

Catholic Social Services
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www.csssisus.org

Save the Date!

Area Catholic choirs will perform Advent and Christmas songs of the season in the beautiful setting of St. Thomas Aquinas Church (the Newman Center) on the campus of UNL. Christmas cookies and refreshments will be served following the concert.

CAROLE FEST

A Benefit for

St. Gianna Women's Homes

Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 2:00 PM

St. Thomas Aquinas Church/Newman Center
16th & Q Street, Lincoln



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Patron

The Quarterly Newsletter of Catholic Social Services Of Southern Nebraska

“The Rosary is a magnificent and universal prayer for the needs of the Church, the nations and the entire world.”

-ST. JOHN XXIII

As the seasons change Colder weather increases need for help

Just a few days ago, before going on a little jog, on the street I encountered a middle aged man who appeared intoxicated. His speech was slurred as he asked me for \$1.19. He tearfully stated that his son had died and he was in need of traveling to Minnesota for the funeral. After doing this work for over 15 years, when people want to travel somewhere, they always ask for money for a plane, train or bus ticket. In this instance, he wanted only \$1.19.

As I pondered his request, I began wondering how much those tiny liquor bottles at liquor and convenience stores sell for. After informing him that we do not hand out cash, he proceeded to ask me for \$2. I thought it odd that after saying I could not give him \$1.19 he would ask for \$2. I again re-iterated that we do not hand out cash. I then proceeded to promise prayers for him and his son. I also told him

I am available to talk anytime.

This encounter reminded me that since cold weather is just around the corner, we are in need of cold weather items such as sweaters, hooded jackets, coats, warm socks, gloves, mittens, scarfs, boots, blankets, sleeping bags and other related items. We always like to be proactive in asking for these items so we will be ready when the snow starts flying.



Please pray for our mission of helping those who are living on the streets and in their vehicles

which is under the patronage of St. Mother Teresa. In addition to helping us with items listed above, prayerfully consider helping us with a cash donation so we can continue this most important mission. St. Mother Teresa, pray for us!!

*-Fr. Kubat
Executive Director*

Inside:

Fall 2018

It's all about love and trust



Page 2

IHMCC welcomes two interns

Page 3



Carole Fest 2018

Page 4



It's all about love and trust

Fr. Christopher Kubat Executive Director



Not long ago, while walking through our lobby, I saw a homeless man standing while chatting to one of our staff members. When our eyes met he held out his hand to say hello. I could tell immediately he had not had a change of clothes for a long time. They had that characteristic smell to them. He was looking for a clothing voucher. Of course I said we could help him with some new clothes.

After exchanging a few pleasantries, I asked him if he wanted to say some prayers in the chapel together. After entering we both knelt down to pray. He grasped my hand and pressed it close to his heart and bent his head in adoration. I asked our Heavenly Father to bless this man, who is His son and to send His love into his heart to help him in his struggles. After finishing, he said, "Now it is my turn." He proceeded to thank Almighty God for sending him to CSS and for the clothing voucher so he could obtain some new clothes. After a few moments we exited the chapel. I pointed the way to our case manager Kelli who was able to write him the

voucher that was redeemable at our St. Louise Gift & Thrift store.

It was the same day I gave three individuals a tour of the new St. Mother Teresa Center which is an outreach center for the homeless people in the downtown and near downtown area. Once completed, this will be a place where people off the streets can come to eat a lunch, rest, talk to our staff and volunteers, make an appointment to shower, do their laundry, and most importantly, pray in a beautiful little chapel with the Blessed Sacrament. We want to place those who come to this beautiful new center in the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ. Only He can heal a wounded and broken heart. Because of our adjacent thrift store, we will be able to give them a new set of clothing while their old clothes are being laundered. I am happy to announce that we will be able to open the doors soon.



I would like to thank our donors for their help in getting us to this point and would like to ask you to consider helping us spiritually with your prayers and penances, and financially with a cash donation according to your means, so we can help Jesus Who lives in the poor and needy in a special way (Mt 25:31-46). And if you feel called by the Holy Spirit to assist us as a volunteer at this new center, please contact Angela at areiling@cssisus.org. Please know that we at Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska will keep you, your family and intentions in our prayers. St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, pray for us!

Fr. Christopher Kubat

Fr. Christopher Kubat

CSS WEBSITE HITS "REFRESH"

In early September, we proudly launched our newly redesigned Catholic Social Services website. If you haven't seen it yet, visit us at www.cssisus.org to see our fresh, new look! You'll notice we've completely overhauled our homepage to make it easier to locate the information you need. The responsive layout means easy access on all platforms, including your phone. While you're there, click on the link to the St. Gianna Women's Homes website, which also has a fresh, new look!



Immaculate Heart of Mary Counseling Center welcomes two new interns

**Dr. Peter Martin, Licensed Psychologist
Internship Director of Integrated Training and Formation**

In late fall each year, the Catholic Social Services American Psychological Association accredited predoctoral psychology internship program receives a number of applications for internships positions the following fall. Highly qualified and faith-focused candidates describe their interest in integrating the psychological sciences with Catholic intellectual and moral tradition. They hope to become authentically faith-integrated psychologists who can translate psychological theory and practice into the religious language of the clients they serve.

This is no small task, since the integration of our faith with psychology requires an advanced knowledge of psychological theory and application as well as an orthodox Catholic vision of what it means to be human. Since each client is made in God's image and has great dignity, we take this decision-making process very seriously.

Then just after the turn of the next year, we select our favorite candidates and submit their names to a professional matching system, which selects two individuals for internship program. This year we are excited and blessed to have two highly qualified interns.

Alexandra Marcotte, M.S. is a pre-doctoral intern from the Institute for Psychological Sciences located in Arlington, Virginia. She currently works as a provisionally licensed mental health practitioner at the Immaculate Heart Counseling Center, as she continues to complete a doctorate in clinical psychology. Inspired by the belief that internal healing comes from treating the whole person, Alex integrates the Catholic faith with evidence-based approaches in psychology, and is particularly passionate about working with individuals and couples who are seeking to experience greater security

and resilience in their lives and long for successful relationships with their partners, families, and friends. Alexandra's areas of focus include: Marital therapy, infidelity, communication, adult and adolescent therapy, depression, anxiety, trauma, personality disorders, emotionally-focused therapy, interpersonal psychotherapy, psychodiagnostic assessments.

Jeff Vance is completing his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of North Texas. He holds an M.S. in psychology and an M.B.A. with an emphasis in

management. A devout Catholic from Dallas, Texas, Jeff was drawn to Catholic Social Services to learn to integrate Catholic teaching into therapy and for the opportunity to work with seminarians, priests and religious. Jeff is passionate about collaborative and therapeutic assessment which involves working respectfully with clients as co-investigators as we explore any difficulties

they are having. Jeff is a member of the American Psychology Association, the Catholic Psychotherapy Association, the Society for Personality Assessment, and the Therapeutic Assessment Institute. He and his wife Theresa have three sons and four grandchildren. His avocation is theater where he enjoys producing, directing, designing, or just sitting in the audience. Jeff remains a partner in the Pocket Sandwich Theatre in Dallas. A Knight of Columbus at his home parish of St. Thomas Aquinas in Dallas, Jeff served as a reader, extraordinary minister of the Eucharist and helped coordinate the Christ Renews His Parish retreats. He and Theresa coordinated the ministry to the home bound (though Jeff admits that Theresa did most of the work on that last one.)



Interns Alexandra Marcotte and Jeff Vance in the chapel of the Catholic Social Services Immaculate Heart of Mary Counseling Center, Lincoln