

15th Annual Advent Alternative Gift Fair

December 1-2, 2018

**“I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land.”
-Jeremiah 33:15**

The Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent is part of Jesus’ discourse about the end of time and the Last Judgment. The vision is frightening, with signs in the sun, the moon and the sea. “That day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth.” However, already there are many in our world who face the harshness of hunger and poverty, unjust imprisonment, war and displacement, and the impact of climate change each day. We are challenged by the example of Jesus to reach out to those pushed to the margins of our societies, the addicted, the disabled, the outcast, the prisoner, those afflicted by disease, poverty, racism, sexism, (and every other “ism”) to share the blessings God intends for all God’s children. To give each of God’s children his or her rightful share of the goods created by society goes beyond mercy and does justice. This is how we become “imitators of God” (Ephesians 5:1).

Each year, the Advent Alternative Gift Fair is an opportunity for us to reach out to those on the margins through the agencies represented at the fair, agencies that strive to provide dignity and create a more just distribution of the Earth’s bounty. At the fair, you will find beautiful gifts for the holidays that also have a significant impact on someone living in poverty here and across the globe. All items sold at the fair are Fair Trade, meaning that the producer or artisan receives a just wage or price for his or her work. Or, you may make a donation in someone’s honor directly to an organization or ministry in lieu of a material gift. By “alternative” giving, we can avoid excessive holiday consumption and give a monetary gift to worthwhile organizations in our community and around the world **in honor** of our loved ones and friends.

This year we celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the Advent Alternative Gift Fair here at Immaculate Conception parish! Over the last fourteen years, we have contributed over **\$220,000** to more than **40** global and local non-profits. We are thankful for the support of so many of our parishioners and visitors who have supported the Advent Gift Fair in the past, and we thank all who support the Fair this year. As you reflect on the great gift of the incarnation this Advent, the coming of Emmanuel, “God with us,” may you discover in yourself a grateful heart that overflows into a gift that “does justice.”

WHAT IS FAIR TRADE?

In addition to honor cards, only Fair Trade items will be available at the fair. Fair Trade is much more than a fair price! Fair Trade principles include:

- *Fair price:* Democratically organized farmer groups receive a guaranteed minimum floor price and an additional premium for certified organic products.
- *Fair labor conditions:* Workers on Fair Trade farms enjoy freedom of association, safe working conditions, and living wages. Forced child labor is strictly prohibited.
- *Direct trade:* With Fair Trade, importers purchase from Fair Trade producer groups as directly as possible, eliminating unnecessary middlemen and empowering farmers to develop the business capacity necessary to compete in the global marketplace.
- *Democratic and transparent organizations:* Fair Trade farmers and farm workers decide democratically how to invest Fair Trade revenues.
- *Community development:* Fair Trade farmers and farm workers invest Fair Trade premiums in social and business development projects like scholarship programs, quality improvement trainings, and organic certification.
- *Environmental sustainability:* Harmful agrochemicals and GMOs are strictly prohibited in favor of environmentally sustainable farming methods that protect farmers' health and preserve valuable ecosystems for future generations.

WHEN AND WHERE?

The Advent Alternative Gift Fair will be held the weekend of December 1st and 2nd after each Mass in the Gathering Space of the Church.

WHAT IF I'M NOT GOING TO BE HERE DEC 1-2?

We will have a table set up in the gathering space the weekend of December 8-9. You may purchase greeting cards and/or make a contribution to one or more of the organizations on either of these weekends.

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

Make a Contribution to a Local or Global Charity

Make a direct contribution to one or more of the charitable organizations. Consider honoring someone with an “alternative” gift, given in his or her name to a charity working to alleviate poverty, sickness, illiteracy, hunger or homelessness – here or across the globe.

- At the Fair, an honor card will be provided for the recipient of your gift. The funds collected will be sent directly to the agency that you select.
- All contributions are welcome. Thank you for your generosity!

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, amounts for each and number of cards from each, then write ONE CHECK, payable to *Immaculate Conception*.

OR

Purchase a Gift

We have taken care to offer gift opportunities that support the working poor directly or through services that enhance health and quality of life. The gifts that are available for purchase have been made by organizations that assure that the dignity of the worker or farmer who produced them is paid a fair wage. These items include Fair Trade coffee and chocolate, and handmade art pieces that return a fair price to the artisans for their labor.

Thank You for Supporting the Advent Alternative Gift Fair!

Blessed “shopping!”

Around the Globe

Africa Yes! is an entirely volunteer-based organization, so all donated funds are funneled directly into project in various villages in Sierra Leone. Projects are conceived and directed by the villagers themselves, who have shown time and again that even small allocations of resources can be translated into big changes in individual lives. (Page 6)

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. (Page 7)

Heifer International helps impoverished families throughout the world feed themselves, earn income and care for their environment through gifts of farm animals. (Page 8)

Go Conscious Earth is a small 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is based in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, serving the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). (Page 9)

One Family Health works to improve access to quality essential medicines and primary healthcare services in Rwanda using a business franchise model that helps nurses become entrepreneurs. (Page 10)

One World Market is a local retail outlet supporting the work of talented artisans in over 70 countries through Fair Trade practices. (Page 11)

Raising Haiti Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable entity created in order to dramatically increase awareness of the extraordinary and unique work of Fr. Joseph Philippe and to allow US donors to receive full charitable deductions for contributing to an array of promising grassroots programs. (Page 12)

Saint Peter's Primary School, Bunyala, Kenya is a primary school that was built through the efforts of parents in the village of Bunyala. (Page 13)

Sister Communities of San Ramón, Nicaragua, promotes self-empowerment through educational, economic and social development and respect for the Earth in San Ramón, Nicaragua, one of the poorest areas in the Western Hemisphere. (Page 14)

The Mighty River Project partners with vulnerable mothers in Uganda, allowing them to provide for their families, and ultimately preventing their children from having to enter institutional care. (Page 15)

Here at Home

Communities in Schools Our mission: Surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. (Page 16)

Durham Community Land Trust is a community land trust that builds, manages, and advocates for permanent affordable housing in Durham, NC. (Page 17)

Families Moving Forward (formerly IHN) provides emergency shelter to up to 21 families at a time. Numerous community partners, including Immaculate Conception and 30 other congregations, offer hospitality and critical social support to parents and children, in FMF's two-generational approach to ending the cycle of poverty and homelessness. (Page 18)

Furniture Project of Durham provides gently used, donated furniture free of charge to individuals and families moving from homelessness to housing. (Page 19)

Habitat for Humanity is an ecumenical housing ministry that builds homes for working families in Durham whose housing is unsound, unsafe or overcrowded. (Page 20)

Immaculate Conception Community Garden is located on our campus next to the San Damiano trailer. The mission is to increase access to wholesome, home grown food to those in need, to build community through gardening and to provide education and resources for growing food organically and sustainably. (Page 21)

L'Arche North Carolina exists to envision and establish a l'Arche community in our state, with special focus on the Triangle area. (Page 22)

Our Children's Place of Coastal Horizons Center (OCP) is a statewide private nonprofit agency committed to the children of incarcerated and returning parents. (Page 23)

Urban Ministries of Durham provides emergency food, shelter, clothing and supportive services to homeless and hungry people in need. (Page 24)



Africa Yes! is a 501(c)3 founded by Steve Cameron, whose first project started as a Peace Corp volunteer in the village of Gbeworbu in 1989-1991. After the end of the civil war in Sierra Leone, he sent word to the village via co-founder and Sierra Leonean, Braima Moiwoi. In 2006 Steve reinitiated the medical project started before the war and started several more projects. Initially incorporated as The Sierra Leone Partnership Foundation (2008-2009), the organization filed for a DBA (Doing Business As) for Africa Yes!, to reflect the full aspects of the projects and organization.

Women's Health and Maternity Clinic Africa Yes! partnered with Gbeworbu to build a one-of-a-kind clinic focused on safe childbirth, women-specific care and community health. Solar Power System powers a medical refrigerator and provides electricity 24 hours a day. No more deliveries by candle-light or headlamps. As of January 2016, not a single infant mortality!

Ebola Outreach and Prevention During the recent Ebola outbreak, leaders from Gbeworbu traveled to neighboring villages, bringing supplies and information to aid in Ebola prevention. Despite the high rate of Ebola in the surrounding district, the entire chiefdom remained (and remains) free of Ebola. Africa Yes! continues to support 14 children orphaned by the Ebola crisis.

Housing Reconstruction As villagers returned to their homes after the war, they found ashes and skeletons of old lives. Africa Yes! has worked to build over 140 houses. Groups of villagers band together and decide, as a group, whose house to build. As one house is finished, the group begins to build the next member's house.

Education Through removing financial burdens, school attendance has increased by 300% in the first year!

Micro-Loan Program Using the model and training of the Grameen Foundation, the loan program provides low-interest, collateral-free loans to villagers. These loans are primarily given to women, and allow them to start small businesses and generate cash income. As loans are repaid, the funds are available for new loans, circulating back into the community. More than \$160,000 has been loaned.

Apprenticeship Program Young men in the village receive one-on-one training in carpentry, masonry, and automotive repair to provide them with marketable skills and a way to support their families beyond subsistence agriculture.

To make a tax-deductible donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, write one check directly to "**Africa Yes!**" and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to **Immaculate Conception**.



Bread For The World, founded in 1974, is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision-makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, Bread for the World's members provide help and opportunity far beyond Durham and North Carolina.

Bread for the World's *Credo* expresses well why more than 70,000 Christians throughout our nation support this advocacy work.

We are moved by God's grace in Jesus Christ to work for justice for hungry people. They may be in the next house. Or in the next country. No matter where they live, they are our neighbors. And we have the power to help. Charity alone is not enough. We must urge our government to make fair decisions so struggling families can provide for their children. We must write personal letters and emails to Congress and engage our churches, campuses and other organizations. We must change laws and structures that allow poverty to persist.

When we turn our faith into action, God uses our voices. Again and again, we win help and opportunity. Two fish become many. Five loaves become enough to feed a multitude.

God is moving in our time to end hunger, and we are part of this great liberation. It is our mission to help our neighbors. Wherever they live. They are hungry. And we are Bread for the World.

Bread for the World:

- Has a remarkable record of success in Congress, always working in bipartisan ways.
- Has helped to strengthen our national nutrition programs, assisting millions of families in this country who struggle to feed their children.
- Is focusing on developing the political will to accomplish the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which include ending hunger and malnutrition in our nation and around the world by 2030.

In 2018, our advocacy through Bread for the World helped secure passage of the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act, which ensures continuing promotion for the next five years of increasing agricultural growth in impoverished countries, increasing farmer productivity, and improved food quality for women and children around the world. The act spurs economic growth in assisted nations and improves U.S. national security.

Immaculate Conception Church has supported Bread for the World for many years. Church members annually write 200-300 letters to our U.S. Senators and Representatives because we know that the Gospel calls us to work for justice for hungry people, wherever they live.

To make a tax-deductible donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, write one check directly to "**Bread for the World Institute**" and return it at the Gift Fair. Donations to *Bread for the World*, (a 501(c)(4) organization) are not tax deductible.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to **Immaculate Conception**.

GO CONSCIOUS EARTH

Go Conscious Earth (GCE) is a small 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is based in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, serving the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). It was started by Godi Godar, a native of the DRC who has lived in Orange County since he was 21 and who now, 32 years later, guides the work of this organization that has a formal conservation concession on 1 million acres of tropical rain forest. Godi came to the USA with a Habitat for Humanity sponsor who is now helping in his heroic return to the heart of Africa with a program to help his former tribe and the surrounding communities.

Godi's father was a tribal chief in a portion of the area that is within the conservation concession, and through GCE, Godi has returned to his homeland and successfully brought together the communities around Lake Tumba into a newly created conservation district.

Within the Lake Tumba protected rainforest forest there are large communities of people living in extreme poverty. Prior to the conservation concession, when multinational companies were allowed to take over these lands for logging or farming, not only did they destroy the rainforests, but they devastated the lives of the people living there, leaving them with even fewer resources for survival. Meanwhile, in their efforts to survive, these communities often used farming and fishing methods that did further damage to the fragile equatorial ecosystems. GCE is working to reverse this exploitive model and return hope and prosperity to the people who live in these amazing forests.

So far, GCE has conserved one million acres of rainforest and constructed wells providing clean water to 22,000 people! By asking the communities what they need, GCE works with them to make that happen, completing simple projects that work. Freshwater wells, schools, health clinics, sustainable farming and fishing, and long-term income generation. As we implement our anti-poverty initiatives, we are looking to conserve another million acres in an adjacent tropical forest.

Go Conscious Earth www.gcearth.org

To make a tax-deductible donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, write one check directly to "***Go Conscious Earth***" and return it at the Gift Fair. Go Conscious Earth is a 501(c)(3) U.S. non-profit. Your donation is tax-deductible.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



Heifer International, started in 1944, has worked directly with millions of families in more than 125 countries including the United States. Heifer has affected the lives of millions more through pass-on animals and training. Heifer helps impoverished families feed themselves, earn income and care for their environment.

Take a look at the chain of events you set in motion when you “purchase” a gift animal from Heifer International:

You decide to purchase a llama in honor of your mother, who has always loved these gentle animals. Your mother receives a holiday gift card from you describing the generous contribution you’ve made in her honor. Thanks to your gift, one more family is on the road to self-reliance.

Once the family has completed training and has prepared appropriate facilities, they receive a healthy llama. Throughout the year, the llama provides soft, warm wool and the promise of new hope for this family. Each family gives one or more of its llama’s offspring to another family in need in the community. That’s part of the “Passing on the Gift” tradition that participants agree to when they become partners with Heifer. Heifer also ensures that there is a healthy male llama in the village for breeding.

The second recipient family also agrees to contribute their llama’s first offspring to a family in need – who **ALSO** agrees to pass on the gift. You can see that your gift is much more than one animal – it is the gift of hope for an entire community. Even a small gift can make a difference. Like a stone dropping into still water, your gift ripples out for years to come, ending poverty, hunger and despair for families, villages and perhaps one day, even countries.

Your contribution of:

- \$20 will buy a flock of chicks for a family in Cambodia
- \$30 will give the gift of honeybees for a family in Kosovo
- \$60 will buy a trio of rabbits for a family in China
- \$120 will buy a goat for an orphanage in Poland, a pig for a young boy in Indonesia, or a sheep for a family in Guatemala
- \$150 will buy the gift of a llama in Bolivia

To make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, write one check directly to ***“Heifer International”*** and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



One World Market on Ninth Street is Durham's only non-profit fair trade store. The store, which is mostly staffed by volunteers, features hand-made crafts and food items that support artisans and farmers in over 70 countries around the world.

One World Market works to build reciprocal relationships between individuals and communities in developed and developing worlds in order to improve the well-being of the poor, both locally and globally; to provide work with dignity so as to end the cycle of poverty; to preserve and strengthen indigenous cultural heritage, including traditional craft techniques; and to teach the community about the economic situation, daily lives, culture and traditions of people whose goods we sell.

One World Market purchases goods only from the groups that observe fair trade practices and operate with integrity and transparency. We have personally spoken with the leadership of these groups as part of our vendor screening process.

What is Fair Trade?

Fair Trade is an economic partnership based on dialogue, transparency, and respect. This system of exchange seeks to create greater equity and partnership in the international trading system by:

- Creating Opportunities for Economically and Socially Marginalized Producers
- Developing Transparent and Accountable Relationships
- Building Capacity
- Promoting Fair Trade
- Paying Promptly and Fairly
- Supporting Safe and Empowering Working Conditions
- Ensuring the Rights of Children
- Cultivating Environmental Stewardship
- Respecting Cultural Identity

Fair trade is not about charity. It is a holistic approach to trade and development that aims to alter the ways in which commerce is conducted, so that trade can empower the poorest of the poor. Fair Trade Organizations seek to create sustainable and positive change in developing and developed countries.

To learn more about Fair Trade, visit the website of the Fair Trade Federation at <http://www.fairtradefederation.org>



OneFamilyHealth
essential medicines • accessible care

Improving access to quality essential medicines and primary healthcare services in rural Rwanda

Rwanda, known as the land of a thousand hills, is a small and mountainous country in East Africa where 80% of the population lives in rural areas. Many Rwandans still have to walk hours to reach the nearest health facility, which prevents them from accessing the healthcare they need. One Family Health is solving this problem.

In 2012, One Family Health (OFH) partnered with the Government of Rwanda to begin establishing primary care clinics (Health Posts) in remote communities. Our mission is to improve access to quality essential medicines and primary healthcare services using a business franchise model that helps nurses become entrepreneurs. One Family Health supports our nurse-entrepreneurs to operate their own clinics, which prevent and treat the most common causes of community illness, such as malaria, acute respiratory infections, and diarrheal disease.

To date, **One Family Health** has opened 110 Health Posts in Rwanda, all owned and operated by local nurses. Our Health Posts have provided primary care and preventative health services to 1.6 million people, primarily women and children. The government of Rwanda has renewed our partnership through 2023 and has asked One Family Health to continue opening new clinics.

Your gift will help us support another nurse to become a business owner and to provide life-saving care to women and children in rural Rwanda. Each Health Post will be a sustainable business and will serve a community of approximately 5,000. Supporting a nurse entrepreneur to open a new Health Post costs \$6,500; our goal today is to raise \$500 to support the training costs.

One Family Health is a registered charitable entity and any donation you make is tax-deductible. Thank you for your consideration and your generosity.

To make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, write one check directly to “***One Family Health***” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



Raising Haiti Foundation

Over the past three decades, Father Joseph Philippe has been providing rural Haitians with the motivation and tools they need to create wealth in their communities and to lift themselves out of poverty. He is best known as the founder of Fonkoze, Haiti's largest micro-finance institution with 45 branches, 1,000 Haitian employees, 200,000 depositors, 62,000 loans in the hands of the poor, and millions in assets.

But even before the birth and miraculous growth of Fonkoze, Father Joseph was busy in the beloved community of his birth – Fondwa, Haiti. In 1988, Father Joseph founded the Asosyasyon Peyizan Fondwa (Association of the Peasants of Fondwa/APF Haiti) which now boasts a primary and secondary school serving some 700 students, an orphanage, a community radio station, programs in renewable energy, water purification, reforestation and agriculture and so much more. At the 200th anniversary of Haiti's independence, APF Haiti established the University of Fondwa (UNIF), Haiti's only accredited rural university.

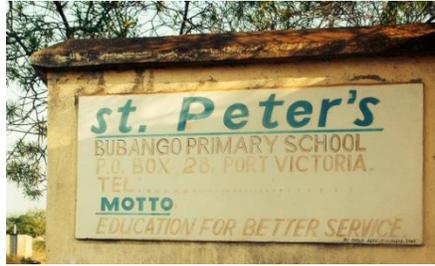
Facing what others would consider insurmountable odds, whether economic, political or environmental—including the devastating earthquake of 2010, whose epicenter was very close to Fondwa—he, together with a growing team of collaborators, has persevered, turning challenge and struggle into progress and victory.

One of the unique characteristics of Father Joseph's various undertakings has been the grassroots nature of the impulse and related processes. Far from the often-paternalistic approach taken by well-meaning NGOs, these ventures have blossomed from the ground up: undertakings by and for the very people whose lives are now being transformed.

Since the beginnings of these efforts, much assistance has flowed to these programs, whether in the form of human or financial resources, from Europe, the United States and beyond. The Raising Haiti Foundation, a 501(c)3 charitable entity has been created in order to dramatically increase awareness of this extraordinary and unique Haitian-born enterprise and to allow US donors to receive full charitable deductions for contributing to an array of promising grassroots programs.

To make a donation to only THIS ORGANIZATION, write one check directly to *"Raising Haiti Foundation"* and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write ONE check but make donations to MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to *Immaculate Conception*.



St. Peter's School, Bunyala, Kenya

St Peter's school is a primary school Grades 1 through 8 located in western region of Kenya by Lake Victoria. Like many kids living in rural areas, they face numerous barriers to accessing basic education, they are required to purchase and wear uniforms. Children who do not wear uniforms could be sent away from school at the discretion of the principal. School uniforms cost around US\$8.00 for primary school kids.

There are a number of indirect costs of education such as the cost of school uniform, books and pens and learning materials which prevent many students from attending school. Although education is theoretically free in practice parents or students are forced to pay for 'compulsory items' such as uniforms or else forfeit the education.

For 4 years through The Advent Alternative Gift Fair at Immaculate Conception Church your contribution has purchased uniforms, school shoes, sweaters for many kids. You may never meet the children but you have a strong positive impact on the kids who receive these gifts. **It's humbling to hear how appreciative the parents are, or the smiles brought to the faces of the children who get new uniforms or shoes.**

Thank you for your gift.
God Bless!

Your contribution of:

- \$12 - 15 will pay school fees for a child in lower grade 1 to 5 for a year
- \$ 25 will pay school fees for a child in middle school in grade 6 and 7 for a year
- \$50 will pay school fees for a child in 8th grade to go to school for a year
- \$8-12 will buy 1 uniform and a sweater for a little child for a year
- \$25 will buy 1 uniform and sweater for a bigger child for a year

The Goal is to keep children in school. Thank you for your contribution.

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to ***Immaculate Conception***, write ***St. Peter's School*** in the memo line, and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



Sister Communities of San Ramón, Nicaragua (SCSRN) was founded in 1993. It is a registered nonprofit organization in the state of North Carolina. Through collaboration between San Ramón, Nicaragua and its sister communities in North Carolina, SCSRN promotes sustainable, community-driven development in one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere. Ongoing programs at Sister Communities of San Ramón, Nicaragua include:

- **Los Pipitos Center for Children with Disabilities** is free and open to any child with a disability. Physical and mental illness does not receive attention in rural areas. Los Pipitos partners with a licensed physical therapist and psychologist to serve these children.
- **Rural School Partnership:** Rural schools are often overcrowded and ill equipped. Organizations, schools, clubs, offices, churches and even individuals can sponsor a Rural School with a three-year commitment of \$500 per year. This will supply the 50-70 students at an individual school with school supplies and classroom materials for the whole year!
- **Improved Wood Stoves:** The majority of Nicaraguans cook over an open fire, resulting in chronic respiratory illness, frequent burns, and deforestation. SCSRN works with community leaders to install improved wood stoves in homes that are designed to burn more efficiently, greatly reducing the amount of wood needed to cook and protecting families from smoke and high temperatures.
- **Community-based Eco-Tourism:** SCSRN offers Eco-Tours as a unique, cultural-immersion experience that allows visitors to experience the history, cuisine, music and artistic traditions of a rural mountain community in a thriving ecological paradise.
- **School construction in rural communities:** Many children are now attending school because schools are within their communities.

Your contribution of:

- \$5 will provide school supplies for one child for one year
- \$15 will provide school supplies for three children for one year
- \$75 will provide physical therapy for one month for up to 30 children
- \$1,500 will provide school supplies for an entire school for 3 years

Sister Communities of San Ramón, Nicaragua offers fair trade coffee and honey from sustainable farms, jewelry and crafts made by local artists. These items are for sale at the Alternative Gift Fair.

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to ***“Sister Communities of San Ramon, Nicaragua”*** and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



The Mighty River Project partners with vulnerable mothers in Uganda, allowing them to provide for their families, and ultimately preventing their children from having to enter institutional care. Partnering with each artisan as they create beautiful baskets, beads, or textiles, TMRP provides fair and steady monthly income, medical care, school sponsorship, and mentoring for each family.

The Mighty River Project was founded by Scott and Erin Littleton in 2011 after they lived in Uganda and recognized the need for family support within vulnerable communities. In their work in a Ugandan children's home, they saw firsthand children living in institutional care not because they were orphans, but because their parents could not provide for them. The Mighty River Project was founded in order to combat this problem, empowering mothers so that their families could be kept intact and thriving.

You can be involved by purchasing the beautiful products made by the artisans, or by making a tax-deductible donation.

A \$5 gift will send one person to a local clinic for a medical consultation.

A \$20 gift will provide the necessary shoes and socks for one child to attend school.

A \$75 donation will provide mosquito nets for an entire family joining our program.

A \$175 donation will supply a year's worth of the necessary, nutrient-dense food an HIV+ artisan needs to stay healthy.

A \$240 gift will provide the transportation necessary for our mentor, Lois, to pour into our artisans for an entire year.

A \$360 gift will sponsor one child to go to school for a year.

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to "***The Mighty River Project***" and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



Communities in Schools mission is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life.

We believe every child needs and deserves a one-on-one relationship with a caring adult, a safe place to learn and grow, a healthy start for a healthy future, a marketable skill to use upon graduation, and a chance to give back to peers and community. We champion the use of evidence-based programs, and our model is a holistic one. Within the schools we partner with, Site Coordinators, sometimes called Graduation or Success Coaches, work with teachers and administrators to identify students with the most risk of dropping out. Through ongoing evaluations and integrated services, Site Coordinators craft a plan with these students to help them achieve their utmost, setting them up for a bright future. Our Site Coordinators also make services and resources available for the whole school. Our program can be found in Eno Valley Elementary School, E.K. Powe Elementary School, Glenn Elementary School, Merrick Moore Elementary School, Shepard Middle School and The Performance Learning Center High School.

We aim to touch every facet of a child's life by also providing parent workshops on childhood development. CIS of Durham offers the Incredible Years Parent Training Series (IY), which provides much needed assistance for Durham's parents. The program's goal is to help build a foundation of support at home that provides structure, consistency and positive discipline practices, which in turn will lead to increased positive behavior. Weekly classes, led by trained facilitators, stress parenting competencies such as monitoring, positive discipline, and confidence. CIS of Durham provides childcare and meals for families participating in the program. To find out more about CIS Durham visit our website, www.cisdurham.org

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to "***Communities in Schools***" and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



Durham Community Land Trustees is a community land trust that builds, manages, and advocates for permanent affordable housing in Durham, NC. DCLT was established by neighborhood residents of the West End who demanded better housing conditions. For over 30 years, DCLT has utilized the community land trust model as a strategy for fostering long term affordability in Durham and as a barrier to gentrification. DCLT has developed 282 properties for permanent affordability in seven neighborhoods: West End, Lyon Park, Burch Avenue, Morehead Hill, Lakewood Park, East Durham and Southside. To us, there is no single issue greater than Affordable Housing.

- We are community-controlled; the majority of our boards of directors are neighbors, home owners and residents.
- We develop and manage homes for sale and for rent because our neighbors demand both.
- We build strong partnerships with the city of Durham and other nonprofits to develop special-needs rental housing that can provide safe and affordable homes to individuals living with sickle cell anemia, HIV, and mental illness. We also build affordable houses for veterans and seniors.
- We renovate abandoned houses in partnership with residents and local, regional and national organizations to create tangible, physical improvements for the community.
- We construct energy efficient homes to dramatically reduce tenants' utility bills.
- We prioritize relocating our current residents when needing to rehab their homes, and selling to our residents whenever possible.

This holiday season, DCLT is raising Renovate Not Displace funds to reconstruct an East Durham home in total disrepair.

\$50 will pay for Vapor Barriers or Foundation Vents to protect against moisture build up

\$100 will procure a Bathroom Exhaust Fan

\$160 will buy an Energy Efficient window

\$500 will secure two Exterior Doors

\$1000 will purchase Energy Efficient lighting for the whole house

\$1500 will ensure Gutters & Down Spots will redirect water flow from the house

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to ***“Durham Community Land Trustees”*** and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



Families Moving Forward offers a temporary home to families with children in the crisis of homelessness. After 21 years of working together to serve homeless families in Durham, Genesis Home and Durham Interfaith Hospitality Network merged on January 1, 2016. Our new agency, Families Moving Forward, is unique in its commitment to continuing to serve our families once they are in their own home, as well as our big focus on addressing children's needs to stop the generational cycle of poverty. The NEST is our core program, serving up to 21 families in our shelter at a time, with the goal of helping them find jobs and moving into permanent housing within 90 days. While in the NEST, families receive love and hospitality, and learn essential life skills. The Branching Out aftercare program ensures families are on track to retain their housing and employment, and work toward better jobs and/or improving education.

Volunteer support, supplementing our professional case management, is absolutely crucial to providing the best outcomes for our families. Volunteers from Immaculate Conception serve meals and provide children's programming one week each quarter. Others are involved with Study Buddies, working once a week with a school age child on their homework or another learning activity; and small groups work together to form a Circle of Support to walk with a family for a year after moving into their own home.

\$36 will provide a monthly bus pass

\$50 will provide educational games for our K-5 children

\$100 will provide a daily planner for each family that comes into FMF

\$300 will provide a used washer and dryer for a large family moving into their own home

\$500 will provide STEM software for our computer lab

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to "***Families Moving Forward***" and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



THE FURNITURE PROJECT *of Durham*

The Furniture Project of Durham is a ministry of Immaculate Conception Church which provides gently used, donated furniture to individuals who have none, and are moving from homelessness to independent housing. The program is collaborating closely with The Furniture Project of Orange County which has provided furniture to over 360 families and individuals moving from homelessness to independence.

The Furniture Project of Durham serves clients through area social service agencies such as the Interfaith Hospitality Network, the Community Empowerment Fund, Healthy Families Durham, Healing with CAARE, Just a Clean House, Housing for New Hope, and HUD Housing with Case Manager Support. The program also works with ICC staff to help our own parishioners. In the future, the Furniture Project of Durham hopes to partner with other Congregations and agencies to grow this ministry.

Our sole ongoing expense is a \$200 monthly rental fee of warehouse space. We gratefully acknowledge special warehouse space considerations given by the Regional Commerce Center, Donations by Blue Moon Estate Sales, the \$2,500 private donor gift used to purchase from the TROSA Thrift Store needed furniture not available from current inventory, the ongoing donated beds we receive from the Original Mattress Factory Warehouse, and ICC Parish and a Raleigh Diocese Endowment for the Poor grant support for our warehouse rent!

Your contribution to this ministry can fund the following needs:

- \$206 will fund one month's warehouse rent
- \$75 will help us rent a U-Haul truck if volunteers are not available
- \$60 will purchase a Kitchen Table and four chairs from TROSA or another thrift store
- \$50 will purchase a Sofa from TROSA or another thrift store
- \$40 will purchase a Dresser from a thrift store
- \$25 will purchase a Coffee Table or End Table from a thrift store

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to ***Immaculate Conception*** with ***Furniture Project*** in the memo line and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



Habitat for Humanity of Durham is a nonprofit, housing ministry that builds and repairs affordable homes. Qualified Durham neighbors achieve the dream of homeownership with zero percent interest home loans. Monthly mortgage payments of \$550 help families build long-term financial stability. Durham Habitat also helps elderly and disabled Durham neighbors who already own homes through our repairs program. Critical repairs and preventative maintenance help ensure that homeowners on a fixed income can age in place and protect their most valuable asset.

Durham Habitat is building strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter. Your donations make a tangible impact:

\$50 rings the doorbell to a new affordable home.

\$100 installs a living room window.

\$150 opens the front door to a brighter future.

\$400 turns on the lights in a beautiful three-bedroom home.

\$750 builds a front porch, perfect for rocking chairs.

\$1,000 builds a child's bedroom.

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to "***Durham Habitat for Humanity***" and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



Immaculate Conception Community Garden is now in its sixth growing season. The garden has been producing vegetables for some of our low-income parishioners, particularly those who are not eligible for Food Stamps or other public benefits. The Community Garden Committee, with help from Immaculata Catholic School, harvested over 400 pounds of produce that was distributed to food insecure parishioners last year.

The Community Garden Committee is always looking for more ways to increase the output of the garden to continue its mission to feed those who are most risk in our community. Your contributions can help with the following:

- \$5 will purchase two packages of seeds for the spring planting
- \$10 will buy a new hoe
- \$20 will purchase a lightweight hose for watering
- \$50 will replace our donated (and now broken) wheelbarrow
- \$125 will purchase enough garden soil to fill the new planting bed
- \$300 will purchase enough cedar lumber for a new garden bed.

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to ***“Immaculate Conception”*** with ***“Community Garden”*** in the memo line and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception.***



In 1964, Jean Vanier started the first L'Arche community (French for “the ark”) when he welcomed two men with intellectual disabilities into his home in Trosly-Breuil, a small town in rural France. From that humble beginning, L'Arche has grown to be an international federation of nearly 150 communities in 35 countries on five continents.

At the heart of each L'Arche community are individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. They are not clients, patients or recipients of services, but rather friends, teachers, and companions, sharing life in community with those without intellectual disabilities. Through daily acts of care, trust and friendship, all community members are ambassadors of compassion and leaders of social change and the common good.

L'Arche North Carolina exists to envision and establish a l'Arche community in our state, with special focus on the Triangle area. We seek to build relationships with those in our community who desire alternative housing for adults with intellectual disabilities, who recognize the gifts of all people, particularly those on the margins of society, and who want to journey with us as we work towards opening our first house. As a community of friendship, L'Arche NC will act as a sign of God's love for the world as we advocate for a better city and state for people with intellectual disabilities.

The Board of L'Arche NC has been working closely for several years with L'Arche USA and has been approved as a “project.” We are only a step away from the community becoming a reality! We are raising \$100,000 to help us reach the next steps on our journey. Your donation will help fund the following:

- Hiring an executive director, benefits and administrative needs
- Down payment for (or renovation of) our first house
- Hiring and training live-in assistants and our home life coordinator
- Purchasing a community vehicle
- Welcoming core members!

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to “*Friends of L'Arche, NC*” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to *Immaculate Conception*.



Our Children's Place of Coastal Horizons Center is a statewide program, based in the Triangle, that serves as North Carolina's leading advocate and educational resource focused on children of incarcerated and returning parents.

The work of Our Children's Place centers on the following:

- Educating professionals, especially those working with children, about the impacts of parental incarceration, resources that are available, how to create a more supportive environment, and more

This includes workshops for professionals working with children, such as school social workers and counselors, social services staff, and Guardian ad Litem (GAL) staff and volunteers; workshops at statewide conferences; and shorter presentations to staff and volunteers at various community organizations.

- Supporting the relationship between children and their incarcerated parents

Right now, this is being done by hosting Parent Day at some of the prison facilities, including Orange Correctional Center. There has been discussion about doing more to support children during re-entry and those with a parent in jail.

- Identifying and promoting policies, programs, and practices which improve the outcomes for these children. Many of these changes may target the entire family in order to affect the desired outcome. This is a new area for the program. It may include looking at jail and prison visitation policies, how Departments of Social Services handle supporting these relationships, whether schools provide training to their staff, and more.

Thank you for working with us to create a community where children of incarcerated and returning parents are recognized, supported rather than shamed and stigmatized, and encouraged to share their stories!

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to "***Our Children's Place of Coastal Horizons Center***" and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to ***Immaculate Conception***.



FOOD, SHELTER AND A FUTURE

Urban Ministries of Durham connects with the community to fight poverty and end homelessness by offering food, shelter and a future to neighbors in need. UMD serves over 6000 of Durham’s residents living in poverty every year. Last year, the community cafe served over 20,500 meals per month to poor and hungry neighbors. Many parishioners are deeply involved in the work of UMD. Meals for the hungry and homeless are served in the cafe one Sunday a month by our parish.

Even though most of the food served in the café is donated by the Durham community or purchased through the Food Bank, small gifts can help make a greater difference.

Your contribution of:

\$45 will pay for one night of shelter for a homeless person plus meals for a day

\$110 will provide 15 prepared meals in the Community Café to a neighbor in need

\$360 will cover groceries for 2 weeks for a family of four

If you wish to make a donation to only **THIS ORGANIZATION**, you may write one check directly to “*Urban Ministries of Durham*” and return it at the Gift Fair.

If you would like to write **ONE** check but make donations to **MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS**, use the purple form to select the organizations, specify the amounts for each organization, and number of cards from each organization, and write one check to *Immaculate Conception*.