

COURIER-JOURNAL/
CATHOLIC CHARITIES
CHRISTMAS FUND
CATHOLIC CHARITIES
1150 BUFFALO ROAD
ROCHESTER NY 14624



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4 Todd is a 23-year-old man who has cerebral palsy. Todd has a hard time walking, but he's good-natured about it. "What's the use of an umbrella," he asked one rainy day, "if you can't keep yourself underneath it?" Todd is an engaging, highly motivated young man. He's new to Rochester and lives in a rough area of town because his small disability checks limit the housing possibilities. Todd says he's not scared, but he'd feel better if he could have a telephone in his studio apartment. He doesn't have the money for the telephone deposit, however, and walking to the pay phone is getting tougher and tougher.

5 Harry and Ellen are an elderly couple. Harry is wheelchair-bound, and Ellen is recovering from a serious fall. They live in a newly furnished apartment. Harry wishes he could help Ellen with household chores, and Ellen wishes she had more stamina. Now that Ellen can no longer drive, they need help getting to the grocery store. Ellen could also benefit greatly from a friendly visitor, someone "just to talk" and share the frustrations.

6 Mr. and Mrs. J., ages 70 and 80, are an elderly black couple living in a shack in a rural area. Since they own the shack, they won't move. Electricity and heating bills in the winter are very high because the shack has little insulation. Mrs. J. receives about \$200 Social Security and doesn't have Medicaid. Her medications are very expensive. Mr. J.'s Social Security check is also small, and he receives a pension of \$45 a month. Because of their high heating costs, they desperately need some extra money in order to survive the winter.

7 Mr. & Mrs. C. are a middle-aged couple with 10 children of their own and 4 grandchildren living with them. They are overwhelmed by the responsibility of caring for the children. Mr. C. is in school full-time trying to learn a skill in order to help improve his family's situation. The family is now receiving public assistance, which by no means meets all of their needs. Christmas for them will be no different from any other day—it will mean no gifts, no toys and not enough food. This family will appreciate whatever donors are able to share with them.

8 Mrs. M. is a single parent with three children, ages 13, 7 and 5. She has strong parenting skills and is an excellent homemaker, but she feels overwhelmed by her responsibilities now that the youngest child has been diagnosed with terminal cancer. The oldest boy feels lonely and neglected because family life seems to revolve around the cancer patient. The 7-year-old girl has a learning disability. This year, Christmas will seem bleak to this family unless readers reach out to share their own joy and hope.

9 Mr. and Mrs. G. have a seven-year-old son who is terminally ill. Many financial problems have arisen because of expen-

sive medications and treatment items, which are not covered by insurance. Financial help or toys would make Christmas much brighter.

10 Mr. and Mrs. T. are an elderly couple who live on a fixed income, but they are very thrifty and usually manage to meet expenses. Recently, however, both have become very ill and are not eating properly nor heating their home sufficiently because they have to spend a great deal on medication. They could use financial help and warm clothing.

11 Mrs. J. is a single mother of five children. Because of a recent work layoff and a delay in the start of unemployment benefits, she is finding it difficult to keep her growing children in clothing. She is also afraid that she will be unable to provide a happy Christmas.

12 Mr. R. is a blind man who has several major medical problems. Frequently, he must choose between buying medication or buying food. He has a cat, which is an added expense but is also his only companionship. Mr. R. would appreciate any financial or food help.

13 Mrs. H. lives in an isolated rural area. She is a widow with six children who are in constant need of clothing and shoes. She receives a small public-assistance grant, but after the rent is paid, there is little left to cover basic needs. Any gifts for the children at Christmas or financial help would be appreciated.

14 Mrs. K. recently lost her husband to cancer, leaving her alone to raise three young sons. Mrs. K. is struggling to make ends meet without her husband's income. Her sons are very polite and outgoing boys who enjoy playing with cars and trucks. A set of racing cars to open on Christmas Day would brighten their day. You could make their first Christmas without their father much happier with a surprise gift this year.

15 Mr. and Mrs. R. have three adolescent children. The family depends on the Department of Social Services for financial assistance. Two of the children are in foster care, but one has been returned to the parents. Mr. and Mrs. R. are trying very hard to keep their son with them, but it is extremely difficult for them to provide all of his needs with the little money left from their welfare allowance. This young boy is in desperate need of clothing and a good coat for the winter. Mr. and Mrs. R. can't fulfill these needs due to high cost of housing and utilities.

16 Mrs. J. and her newborn son will be alone in Rochester this Christmas. She has made great progress in fighting her drug and alcohol abuse, but still needs public assistance for herself and her son. She would greatly appreciate a Christmas basket that includes baby food.

17 T. is a single mother with three sons, one of whom is currently in foster care. She works at a laundromat part-time, in order to be able to do her own laundry and to obtain a small salary. Providing Christmas gifts for the children on this limited income will be virtually impossible. Anything you can

offer to brighten this family's Christmas will be most welcome.

18 FJ, a young girl of 16, is expecting twins any day. She is struggling to finish high school and to be a loving mother to her children. Since she has insufficient resources, she needs donations of baby clothes and baby furniture. In particular, she needs a twin stroller and good winter clothes for the babies.

19 M., an 18-year-old mother of one child, is trying to finish her education. Because of financial problems, she and her child are not going to be able to celebrate Christmas, unless they receive some kind of help.

20 P., a mother overwhelmed by caring for three little children ages 1 to 3, has a severe problem with her back. Your sharing the spirit and abundance of Christmas will bring her special happiness.

21 Mrs. W. is a single parent living with her four active children, ages two to 11. Because of her limited income, she struggles with rising food costs to provide adequately for her family.

22 Mrs. T. is a single woman who has heart problems and is unable to work. She is losing strength and is too proud to ask

for services, although she still needs financial assistance.

23 Mrs. C. has four children, ages two to 14 years. She came from Puerto Rico because one of her children has psychological problems and services for his condition were not available where she lived. Now, Mrs. C. is struggling because of unexpected emergencies. Making plans and budgeting has been very difficult for her.

24 Mr. M. is 77 years old, receives limited Social Security and is not eligible for Supplemental Security Income because he owns property on which he does not reside. Confused thinking makes it impossible for him to make appropriate decisions for his welfare. As a result, it is difficult for him to live in the community. Financial help and donations of food and clothing will be greatly appreciated.

25 Miss T. is an elderly lady, aged 88, who lives on a limited income. Her health is declining, and she is often lonely and depressed. She depends mostly on her cat, Smokey, for companionship. Miss T. remains determined to function independently in her apartment. Financial help and donations of food and clothing, with perhaps a toy for the cat, would make Christmas a special occasion for her.



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