



STC Men's Club
809 Park Avenue
Collingswood, New Jersey 08108

Update from St Teresa of Calcutta Men's Club

With the coming of 2021, we wanted to give the parish an update on the St. Teresa of Calcutta Men's Club activities. The Men's Club has had a long history in addressing the parish's needs. We have been around since at least 1920 with a goal of supporting the parish. In past years, the club has been able to donate over \$10,000 to charities either within or associated with the parish. Additionally, we supported the parish's school with donations of over \$5000 each year as a result of our fundraisers.

The year 2020 was difficult for all of us. We have done our best to keep up this type of stewardship in the wake of the coronavirus and all its hardships and restrictions on our fundraising. Despite the virus, the closing of the school, and our financial limitations, we have been very active as follows:

1. **Food for front line volunteers-** We provided a breakfast for the employees of the Collingswood Manor and are planning additional meal donations for the employees of the Cathedral Kitchen and Joseph House.
2. **Hats for children stricken with cancer.** As in the past we made a delivery of sports and winter hats to the Centers for Cancer Recovery which were used by children who have lost their hair due to cancer treatments.
3. **Adopting families.** We adopted two families again for Christmas - one with ten children and one with four children. We bought presents for each of the children and delivered Christmas dinner and a plethora of gift cards for the families' assistance. We will continue to look for families we can adopt throughout the year.
4. **Parish Projects.** We continued with our Parish cleanup and painting projects. You may have seen the photos of our men most recently cleaning out the basement of McDaid Hall.
5. **Decorations for Christmas.** As we usually do each year, we helped decorate the parish for Christmas with the set up and take down of the creches and the altar Christmas trees
6. **Supporting athletics for the children of the parish.** Since we no longer have school sports teams, we are enhancing our support for parish sports teams for our children-starting with the cross-county team and then basketball teams going forward.
7. **Adorations and retreats.** We recently led one of the Advent adoration evenings for the men of the parish and are planning a virtual retreat for the men at Lent.
8. **Golf outings** We organized a smaller golf outing in September since we could not have our normal and larger May golf event. We will plan another such outing in May if we are unable to have the larger golf event again.
9. **Fundraisers.** We are now trying to support the parish financially with new and smaller fundraisers- look for our Valentine's Day raffle.

As you can see, we have been busy. An organization is only as powerful as the volunteers who support it, and we are looking for additional men in the parish to join us and for our past members to think about rejoining.

We meet the second Monday of each month at 8 PM in the Good Shepherd Cafeteria for those who feel they can come live (social distancing and with masks of course) and on Zoom at the same time. If you would like to join our group or would like more information about us, please contact: President Ed Charlton at 215-284-1365 or Vice President Josh Wiener at 609-502-3539. You can also reach us via email at stteresamensclub@yahoo.com.

Ed Charlton

Josh Wiener

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