

November 2008



## Christmas Generosity

Several activities are ongoing during the Christmas Season. Campus employees have celebrated a Chili Cook Off, employees are filling large jars with loose change, and dropping a small donation to the charity fund on “wear your jeans Fridays.” Employee recognition committees are dedicating funds that will be used to help the Carmelite and Nazareth Homes.

You will note the presence of white laundry baskets that individual work groups will decorate, fill with practical items and attach a gift card for young ladies at the Carmelite Home.

You can visit with Heather Schwandt and review the gift list for the six infants at the Nazareth Home.

Thank you very much for your participation. It is especially pleasing to note the enthusiasm that comes from within our work force when people focus on the needs of others. Our campus is linked to the community. The Spirit of St. Francis is alive when we share it!

It was St. Francis himself who introduced the Christmas crèche as a Christmas tradition. Homes throughout the world display a nativity scene in remembrance of the humble beginnings of God who takes part in the substance of humanity. Christmas is about who you are, not your place in society. All are blessed. On behalf of the Mission Committee, Merry Christmas!

# Mission Newsletter

“O Give thanks unto the Lord; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people.”  
Psalms 105:1

Employee based committee spearheads good work for others in the spirit of St. Francis!!

## Mission Committee Receives City of Hammond Recognition

Heather Schwandt of the CBO, Laurie Eitzroth of Pharmacy, and Bernie Henry of Alverno Labs attended a special luncheon with Mayor Thomas J. McDermott, Jr. and received an award. Our common mission efforts were recognized and our groups were designated the Outstanding Adult Volunteer Organization.

The Hammond Campus ambassadors received the award plaque that listed the variety of mission activities that our generous employees support: the Food Drive, the Habitat for Humanity Home Building, the Blood Drive, and the support of local charities at Christmas.

It is a honor to be part of the Hammond community where we come to work every day!

## Pilgrimage to Nazareth Home



At the invitation of Sr. Barbara of the Poor Handmaids of Christ, three members of our Mission Committee visited the special care home for infants that is called "Nazareth Home." There, on November 20, 2008, Heather Schwandt, Sue Ordway, and Bernie Henry saw the hands-on care of infants whose parents are unable to care for them just after childbirth.

The generous work of mercy is carried out in a home setting where six infants receive hands on care until the parents are ready or a decision is made to find a foster home.

"Volunteering at the Nazareth Home has brought me great joy. Its great to see these children Laugh and be so loved... My daughter and I basically go there to play, feed, and yes, sometimes change their dirty diapers. This teaches us patience, love, and giving and gives us a chance to bring out our kiddish attitudes with the kids. In actuality, they make our day more special than we make theirs... It's a great feeling..." says Diana Sanchez, a CBO employee who regularly volunteers at Nazareth Home.

Nazareth Home is one of two homes, the other is the Carmelite Home that are the subjects of our local efforts to help at Christmas.

Our, meaning your, good work becomes more present when members of our Mission Committee and our own employee attest to the "Goodness" of new born children at Christmas time. May you too have much hope at Christmas!

