

Catholic Social Services  
2241 O Street  
Lincoln, NE 68510

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Lincoln, NE  
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www.cssisus.org

You are cordially invited to attend the 24th annual  
**CELEBRATION OF CARING BANQUET:  
SHEPHERD OF SOULS**

For the benefit of Catholic Social Services  
Cornhusker Hotel Grand Ballroom, Lincoln  
Sunday, February 20, 2011  
Social Gathering- 4:30 pm Dinner and Program- 6:00 pm

The program includes the presentation of the *Cor Christi (Heart of Christ) Award*, which recognizes persons or a group demonstrating love of neighbor, perfectly illustrated to us by the heart of Christ. This year's recipient is Bishop Bruskewitz.

*Please join us for this special evening!*



**CELEBRATION OF CARING RESERVATION ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Yes, I/We will attend. Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ to reserve \_\_\_\_ places at Celebration of Caring 2011 (\$65.00 per person, \$130.00 per couple OR \$55.00 per person for those 60 or over)

Name of attendee(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

No, I/we are unable to attend this year. Please accept the enclosed donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for Catholic Social Services.

A check is enclosed to sponsor the complimentary attendance (\$65) of \_\_ priest(s)

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES**

Mail this form, along with names of attendees (if attending) and appropriate fee no later than 2/7/11 to:

**Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Clark**

3330 Woods Avenue Lincoln, NE 68510

VS

# Via Satoris

WAY OF THE SOWER

January 2011

Volume 17, Issue 1

**Saint Zdislava Berka**

## Giving the gift of oneself

**O**n January 1st, the Universal Church celebrates liturgically the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God. She is the Mother of God and the Mother and Queen of angels and saints. One of her spiritual daughters, Zdislava Berka, has the privilege of sharing January 1st with her as her feast day.

She was born in the early thirteenth century to well-to-do parents in what is now the diocese of Leitmeritz (near the archdiocese of Prague). Her love for the Catholic faith was intense even at an early age. At the age of seven, she ran into the woods to live a life of prayer and penance with the intention of living as a hermit. After returning home she continued a prayerful life edifying to all.

As a beautiful young woman, she married a wealthy man with whom she had four children. By some accounts he treated her unkindly at least early in their marriage. He seemed to resent her works of charity to the poor. Because of their status in life, they often resided in cas-

ties. After seeing the figure of Christ crucified in a poor fever-stricken beggar lying in their bed at their castle home, her husband reportedly consented to her further charitable works of mercy. She spent the rest of her life caring for those in need including the sick.

As a Dominican tertiary, Zdislava led a life of prayer and penance while helping the sick and the poor. At her canonization, Pope John Paul II said, "By intensely living the spirituality of a Dominican tertiary, she was able to make a gift of herself, in the words of Jesus: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). This is the secret of the great attraction which her figure always exercised during her life, as well as after her death and still today. Her example seems remarkably timely, particularly with regard to the value of the family, which - she teaches us - must be open to God, to the gift of life and to the needs of the poor. How these words ring true especially in today's materialistic world.

On her deathbed, she consoled her husband and four children by saying she would help them more from eternity than in time. After her death, she appeared to her husband in glory which was the catalyst in his further conversion to the Catholic faith. After her death she was buried in the Dominican monastery of St. Lawrence in which she founded. May her intercession and prayers for us increase our love of God and neighbor, especially those in need! St. Zdislava, pray for us!

 **Catholic Social Services**  
of Southern Nebraska

2241 O Street Lincoln, NE 68510 • (800) 981-8242 • www.cssisus.org

## Agency Update- January 2011

## "CSS gave her hope."

Dear Friend in Christ,

Recently a benefactor sent a card with the words, "A little over a year ago I contacted CSS for assistance in helping a friend who had nowhere to turn for a place to live. Her life had literally taken a 180° turn in the wrong direction. I do not know what she would have done without your help. CSS gave her hope."

On Christmas Eve, we assisted another woman who did not know where to turn. Because of the generosity of our benefactors, we were able to help her and her children as well. She literally came in with tears of sorrow and left with tears of joy.

Please consider helping us spiritually with your prayers, materially with your donations of furniture, appliances, kitchen wares, clothing, and the many other items one may have that are not needed. Please also consider helping us with a cash donation according to your means so we can continue helping individuals and families in need.

Please know that we at Catholic Social Services will keep you, your family and intentions in our daily prayers this New Year and beyond!

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,



Fr. Christophe Kubat  
Executive Director

## Social Services

## Donors, volunteers help serve thousands through our Christmas programs

Thanks to the efforts and generosity of numerous volunteers, parishes, organizations and individual donors, the 2010 Catholic Social Services' Christmas Programs were able to assist thousands of needy individuals across southern Nebraska. The programs based out of our Lincoln office include:

♦ **Adopt-A-Family**- Donor families are paired with families that we serve and purchase presents for those families. This year, we served 31 families and 120 individuals.

♦ **Operation Santa Claus**- Sponsored by KFOR radio and the National Guard, this program is similar to the Toys 4 Tots program. This year we served 548 families and 1,386 individuals.

♦ **St. Nicholas Toy Shoppe**- Toys for this program are supplied through Giving Tree programs in and around Lincoln as well as individual donations. Each child received one new toy, one used toy, and one article of clothing. During the one day that the store was open, we served 594 families and 1,706 individuals.

Our Hastings office offers The Good Angel Program and the Adopt-A-Family Program to those in need in the Hastings area. This year, the CSS Hastings office provided food and gifts for 143 families and 643 individuals.

In all, both CSS offices served a total of nearly 1,300 families and over 3,800 individuals through our 2010 Christmas Programs.



The National Guard delivers toys to our Lincoln office for KFOR's Operation Santa Claus

## Our Catholic Culture

## Saints of Czech heritage

Born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, Saint Zdislava is one of many saints of Czech heritage. Here is a brief look at three more:

♦ **St. Adalbert of Prague.** Known as the Apostle of Bohemia and the Apostle of the Slavs, Adalbert was born to Bohemian nobility in 957. A convert, Adalbert founded the monastery of Brevnov and was Bishop of Prague. He was allowed to evangelize in Pomerania, Poland and Russia and eventually was martyred with other missionaries in Prussia.

♦ **St. Agnes of Bohemia.** Daughter of King Ottokar and Queen Constance of Bohemia, Agnes was also a relative of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary. For years, Agnes was promised into a series of arranged marriages, none of which took place. She built a Franciscan hospital on land donated by her brother, King Wenceslaus I and later built a Franciscan friary and the Poor Clare convent of Saint Saviour in Prague.

♦ **Saint Ludmila.** Daughter of a Slavic prince, Ludmila and her husband Boriwoi, the first Christian Duke of Bohemia, were baptized by Saint Methodius. They then built the first Christian church in Bohemia. Her daughter-in-law, Drahomira, was jealous of the influence Ludmila had over her grandson, Wenceslaus and had her murdered.

St. Agnes of Bohemia



## First Friday Fish Fry

Join us for our First Friday Fish Fry! All net proceeds will go to support our St. Gianna Women's Homes. Come enjoy a great meal for a great cause! Here are the 2011 Fish Fry dates:

- |              |               |                          |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| ♦ February 4 | ♦ March 4     | ♦ April No Fish Fry-Lent |
| ♦ May 6      | ♦ June 3      | ♦ July 1                 |
| ♦ August 5   | ♦ September 2 | ♦ October 7              |
| ♦ November 4 | ♦ December 2  |                          |



2241 "O" Street  
5:00 pm-8:00 pm  
\$8 per person  
\$30 per family includes:  
♦ Baked or Fried Entree  
♦ Sides  
♦ Dessert ♦ Beverage



Catholic Social Services  
of Southern Nebraska

(402) 474-1600 (800) 981-8242 www.cssisus.org

Catholic Social Services  
& Murray's For Men of Stature  
Present

## Trumpet Fest '11

Sunday, February 13th  
3:00 PM

Pius X High School

6000 "A" Street- Lincoln

Performers include:

Mac McCune Kevin Murray  
Barb Schmit  
and more!

Hats will be passed for a free-will offering  
with proceeds going to Catholic Social Services

Contact Kevin Murray at  
(402) 466-6798 for more information