



DIGNITY RESPECT AFFECTION ATTENTION HOSPITALITY



**Parish Kitchen**  
A ministry of Catholic Charities

**Celebrating Over 49 Years of Serving Those in Need!**

Spring 2023

**Alan Pickett**  
Catholic Charities,  
Executive Director

**Parish Kitchen Staff**

**James Wendeln**  
Manager

**Amy Bauer**  
Assistant Manager

**Mindy Garcia**  
Parish Kitchen Associate

**Weekend Staff**

Lisa Horney  
Erica Sellman  
Clare Vetter  
Jim Young

**Catholic Charities  
Advisory Board**

Randy Rawe, Chair  
Tim Beck  
Deacon Jerry Franzen  
Gregory George  
Dan Groneck  
Jeff Jehn  
Lisa Knochelmann  
Dinah Marron  
Dan Meier  
Sr. Fran Moore  
Msgr. Gerry Reinersman  
Clare Ruehl  
Mary Paula Schuh  
Fr. Joey Shelton  
Jim Volz

**Soup for the Soul**

By: Jill Walch, Volunteer Coordinator

On the evening of March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the doors were opened at the Receptions Event Center to host an Appreciation Dinner for our donors and volunteers. The silent room was impeccably decorated and a wonderful aroma filled the air. The setting was perfect, but something was missing. It was the sound of hope and laughter, friends reuniting, and joy. But once our guests arrived, so did the smiles, the hugs, and the love.

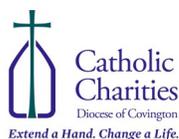
Each of you in attendance on this night is to be honored because you are courageous enough to listen, to care, and to act, and in this gesture of kindness, you make a difference in the life of another. And congratulations to our honored guests, Monsignor Gerry Reinersman, the 2023 Marcella Strategier Angel of Hope Award winner, and St. Elizabeth Healthcare, the 2023 Community Partner Award Winner. Whether you are a donor who provides funding for our many ministries, or you help to serve meals, work in the raised bed gardens, cook, clean, redesign the outside landscaping, help with meal preparation, grill, organize the backroom, provide desserts, water, or peanut butter and jelly sandwiches or any number of unmentioned acts of giving.... Parish Kitchen simply cannot provide the gift of hope without you. You truly are the LIGHT! (Continued on page 2)

Loving  
Individuals  
Generating  
Hope  
Together



Donors and volunteers gather to enjoy the Annual Appreciation Dinner at Receptions

Parish Kitchen  
1561 Madison Ave  
Covington, KY 41011  
(859) 581-7745



www.parishkitchen.org  
http://www.facebook.com/  
ParishKitchen  
www.covingtoncharities.org

Dignity

Affection

Attention

Hospitality

Respect

## Soup for the Soul (Continued from page 1)

The message delivered by the speakers on this night are clear, we know YOU are the reason Parish Kitchen can exist, you are soup for the soul. And we are so thankful for each of you.

And what a great surprise it was for Alan Pickett to end his tenure as the Catholic Charities Executive Director, with the creation of a Bicycle Repair Ministry. In Alan's honor, "Pickett's Corner" will be located at Parish Kitchen. This ministry will assist bike owners with general maintenance and repairs. The purpose will be to teach and coach bike owners to repair their bikes. In the future, it may also be possible to provide donated bikes for guests who currently rely solely on walking. Soon there may be "spokes for all folks" at PK. For those who may not know, Alan is an avid cyclist and thus, this is a perfect tribute to him.



*Volunteers and donors enjoying the Annual Appreciation Dinner*

And to end the night, we introduce our new Catholic Charities Executive Director, Chris Goddard, who will start on May 25, 2023. He brings years of experience, dedication, and faith to his next mission. It is clear on this night; it is not happiness that brings us gratitude. It's gratitude that brings us happiness.

Thanks for all that you do, and peace be with each of you!

## Volunteer Spotlight—Jorja Kremer



*Jorja Kremer lends her gardening talents*

Jorja has been a volunteer at Parish Kitchen for about one year now, and a Northern Kentucky resident since 1986. She started with a group of volunteers who took on the gardening project at the Parish Kitchen. She regularly works during the gardening season with a tremendous group of dedicated and knowledgeable ladies, to keep the gardens looking wonderful. Jorja likes being at the kitchen so much that she decided to volunteer with food preparation and cooking as well. She thoroughly enjoys turning out the food we prepare from our tasty recipes.

Jorja is a member of Saint Agnes Parish, and lives in Edgewood with her husband. She has three children and four grandchildren. After spending over 20+ years teaching school and in the health care field, she retired from those positions. She was led to the Parish Kitchen after talking with a volunteer about the mission. Since she is a Kentucky Certified Master Gardener, the gardening project was a perfect fit. While working in the gardens, she enjoys the guests coming up and talking to her about the gardens. Jorja is passionate about gardening and loves canning fruits and vegetables at home and at her farm. Her favorite part about being at Parish Kitchen is the family atmosphere, helping with the preparation and serving of food, and the way everyone who works and volunteers is respectful to the guests.

Thank you, Jorja, from all of us at Parish Kitchen for your work and dedication to our mission.

## Opening Day Grillout



Parish Kitchen celebrated opening day with their traditional grill out lunch. Guests had a great lunch and wonderful giveaways. Everyone really had a great time. GO REDS!!

## McDonalds Lunch for the Guests



Thank you to a wonderful donor who provided our guests at Parish Kitchen with a McDonald's lunch. The lunch included a quarter-pounder cheeseburger, french fries, fruit, and for dessert, a McDonalds apple pie. What a great surprise for our guests!



Many thanks to the Covington Rotary Club. Gil and Brenda Fauber who have helped deliver 21,597 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and 1,576 cases of water since 2020 during the pandemic. Our guests really love having the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to take with them, and the water is perfect for takeout meals.



Thank you to the employees at the Olive Garden in Florence for making hygiene bags!

## Landscaping Improvements All Around!

Parish Kitchen volunteers are repairing the outside drainage problems and adding two new statues to the beautiful landscaping. Give us and God a month longer, then stop by and see the beautiful flowers and garden in bloom. Thanks to the wonderful volunteers who are making all this happen!!

Our gardeners are busy working on the garden. They have some extra help this year with the fifth and sixth grade classes at Saint Augustine School in Covington. The students are studying plants and gardening and decided to start a project for the PK garden. They will be providing tomato, pepper, zucchini, squash, and cucumber starter plants for our wonderful gardeners.



Landscaping improvements at the Parish Kitchen

St. Augustine students and their seedlings

*Respect*

*Hospitality*

*Attention*

*Affection*

*Dignity*



1561 Madison Ave.  
Covington, KY 41011  
(859) 581-7745

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Covington, KY  
Permit No. 21

Address Service Requested

## **Parish Kitchen Wish List**

We are looking for small size deodorant, shampoo and rain ponchos  
If you would like to donate, please drop off items to 1561 Madison  
Ave, Covington.  
Thanks so much!