!



# FRIAR WORKS!

Why drive to Missouri? Buy your fireworks here  
and support Catholic Social Services!

# BUY 1 GET 3 FREE!

on select items

Located under the big tent at  
Catholic Social Services parking lot at  
23rd & O Streets, Lincoln



(SAG)



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Lincoln, NE 68510



# Patron

The Quarterly Newsletter of Catholic Social Services Of Southern Nebraska

## PRAYER TO SAINT PETER

*O Holy Apostle, because you are the Rock upon which Almighty God has built His Church; obtain for me I pray you, lively faith, firm hope and burning love; complete detachment from myself, humility in prosperity, purity in heart, resignation to the will of God and perseverance in His grace; that so, by means of your intercession and your glorious merits, I may be made worthy to appear before the eternal Shepherd of souls, Jesus Christ, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns for ever. Amen.*



## Gift & Thrift Stores help fund Emergency Services Program

Not your average thrift store. That is often the impression a customer has when they first visit one of the Catholic Social Services' Gift & Thrift locations for the first time. More "boutique" than "thrift", each CSS Gift & Thrift offers a wide selection of quality clothing, furnishings, household items and so much more. Plus when you donate your good, used items to one of our stores, it's like you are giving twice: once to the person who may be in need of a reduced-cost item, and to the family or individual who will benefit



from the proceeds of the sale that go towards our social services program. We call it "Giving Squared"!

CSS operates four Gift & Thrift stores: the St. Louise Gift & Thrift Store in Lincoln, the St. Joseph Gift & Thrift Store in Hastings, the St. Francis Gift & Thrift Store in Auburn and the St. Isidore Gift & Thrift in Imperial. Individuals who cannot afford items in our stores can apply to receive items for free through our emergency services programs in all four communities. All funds raised from the stores, minus minimal administrative costs, are funneled back into our

♦St. Louise  
Gift & Thrift  
2201 O Street  
Lincoln  
(402) 474-1600

♦St. Joseph  
Gift & Thrift  
325 W. 2nd  
Hastings  
(402) 463-2151

♦St. Francis  
Gift & Thrift  
1014 Central Ave.  
Auburn  
(402) 274-4818

♦St. Isidore  
Gift & Thrift  
749 Broadway  
Imperial  
(308) 882-3065

### Inside:

Summer 2013

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Opening our  
hearts to  
those in  
need



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Win two  
Nebraska  
season  
tickets!



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# Expanding the Works of Mercy

**Fr. Christopher Kubat  
Executive Director**



During the fall of 2007, Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska initiated its first ever capital campaign entitled, Expanding the Works of Mercy. It was conducted for four reasons- creating a downtown service center in Lincoln; a home for women escaping abortion and domestic violence named after St. Gianna staffed by the Marian Sisters of the diocese of Lincoln; a permanent site in western Nebraska; and to effectively start an endowment. Now six years later, through the grace of God and the intercession of our Blessed Mother, her most chaste spouse St. Joseph, St. Gianna, and our other patron saints, we have accomplished these endeavors and much more.

I am happy to announce that we have just celebrated our fourth anniversary at our St. Joseph Center located on 23rd and O Street where our Lincoln social service offices are located. I am likewise happy to announce that we are now in our second year at the main location of St. Gianna's. Sister Bernadette has informed me that we have, with the grace of God, directly helped save 16 babies from abortion. As I type these words, we are in the midst of remodeling a beautiful building in downtown Imperial which will be the future site for our new St. Isidore Center that serves the western sector of the diocese. Contained in this new site will be an adoration chapel named after St. Isidore the Farmer, more sorting and retail space for St. Isidore Gift &

Thrift Store and a social service office where a social service case worker will be able to meet with individuals and families who are in need of emergency services. In addition, we have been able to add needed funds into our endowment.

While this was going on, we were able to expand our Immaculate Heart Counseling Center's satellite offices. I am happy to announce that CSS now has 13 satellite clinical office sites scattered across southern Nebraska. Falls City, Auburn, Nebraska City, Beatrice, Plattsmouth, Our Lady of Guadalupe Center, Newman Center, Wahoo, David City, York, Hastings, Holdrege and McCook. This is an amazing increase of four sites in just one year- York, Beatrice, Holdrege, and McCook. In addition, we have expanded our physical plant at our St. Francis Center in Auburn and our St. John Vianney Center in Hastings. Since 2007 with the intercession of our patron saints and the grace of God, we have truly expanded the works of mercy across the diocese of Lincoln. None of this would have been possible without the help of our many benefactors. This is especially



important since the majority of funds that come to us are private and not from the government. It is astonishing that last year, with your help, we were able to help over 28,000 individuals that came through our doors or who we found out about through the parishes scattered across southern Nebraska.

That said, please consider helping us spiritually with your prayers and penances, materially with items around your home or farm including vehicles and financially with a cash donation according to your means so we can continue this important ministry given to us by our Lord Jesus Christ, namely loving His presence in the poor and needy (Mt 25:31-46). I like to inform all of our supporters to never forget that we at Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska will not forget to pray for you, your family and intentions.

Fr. Christopher Kubat  
Executive Director

# Cultivating the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Dr. Aaron Stratman

Director of Clinical Services

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in every one. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good” (1 Corinthians 12:3-7).

Never underestimate the power of God’s Providence! While that lesson always seems difficult when we suffer, it is very important to keep at the front of our minds. Hopefully, it reminds us to seek help from family, friends, or agencies like CSS. One example that we can draw from Jesus’ life is the moment he received “help” from Simon of Cyrene:

“As they led him away they took hold of a certain Simon, a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country; and after laying the cross on him, they made him carry it behind Jesus” (Luke 23:26).

It seems likely that Jesus could have kept going by himself. He could have summoned the inner strength that got him that far and continued up the hill to be crucified. So, in this brief moment, one might be able to infer that Christ allowed someone to help him to provide an example for all of us. Not only will we experience suffering in our lives that can seem similar to Christ’s, but we also should allow ourselves to be assisted. Many of us have difficulty receiving gifts from others because of a belief that we should be able to handle our difficulties ourselves without burdening others with our problems. At times, we must consider whether God is allowing our problems to inspire others

to help—those helpers become gifts from God.

In addition to the people we can ask or allow to help, we also can recall that God provides his Divine Assistance in a particular way through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

“The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, A spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD” (Isaiah 11:2-3).



We are responsible for preparing ourselves to receive these gifts continually throughout our lives. We can always trust that God will send us the gift we need, but it certainly helps to know ways that we can recognize the gift and put it into action. These gifts especially help us to overcome our weaknesses and actively exhibit virtue in the difficult situations of our lives. As a result, they should be cultivated through general and specific means. The general means for cultivating the gifts of the Holy Spirit include reflecting interiorly on God and spiritual matters, never willing anything evil, cooperating with the graces that God sends us, and frequently invoking the Holy Spirit to aid us.

Each Pentecost I am reminded of the power that God continues to offer us through the gifts of the Holy Spirit. My hope is that we will all try to remember to prepare ourselves to receive these gifts and the gifts from others to grow in virtue. Thank you for your continued prayers for the Immaculate Heart of Mary Counseling Center.

# Opening our hearts to those in need

Curt Krueger

Director of Social Services, Eastern Sector of the Diocese

“If there is a poor man with you, one of your brothers, in any of your towns in your land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart, nor close your hand from your poor brother.” DT 15:7

Catholic Social Services is committed to being available to every community in our diocese. This past winter, our offices in Auburn underwent a major renovation so that we could better serve the people living in the southeast region of Nebraska. We knew from past experience, if we expanded our store and created social services and clinical services space, the opportunities for serving Jesus in the poor would grow with us.

This has been a tremendous success. Since our grand re-opening in October, the brand new St. Clare Food Pantry has distributed over five tons of food to 262 families in the Auburn area. In other words we provided over 8,200 meals for 752 individuals. We have pro-

vided over \$8,500 in cash for families in need of help with rent or utilities and given almost \$4,000 worth of furniture, housewares and appliances.

The Auburn offices also are responsible for five of the St. Andrew Mobile food pantry distributions; Tecumseh, Fairbury, Pawnee City, Falls City, and we recently developed a partnership with Peru State College to provide an opportunity for their students to

experience first-hand the joy of serving the poor. Since October, 3,862 individuals have received food in those five communities.

The work of serving Christ in the poor is thriving in Auburn. It is thriving because we are doing the work that

Christ asked us to do, and it is thriving because of the generosity and support of the people of the diocese of Lincoln. Please continue to bless Catholic Social Services with your prayers and your gifts of food, furniture, housewares and money. With your help, we shall not harden our heart nor close our hand from our poor brother!



## “Friarworks!” set to return July 3rd & 4th

If you're like most folks, you probably feel a bit queasy spending money of fireworks, just to see your money go up in smoke... literally! Well if you're in the Lincoln area, buy your fireworks this year from “Friarworks!” so you can feel good knowing that you're helping us serve the needy while celebrating the 4th of July! All net proceeds from fireworks sold at “Friarworks!” goes to support the

programs of Catholic Social Services all across southern Nebraska. Located in the Catholic Social Services' parking lot at 23rd and O Street in Lincoln. “Friarworks!” will be open July 3rd and 4th from 8 AM until 11 PM. We will once again offer one of the areas best selection of fireworks, all for a good cause! You'll find a special money-saving offer on the back of this newsletter. Thank you for your support!



# CSS Memorial Golf Classic & Auction to honor Leonard Benes

On Friday, August 9th, Hillcrest Country Club in Lincoln will host the 17th annual Catholic Social Services Memorial Golf Classic & Auction. A major fundraiser for the programs of Catholic Social Services, this event has become one of the largest charity golf events in the area. This year's tournament will be held in memory of Leonard Benes. Last year, over 260 golfers from across the diocese participated in the tournament and more than 300 individuals attended the cookout and auction, raising approximately \$80,000.

“Burgers, ‘Brats & Biddin’!” is the cookout and auction that is held in conjunction with the CSS Memorial Golf Classic. The event begins at 6:00 PM the day of the golf tournament and is open to all golfers and a guest; the general public is invited to attend the auction and bid on items.

There are numerous ways to help support this important fundraiser for Catholic Social Services:

◆**Corporate Teams:** The \$520 entry fee allows for a foursome, carts, and lunch. The fee also allows each golfer and a guest to attend the cookout and auction.

◆**Parish Teams:** The \$390 entry fee allows a foursome-but must include at least one priest as there is no charge for priests to play. The fee also allows each golfer and a guest to attend the cookout and auction.

**The afternoon flight is currently sold out.** As this newsletter goes to press, there are still openings for either Corporate or Parish teams in the morning flight, which begins at 7:00 am. Whether playing in the morning or afternoon flight, all players and a guest are invited to the cookout and auction for no additional charge.



Leonard Benes

◆**Hole Sponsor:** The \$200 donation allows your name, company name or parish organization to appear at a tee-box during the tournament.

◆**Priest Sponsor:** The \$75 donation underwrites the cost for a priest to play in the tournament.

◆**Memorial Gift:** A memorial gift may be made to Catholic Social Services in honor of a loved one.

◆**Auction Gift:** You may donate an item or service to be offered on the silent or live auction. A day at your cabin, antiques or cash are just some ways that you can donate.

All sponsors will be recognized in the tournament program and in an ad in the *Southern Nebraska Register*. Registration deadline is August 1st. For more information call John McDermott at (402) 430-5626 or (800) 981-8242. The registration for is also available on our website at [www.cssisus.org](http://www.cssisus.org).

**17th Annual CSS Memorial Golf Classic & Auction- Friday, August 9, 2013**

Morning Flight

7:00 AM Start

Team name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Afternoon Flight

1:00 PM Start

**SOLD OUT!**

Hole Sponsor- \$200

Business/Organization

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Priest Sponsor- \$75

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial Gift

I am unable to participate in the tournament. Please accept my Gift in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\$25 \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$75 \_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_Other:\$\_\_\_\_\_

Auction Item

I'm interested in donating an item for the Silent/Live Auction.

Contact name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Item \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration deadline is August 1st. Return registration form in enclosed remit envelope.**



# Coming together to serve as One Body in Christ

Tom Schik

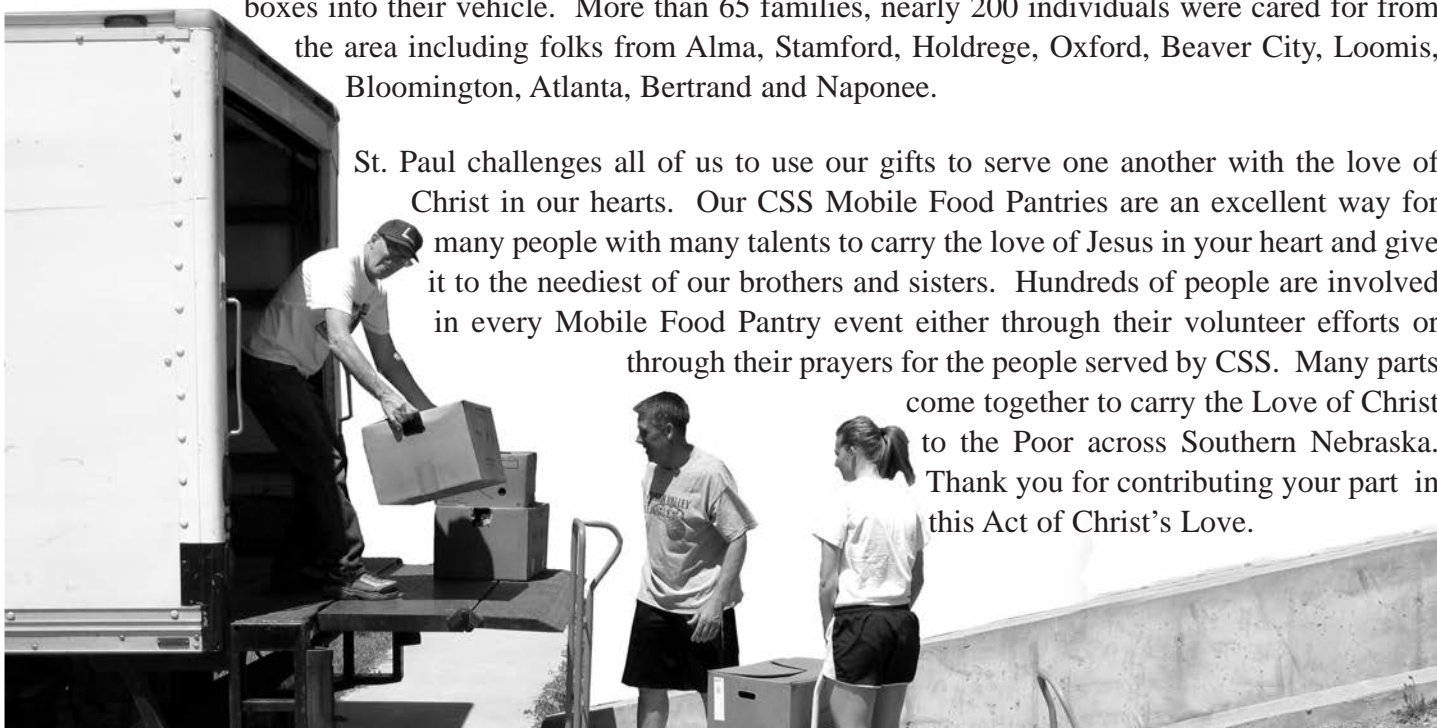
Director of Social Services, Western Sector of the Diocese

**W**e are One Body, One Body in Christ. St. Paul in his letter to the Romans chapter 12 verses 4—6 instructs us that “ For as in One Body we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another. Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us exercise them.” This passage from St. Paul rang out loud and clear as we recently headed to Orleans for a Mobile Food Pantry.

In preparation for the Mobile Pantry event itself there are many tasks performed by staff and volunteers as well as many prayers offered across the diocese for the success of the event. We contacted the local parish and arranged a date, created a poster for the event, and distributed the poster to the parish to help get the word out. We order our food from the Kearney Food Bank. The food is paid for through the generosity of our many donors and the patrons of our Thrift Store operated by our staff with many hours of volunteer work. The cases of food are repackaged by groups of volunteers who pack all the non perishable items into banana boxes. These boxes are loaded on our truck by staff and volunteers along with donated frozen meats and bakery items to be transported to the site.

When we arrived in Orleans we were greeted by Fr. Hotovy and a large crew of 15 volunteers from Orleans, Oxford, Alma and beyond who unloaded the truck carrying all of the items into the Church Hall. Food was organized on tables with staff and volunteers arranging meat and bread and pastries for our guests to choose what they wished to feed their families. Volunteers worked one on one with families as they loaded a box of food on a cart and accompanied the family through the tables and transported the food to each person’s car loading the boxes into their vehicle. More than 65 families, nearly 200 individuals were cared for from the area including folks from Alma, Stamford, Holdrege, Oxford, Beaver City, Loomis, Bloomington, Atlanta, Bertrand and Naponee.

St. Paul challenges all of us to use our gifts to serve one another with the love of Christ in our hearts. Our CSS Mobile Food Pantries are an excellent way for many people with many talents to carry the love of Jesus in your heart and give it to the neediest of our brothers and sisters. Hundreds of people are involved in every Mobile Food Pantry event either through their volunteer efforts or through their prayers for the people served by CSS. Many parts come together to carry the Love of Christ to the Poor across Southern Nebraska. Thank you for contributing your part in this Act of Christ’s Love.



# Win a Pair of Nebraska Football 2013 Season Tickets!



It's the dream of every Husker football fan- having a pair of your own season tickets! Here's how that dream could come true: In conjunction with the CSS Memorial Golf Classic & Auction, we're selling raffle tickets for two 2013 Nebraska football season tickets! **Raffle tickets are 1 for \$10.00 or 3 for \$20.00.** Just print this form, fill out the information below and send it to us in the enclosed remit envelope with your check. Due to postal regulations, raffle ticket stubs cannot be returned by mail for purchases over the Internet, through the mail or by phone. See the form below for more details.

Tickets can also be purchased at our CSS offices and Gift & Thrift Stores in Lincoln, Hastings and Auburn. The winner will be drawn at the CSS Memorial Golf Classic & Auction at Hillcrest Country Club on Friday, **August 9, 2013**. You need not be a golfer or a participant in our Golf Classic & Auction to win! In fact, you need not be present to win, but it would be a lot more fun if you were! Visit our website at [www.cssisus.org](http://www.cssisus.org) for a complete set of raffle rules. Good luck!

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## Nebraska football season ticket raffle ticket order form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

# Of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (1 ticket for \$10 or 3 tickets for \$20)

Please make checks payable to Catholic Social Services. Mail orders must be **received by Thursday, August 8, 2013** in order to be included in the drawing. Due to postal regulations, raffle ticket stubs cannot be returned by mail for purchases over the Internet, through the mail or by phone. However, a receipt of your purchase with receipt number will be sent to you via US Mail. When an order is placed, we will complete the ticket by filling in the name, address, and phone number, and we will drop the ticket in the barrel at our office. At the drawing, the winner will be notified based on the name and information on the ticket. See our website at [www.cssisus.org](http://www.cssisus.org) for complete set of rules.

