



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE 2020 *ST. MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not be able to host our annual Giving Tree Collection/Distribution of gifts at *ST. MARK* Catholic Church this year. We want everyone to be safe and healthy this holiday season!

At the same time, we don't want those in great need in our Community to go without receiving gifts they hope for at this time of year, that YOU have provided for over the past 40+ years.

Although not as fun as shopping and delivering new toys, clothes and other items, **we are asking that you generously donate Cash and/or Gift Cards to any of the following Organizations who are in great need.** They have been hit hard, financially, by the pandemic, and will best serve those in need through direct financial donations. *

- **Please go directly to the Organization websites (see below) to donate on-line and learn more about who they are and how you can help), or**
- **Donate by check or any type of Gift Cards**
 - PLEASE make checks out to the Organization of your choice...NOT to *ST. MARK* (Any checks made out to *ST. MARK* will go to the *ST. MARK* Poor Box). Checks and Gift Cards can be sent directly to the Organization, or to *ST. MARK* Catholic Church, attn: Bill Grossman. However, we highly, highly encourage you to go to their websites and donate directly with them. The sooner they receive your donations, the better they can serve their clients in time for a blessed Christmas.

If you have any questions, then please contact Carolyn Peterson at 703-281-3941, or Bill Grossman at 703-938-1936.

If you'd like to help a family, individual or foster child in need with their Christmas, directly, then please contact Nancy Dunaway at 703-758-8142 or Mary Lou McIntire at 703-938-4276.

Organizations YOU can help for Christmas 2020

- **Bethany House** – Operates two emergency shelters in Fairfax County for victims of domestic violence and their children
 - <https://www.bhmv.org/donate>
- **Britepaths** – Provides emergency food, financial assistance and mentoring to families that are often members of the working poor. Many with children.
 - <https://britepaths.org/our-programs/holiday-program>
- **CASA** – Trained volunteers work at the request of the Fairfax Co Juvenile court advocating for abused and neglected children to ensure a voice in court.
 - <https://www.fairfaxcasa.org/volunteer-or-donate/ways-to-give/>
- **Kate Hanley Shelter** – Accommodates up to 28 homeless families in Fairfax, helping them move quickly into permanent housing and provide basic needs.
 - <https://shelterhouse.org/donate-funds/>
- **Second Story** – Temporary residences for teenagers who find it impossible to live at home; includes home for pregnant/parenting teen mothers
 - <https://www.second-story.org/give/>
- **HOPE (“Options”)** – Private, non-profit organizations providing pregnancy support and material resources to women in crisis pregnancies.
 - <https://www.optionsdmv.org/>
- **A Woman’s Choice** - Private, non-profit organizations providing pregnancy support and material resources to women in crisis pregnancies.
 - <https://awomanschoicecenter.com/page/7-Donate/>
- **Service Source** – Facilities services and partnerships to support some 550 people with disabilities, their families and caregivers.
 - <https://www.servicesource.org/get-involved/giving/>
- **CHO Clothes Closet** – An all-volunteer community organization serving the poor in Vienna, Oakton, Dunn Loring and Merrifield.
 - <https://cho-va.com/services/financial-aid/>
- **SPECIAL ADOPTIONS** – Select specific Gift Cards for an individual, family or foster child in need. Names are given to St. Mark by social service agencies in Fairfax County and FamilyPASS.
 - Please contact Nancy Dunaway at 703-758-8142 or Mary Lou McIntire at 703-938-4276 for more information on how to help, this year!