



hopeworks

CHANGING LIVES ... BUILDING COMMUNITIES™

WINTER/SPRING 2015



Putting Your Gifts to Work... p. 4



- ▶ A Leader with a Longstanding History of Charity: Monsignor Alfred LoPinto Named New CEO of Catholic Charitiesp. 2



- ▶ 2015 Bishop's Humanitarian Award Dinner to Honor Outstanding Leadersp. 3



- ▶ WCBS News Radio 880 Features CCBQ Meals Delivered to Frail Seniors in Stormy Weather.....p. 5



- ▶ Youth Engage in a Math Battlep. 6
- ▶ Arts & Aging.....p. 6
- ▶ Our Seniors Get a Visit from...Elvis?p. 6



Rev. Msgr. Alfred P. LoPinto

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities,

As you receive this newsletter, spring has begun to show itself. The flowers and trees are budding and folks are beginning to enjoy the warmth that is in the air.

For Christians and those of the Jewish faith, the spring also brings with it the great religious celebrations of Easter and Passover, two feasts that celebrate the gift of freedom—freedom from spiritual and physical enslavement. As these feasts are celebrated, events here at home and abroad remind us that freedom remains very elusive for millions in today's world. Poverty imprisons too many of our sisters and brothers. At home, we reflect on the plight of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. We reflect on the seniors who are being displaced by gentrification or who face isolation, on the young struggling to find decent employment and good educational opportunities, on those seeking to learn English so that they might participate fully in our society for their benefit and that of their families, especially their children.

Hopeworks takes you inside some of Charities' efforts to assist folks in experiencing the gift of freedom—freedom from want and from lack of access to opportunity. Hopeworks invites you to be part of the journey toward freedom for those struggling to discover the hope and joy celebrated in this holy season.

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. Alfred P. LoPinto
Chief Executive Officer

New Leader with a Longstanding History of Charity

Monsignor Alfred LoPinto, our Vicar for Human Services, Diocese of Brooklyn, has been named Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Charities. He has dedicated over 30 years of service to working on behalf of the most vulnerable.

Although he is now leading Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens as the CEO, Monsignor Alfred LoPinto is not new to the agency. Since 2006, Monsignor LoPinto has served as Executive Vice President of the Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens Board of Directors.



At the heart of Monsignor LoPinto's vocation is his longstanding vision for social justice and his passion for organizing. "The heart of organizing is giving people the opportunity, in collaboration with others, to realize the power they have to build a better world," says Monsignor LoPinto. To that end, he has helped organize parishes and communities around such causes as affordable housing and the fight against hunger. On a local and a national level, he has helped communities and other Catholic Charities agencies revamp their human service programs to better meet the needs of each neighborhood, such as providing food, housing, behavioral health services, and services for children.

Monsignor LoPinto feels that one of the most critical issues facing us today is affordable housing. "There is definitely a need. Affordable

housing is the recognition that housing is a right, and it should be a right that is easily accessible to individuals and families, and especially seniors. It's not merely putting a roof over people's heads. At Catholic Charities we build in the support services with the housing so it becomes a community."

For ten years, Monsignor also played an integral role in Catholic Charities Progress of Peoples Management and Development Corporation, seeing many projects from concept to creation, such as the Monsignor Anthony J. Barretta Apartments in Brownsville, Brooklyn that opened fall 2013 and the Peter J. Striano Residence in Howard Beach, Queens that opened winter 2013. Monsignor LoPinto was also a leader in the recovery efforts after Super Storm Sandy in 2012.

Since November 2014, he has led the first stage of a strategic visioning process, which resulted in a rearticulated mission statement and the setting of strategic directions for the agency in the areas of sustainability,



The 2015 Bishop's Humanitarian Award Dinner to Honor Outstanding Leaders

The Bishop's Humanitarian Award Dinner is held annually through the generous support of concerned individuals and organizations who champion the agency's mission on behalf of children and families, older adults, those with developmental disabilities, those suffering from mental illness, the formerly homeless and the isolated. The event honors outstanding individuals who have demonstrated leadership and dedicated themselves to our communities. We are delighted to announce this year's honorees:

Bishop's Humanitarian Awards



James F. Crystal
Executive Vice President
Crystal & Company



Peter M. Meyer
Market President
TD Bank, NYC

Ubi Caritas Award



Mary C. E. Thompson
Member, Board of Trustees, Catholic Charities

Bishop Joseph M. Sullivan Service Awards



Robert Siebel
Retired Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Charities



Robert Marquez
Retired VP, Early Childhood Services
Catholic Charities



Judith Kleve
Retired VP, Older Adult Services
Catholic Charities

presence and innovation. Along with the oversight and active participation of a committee of the agency's Board of Trustees, Catholic Charities will continue the process of planning and assessment in light of the ever-changing environment in the Diocese of Brooklyn and New York City.

His past accomplishments and contributions are many. In 1981, he was assigned to Brooklyn Catholic Charities while attending Columbia University School of Social Work. From 1985 to 1990, he served as Executive Director of the Campaign for Human Development, and from 1990 to 1997 he was the Executive Director of Catholic Charities San Bernardino in California. During his career to date, Monsignor LoPinto has received a number of civic, community and organizational awards and commendations.

In addition to the presentation of awards, the evening will feature cocktails, dinner and dancing. **Ken Rosato, Emmy-award winning Anchor of WABC-TV's Eyewitness News,** will serve as the Master of Ceremonies for this important fundraiser. For more information on the upcoming Dinner, including sponsorship and auction opportunities, and journal advertisement placements, contact Lucy Garrido-Mota at **718-722-6211** or lucy.gmota@ccbq.org or contact Jean Potvin at **718-722-6024** or jean.potvin@ccbq.org.

Putting Your Gifts to Work during the Holidays

Each year, Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens helps bring hope and joy to children and families in need.

During Thanksgiving, 250 holiday meals were distributed throughout Brooklyn and Queens. Thanks to funds donated by the TJX Foundation and through a partnership with Fairway Market, we were able to provide 200 turkeys to our neighbors in need through our community centers. An additional 50 turkeys were donated by the Knights of Columbus of the Immaculate Conception parish in Astoria, Queens. Volunteers, including students from St. Francis College and members of the Catholic Charities Long Island Day Habilitation Program, generously donated their time to help sort and distribute the turkeys. The turkey dinner fixings, provided by the Catholic Charities Food Pantry Network, included fresh potatoes, instant stuffing, gravy, corn muffin mix and cranberry sauce.

And in the true spirit of Christmas, we also raised over \$70,000 in funds and toys through our Toy Drive, our Employee Dollar Drive, the Bright Christmas Fund from *The Tablet*, the Frederick Foundation, and other initiatives. More than 1,600 children received toys through donations collected at Brooklyn and Queens parishes and at our Community Centers. Gift cards, valued at \$25 or \$50, were also provided to struggling families this holiday season. The gift cards were purchased through our Employee Dollar Drive and a \$25,000 grant from the Frederick Foundation. In addition, families in need of basic provisions also benefited from these initiatives and received food, clothing and/or help with utility bills.

Thanks to the Bright Christmas Fund from *The Tablet*, the diocesan newspaper, \$35,000 was donated to six of our programs, which went directly to those we serve, including individuals in crisis, older adults, children, and those struggling with mental illness.



First Arabic-speaking Mommy & Me Group

The Mommy and Me Group, sponsored by the Maternity & Early Childhood Foundation (MECF) at our Queens Community Center, hosted its first Arabic-speaking session, embracing the diverse culture of the community. *How Dinosaurs Go to School* was translated to Arabic by Catholic Charities staff member Naziha Norri. An intern from our Young Adult Internship Program (YAIP) volunteered to dress up as the Fidelis dinosaur and give away stuffed dinosaurs (generously donated by Fidelis Care of NY) to all of the participants. The children made dinosaurs using paper plates, and their photos were taken with the Fidelis dinosaur. The children enjoyed reading out loud and went home with their own copy of the book and pajamas, donated by the Pajama and Reading Program.



Meals Delivered to Frail Seniors Despite Stormy Weather

Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens has very dedicated staff...like the drivers of our Catholic Charities Southwest Queens Home Delivered Meals Program. Not only did they deliver meals during the multiple winter storms to ensure our frail seniors did not go hungry, but they also returned after the snowfall to do the very difficult work of digging out their delivery vehicles.

just a hot meal. Most of these homebound seniors look forward to the daily visits from a dependable and caring person since, for many, these visits are the only human interaction they get. What's more, our drivers also notice important signs and changes in the seniors, which can often make the difference in getting them the care they need to remain living safely in their own homes.



Our Southwest Queens Home Delivered Meals Program provides the frail elderly (homebound seniors age 60 and over) with a variety of hot meals and cold dishes each day of the week, including weekends. The program also offers meal plans and preparation options. But the program offers more than



**WCBS News
Radio 880**
featured

this story. Go to our website www.ccbq.org to hear the clip and learn more about our programs and services!



Our combination of programs for older adults (including case assistance, information and referral, home-delivered meals for the homebound, transportation, supportive and entitlement counseling, caregiver support groups, advocacy, meals at senior centers and friendly visiting to frail seniors) is specially designed to help our older neighbors stay active, healthy, happy and fulfilled.

"Arts & Aging" at Bishop Boardman Apartments

"For beauty may fade and skin grow old, but a heart that is loyal will never grow cold."

--Marie Davis, poet

This is one of the many quotes on the artwork produced by residents of our Bishop Boardman Senior Apartments in Brooklyn during their second "Arts & Aging" session. The program was created as a way to build community among the residents. Representing many different cultures and backgrounds, the residents rejoiced in sharing old stories of the "good ol' days" or of things they love. Participants created flags out of paper and

strung them together with ribbon and beads. They made collages on each flag, adding their favorite quotes or memories or pictures. Although four different languages are spoken at Bishop Boardman Apartments and some seniors may have difficulty with eye/hand coordination, the tenants helped each other. Beth Gillery, LCSW, Social Work Supervisor, stated that this experience truly exemplifies how "art transcends culture and language." Though Ms. Gillery



originally intended to run this program only once a month, the tenants asked to have it once a week. This program extends beyond the walls of Bishop Boardman as local businesses happily donate art supplies and other materials to help the program thrive.



Our Seniors Get a Visit from...Elvis?

Elvis made an appearance at the Catholic Charities Narrows Senior Center in Brooklyn for Valentine's Day. With smiles, tears and laughter, the seniors enjoyed the performance and relived many wonderful memories.



Seniors also participated in raffles to win prizes donated by neighborhood restaurants, bakeries and Pilo Arts studio. The Elvis impersonator was generously provided free-of-charge from the Brooklyn Public Library. As Elvis would say, "Thank you. Thank you very much."

Youth Engage in a Math Battle

The Catholic Charities Latino S.T.E.P. Up Program (Success through Education Program) hosted its first ever Math Battle competition as an innovative way for students to learn and practice math while developing critical listening skills. There were 35 participants, from grades 3 to 11, including youth from the program and children from the Astoria area. Each student received a set of math questions with the opportunity to gain points every time they answered correctly. Their points translated into paper money, which was used to purchase small bags filled with supplies such as pencils and erasers. The Latino S.T.E.P. Up Program enables children/youth and families to acquire skills and tools to fully participate in education and community life. The program also offers social services assistance.



Financial Foresight: A Lifelong Income for You



Sound financial planning is necessary for you to enjoy your retirement years.

Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens is pleased to offer its Gift Annuity program for those wishing to combine their financial and charitable objectives. You can secure additional retirement income for yourself while helping Catholic Charities to provide services for children, youth, older adults, those with developmental disabilities, and those struggling with mental illness. If you wish, payments can continue for the life of a second income recipient.

In exchange for your irrevocable gift, you will receive a lifelong income. Your rate of return depends on your age and the age of any other income recipient you name when you make the gift. Current one-life rates range between 4.0% at age 55 and 9.0% at age 90 and above. Once your annuity is established, your rate of return remains constant for life. Part of your income is tax-free and part of your gift is tax deductible.

If you would like to find out more about **gift annuities**, **leaving a gift by will**, and **other ways to give**, please complete the coupon at right and return it to:

Office of Development & Communications

Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens
191 Joralemon Street, 12th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201



For more information,
Call (718) 722-6202

Please send me more information on Gift Annuities.

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____

Best time to call: _____

E-Mail: _____

Considering a gift of: ____ cash ____ securities
(please check one)

If securities, _____ cost basis
_____ date acquired

Second income beneficiary (if any):

Name _____

Date of Birth _____



**Catholic Charities
Brooklyn and Queens**
191 Joralemon Street, 12 Fl
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Tel: 718 722 6202 | Fax: 718 722 6220

Non-Profit Org.

New York, NY



Save the Date!

**2015 Bishop's Humanitarian Award
Dinner** Wednesday, June 3, 2015
at Pier Sixty, 5:30 p.m.

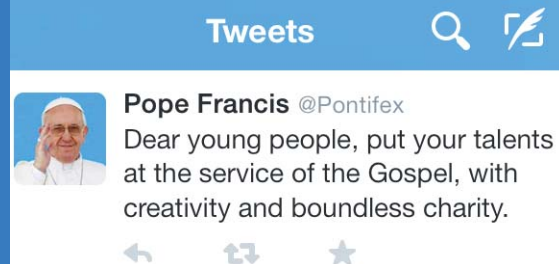
**2015 Bishop Sullivan Memorial Golf
Classic** Monday, September 28, 2015
at Sands Point Golf Club

Ticket and Sponsorship Information:

Mrs. Lucy Garrido-Mota
718-722-6211
lucy.gmota@ccbq.org

or

Mr. Jean Potvin
718-722-6024
jean.potvin@ccbq.org



Help those in need by joining the Catholic Charities
Brooklyn and Queens **Junior Board!**

Becoming a Junior Board member is a fun, participatory, and unique way to celebrate your faith and give back to your community. Through your membership and volunteer work, you make it possible for Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens to thrive. To join, please contact the Office of Development & Communications at 718-722-6211 or email lucy.gmota@ccbq.org.

Another way to support Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens: **Volunteer!** To learn about diverse volunteer opportunities and ways you can make a difference, please call 718-722-6175 or email volunteer@ccbq.org.

Follow us:



Catholic Charities
Brooklyn and Queens



@CCBplusQ



TheCCBQ



CCBplusQ