Showing just a little love can often make a big difference

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up.
-1 Thessalonians 5:11

John had come to Nebraska three years ago. For the last year and a half he was living on the streets taking shelter under the bridges at night. We met John when he was a young man who had come to Nebraska in search of work. For the last year and a half, he had been living on the streets, taking shelter under the bridges at night. We met John when he was a young man who had come to Nebraska in search of work. For the last year and a half, he had been living on the streets, taking shelter under the bridges at night.

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It’s all about love and trust

Fr. Christopher Kubat
Executive Director

Have you ever wondered what happens to children when they become adults who have developmental disabilities and mental diseases? Some end up living with family and friends, others in group homes and still others homeless and on the streets.

One morning several weeks ago, I heard a gentle tap on our side door, not far from my office. Since it was an employee only entrance, I thought it was someone on our staff who had forgotten their key card. As it turned out, it was a woman with mental disease who is entering middle-age. She pointed toward her mouth and said “Food!” I believe it may be the same woman who quietly helped me pick weeds out of our back gravel parking lot. She saw me picking weeds and silently started helping behind my back. I did not know she was there until I turned around. As it turns out, she comes to us every month or two always asking for food. It’s fortunate that she lives with another woman who looks after her.

There is a woman, in her early adult years, with mental disease. Several times a year she is asked to leave her parents home because of behavior issues. To prevent her from living on the streets, we placed her in a motel for a few days after which she returns home.

These are just a few people with mental issues who come to us on a regular basis because they trust us – because we love them. It is only because of the generosity of our donors that we are able to help them along with the many other individuals and families who come to us in need.

Please consider helping us spiritually with your prayers and penances, materially with items around your home or farm, not needed (including vehicles), and a cash donation according to your means so we can continue to help the many individuals and families who come to us in need.

Please know that we at Catholic Social Services will keep you, your family and intentions in our prayers! Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us, Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us. St. Joseph and our patron angels and saints, pray for us!!

Fr. Christopher Kubat
Executive Director

COLDER WEATHER BRINGS NEED FOR COATS

Is there anything more unpredictable than Nebraska weather? Fall is coming, but we never know how soon the really cold temperatures will arrive. Every year around the holidays, our generous donors always come through with donations of coats, hats and gloves for those in need. But often, the cold north winds begin blowing well before Thanksgiving, and we need to be ready to meet the demand to stay warm. We are in need of children’s and men’s hats, mittens, gloves and coats. As you go through your closets this fall, thank you in advance for considering this need.

Dr. Kathryn Benes
Director of Counseling Services

The title of Queen to describe Mary dates back to at least the fourth century when St. Ephrem identified her as “Lady” and “Queen”, and this royal distinction has only grown throughout our Church history. But we, her children, not only see her as a Queen and Holy Intercessor, we see her as much more – our Mother.

While the title of “queen” often conjures up images of royal palaces, silk gowns, jewels, and inaccessibility, our Queen carried out her earthly royal duties in an obscure manner in the small village of Nazareth. When I think of her Queenship, I think of her dressed in the rude woven garment of a Jewish peasant woman, interceding for a poor couple who had ran out of wine at their wedding feast in Canna. Her royal title was marked by great love and quiet magnanimity, culminating in her blessed assumption into heaven.

Although Queen of Heaven, I don’t see my Blessed Mother as inaccessible. When I run to her to ask for her intercession, I envision Mary seated, waiting for me to kneel down beside her and place my head within the folds of her woven garment to listen to her beloved Davidic traditions of intercession. In biblical times, the Davidic tradition recognized the Blessed Virgin as the New Eve with the divine right to intercede for us directly with her Son.

My mother, the Queen

The title of Queen is love this time of year! The morning air is crisp; the hot summer days give way to much milder temperatures. The Marian gardens planted in the spring bless us with more brilliant blooms, just one last time, before they begin to fade and the leaves take on their beautiful autumn colors. But, the main reason I love this time of year is because the Church calendar provides so many opportunities to celebrate our Blessed Mother.

In fact, if you Google Marian Celebrations, you’ll find that every day in August, September and October (as well as all the other months of the year!) are days that we can celebrate the great gift of our Mother. There are the well-known days, such as August 15th, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven; September 8th, the Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary; and all of October is dedicated to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. One of my favorite Marian celebrations, however, is August 22nd – Feast of the Queenship of Mary, Regina Caeli (Traditionally, the Immaculate Heart of Mary). It reminds us of Mary as a powerful intercessor.

In biblical times, the Davidic tradition recognized the Blessed Virgin as the New Eve with the divine right to intercede for us directly with her Son. In our day, when the world is consume by evil thoughts and influences, we can turn to the intercession of Mary, Jesus’ Mother, to pray for the needs of the Church and all God’s people. We beg our Mother to intercede for us and all those in need. As we prepare for the upcoming fall, we invite you to pray for the needs of our clients, the many individuals and families who come to us in need.