Seeing the face of Christ

Much has been written on the life of St. Martin of Tours- convert, soldier, monk, hermit, and reluctant bishop. A humble servant of God, St. Martin reluctantly became the bishop of Tours at a time in Church history when bishops were chosen by the people. As bishop of Tours, he went on to establish about 3,500 churches.

The most famous story about St. Martin’s life is when he encountered a shivering beggar while he was fully dressed in his military regalia. He tore his cloak in half, giving the other half to the beggar. That night, in a dream, it was revealed to him that the beggar was actually Christ.

St. Martin was one of the most prominent figures in the development of Christianity in fourth-century Europe. But what he is best known for is performing a simple Work of Mercy- clothing the naked. In that action, he truly saw the face of Christ in the poor.

Every November for the past 15 years or so, Scott and Jane Felber perform a Work of Mercy for the clients of Catholic Social Services of Southern Nebraska.

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Seeing the face of Christ (continued)

It started back when Fr. Joseph Walsh was the Executive Director at CSS. He contacted the Felbers, who owned Seward Turkey Enterprises, to see if they would consider donating a few turkeys for holiday food baskets for CSS clients. They said they would love to do so, and have been providing turkeys ever since- at a rate of 200 turkeys each November.

Though they sold most of their turkey business, Scott and Jane continue to provide 200 turkeys to the CSS food pantry each year. Through the generosity of a local Walmart, they purchase the turkeys at a discounted rate and drop them off at the CSS Lincoln site. From there, some of the turkeys are taken to the Auburn and Hastings CSS sites to distribute in food pantries at those locations as well.

Thank you Scott and Jane for performing this Work of Mercy. Like St. Martin of Tours, you see the face of Christ in those we serve and have humbly assisted in bringing Hope in the Good Life for 15 years!

CSS, Knights of Columbus team up for “Coats for Kids”

Thanks to the hard work of Lincoln Knights of Columbus and the generosity of donors, hundreds of children in the Lincoln area will have a warm coat this winter. On Saturday, November 13, over 60 Knights of Columbus and Catholic Social Services volunteers distributed more than 450 coats during the annual “Coats for Kids” event held at our Lincoln CSS site. Kids could also pick out hats and gloves and best of all, they enjoyed some hot chocolate and cookies courtesy of volunteers and donors. Thank you to the Knights, volunteers and donors for another successful “Coats for Kids” event.