



Mother of Mercy House

Summer Newsletter

July 2016

Dear Friends,

What an amazing, grace-filled first year we have had at Mother of Mercy House! With all of your prayers, encouragement, volunteer hours and financial support, we got off to a great start.

Special Events

*We celebrated the Opening of the Year of Mercy on December 8th with a bi-lingual Mass attended by neighbors, volunteers and benefactors.

*Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass was celebrated on December 12th.

*Santa visited the neighborhood children on December 19th.

*Christmas Eve volunteers helped us feed hungry neighbors with hot dogs and desserts.

*In May of 2016 we prayed the rosary in neighborhood homes every evening--a great evangelization tool and a wonderful way to build up the Catholic Christian community.

*In June of 2016 we celebrated Mass in Hope Park, one of the most desperate and drug infested areas of the city.

These events were in addition to our regular daily Mass at noon, our weekly AA/NA meetings, our weekly Circulo de Oracion (Prayer Group) our weekly food distribution and so much more.



21st Century Church

Here at Mother of Mercy House we are blessed with a certain "freedom:" While we need a space for Mass, prayer, faith formation meetings and food distribution (our permanent space is being renovated right now!), we are not tethered to large church and school buildings. Instead, we move out to the streets and meet people right where they are:

- *waiting for the bus on the corner of F and Allegheny.
- *sitting on the benches of Harrowgate and McPherson Parks
- *on their porches at home
- *under the Lehigh bypass in make shift tents or on mattresses
- *just walking down the street.

We meet people in all of these places. We talk with them, pray with them. We share the Good News of God's love for them. We invite them to our humble home for Mass, prayer time, AA/NA meetings, or a bag of groceries.



Field Hospital



Pope Francis has referred to the Church as a "field hospital," setting up tent wherever the wounded are found. We "set up tent" in all different kinds of places, so that our neighbors know the Church is here with the compassionate love of Jesus: We enter homes to pray the rosary, for Charismatic prayer meetings, and for the celebration of the Eucharist.

Mercy on the Margins

We spend a majority of our time with people that society might consider to be "on the margins" or on the "fringe" of our social structures. Many in our neighborhood struggle with hunger, poverty, violence and addiction. Our goal, like that of the entire Church, is to bring Christ to these neighbors of ours, our brothers and sisters. By offering food, encouraging them to come to an AA/NA meeting, inviting them to daily Mass and prayer time, and by blessing them wherever we find them, we share God's mercy, the same mercy we ourselves have received in so many ways.



We have Moved

Our new address is:
709-711 E. Allegheny Avenue.
Philadelphia, PA 19134

Stay in Touch

Website: MotherofMercyHouse.org
Facebook: Mother of Mercy House
Twitter: @FatherDevlin
Email: Info@MotherofMercyHouse.org

Thank you for helping to make all of this possible!

Thank you for being a part of our ministry "to share the mercy of God with all."

Father Devlin, Father Murphy, Sister Ann Raymond, IHM