

## Christmas 2015 Alternative Gift Giving List

*For it is in giving that we receive. —Saint Francis*

Advent is a time of quiet anticipation and hope for Christ's rebirth in our lives. Too often we turn our focus elsewhere getting caught up in frantic preparations for the secular "holiday season" while searching endlessly for gifts. While we would like it to be different, each year, for many of us, our Christmas observance is more a tribute to consumerism than to Jesus Christ.

Instead of spending too much time and money buying material items for loved ones, you can give gifts of sharing benefiting others. The following list designates organizations identified by the Social Concerns office at Blessed Sacrament who have specific needs. This method of giving provides the opportunity to sponsor services while reducing the commercialism of the Advent and Christmas seasons.

When you place an order from this list, you receive a card specifying the charitable service which you are sponsoring in honor of your loved one. Simply present the card to your loved one as your gift. Mail or deliver this form and payment (make checks payable to Blessed Sacrament) by **December 20** to: Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 3630 Quesada Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20015-2423; ATTN: Michele Bowe. Questions? Contact Michele Bowe at 301.951.6427 or [Michele.bowe@icloud.com](mailto:Michele.bowe@icloud.com).



**Spanish Catholic Center: Provides services to the immigrant community, including dental, medical, education, job training, immigration assistance and employment referrals.**

- SCC-1 One mammogram to detect breast cancer \$50
- SCC-2 One well baby exam and vaccinations \$50
- SCC-3 One pre-natal visit for expectant mothers or dental exam and cleaning \$75
- SCC-4 Tuition for pre-apprentice carpentry program; job training for the under and unemployed \$100-\$250

**Prison Outreach Ministry: Provides spiritual counseling and skill training at the D.C. jail; assists those being released from prison in making a successful transition.**

- POM-1 Fee for GED or literacy training \$50
- POM-2 Bus passes for ex-offenders to attend job interviews and training \$50
- POM-3 For needy released, a set of clothes in which to return home \$75
- POM-4 Rent subsidy so inmate incarcerated briefly won't lose apartment \$100-\$500

**Holy Family Hospital Bethlehem: Celebrate the birth of the Christ Child by offering impoverished mothers and babies quality medical care only 500 yards from his birthplace. Holy Family Hospital provides state-of-the-art health care to thousands of women, infants, and children in the Holy Land.**

- HFH-1 Medical care for expectant mother \$50
- HFH-2 Equip mobile clinic serving the poorest families in remote desert areas \$75
- HFH-3 Sponsor a day in neo-natal ICU for a preemie \$100
- HFH-4 Deliver a baby in Bethlehem \$250

**Bethlehem House: Offering our hands and sharing gifts of love, acceptance, generosity, hospitality, and spirituality create the spirit at Bethlehem House, founded by Dolores Wilson to provide a Catholic family residence for adults with intellectual and physical disabilities.**

- BH-1 Sheet set for resident \$25
- BH-2 Small house repairs for rooms of residents \$75
- BH-3 Community dinner outing \$100
- BH-4 Contribute toward new kitchen floor \$100-\$500

**Blessed Sacrament Soup Kitchen: Blessed Sacrament parishioners have been volunteering in this ministry for over 35 years. Please affirm their work by supporting them and those they serve.**

- SK-1 Contribute toward toiletries and other items to be placed in Christmas stockings for the needy \$50
- SK-2 Help feed 20 hungry, homeless people after the Christmas season is over \$75

**Father McKenna Center: Provides meals, showers, laundry facilities, counseling, support group meetings, job search assistance and a hypothermia shelter for men.**

- MC-1 Hot lunch for seven homeless men in from the cold \$50
- MC-2 Overnight shelter for three homeless men \$75



### Order Form

Item #	Description	Quantity	Price	Total
Total Enclosed:			\$	

**Please check here if you want a card:**

Your name as you wish it to appear on the card and your address (please also include your email address and phone number; this info will not be shared with the participating organization):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of the recipient if you wish your card to be personalized and sent directly to the recipient:

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