



OFFERINGS AND OBLATIONS

THE EPISCOPAL CHARITIES APPEAL OF THE DIOCESE OF LONG ISLAND
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Now *that's* Charity!

I remember my first day as a new church developer. Wanting to get things off on the right foot, so to speak, I donned my only three-piece, winter weight Brooks Brothers suit, laced-up my Florsheim wing tips, and set about knocking on doors.

Summer in Kansas is hot. Soon I was melting. I didn't walk so much as slide from door to door. I had printed off some flyers. Each offered a depiction of an Albrecht Durer woodcut of hell. Beneath the picture I had printed a question: *'Is this what you were raised to expect from Church? If you might be interested in something more, please give me a call.'* Below that was my name and address.

The heat of the day made the picture on the flyer especially appropriate. Soon I was pushing each door bell and praying no one would answer. Each failed response hit me like a cool breeze.

I had promised myself that if I could go up one block and down the other side, knocking on every door, I could claim victory and go home. So far, so good. Three doors, no responses. God is good. Of course, things couldn't keep going my way. My peripheral vision had detected the arrival of a man in his driveway down at the end of the block.

OK. Don't panic. He's only out there to wash his car. As soon as he sees me he'll do what any sane person would do if he or she saw some guy going door-to-door, wearing a clerical collar and a three-piece suit—in summer, no less. Surely he'll find an excuse to go inside.

I took a deep breath, kept my eyes on the sidewalk in front of me, and went on to the next door. Still no response. So far, so good. The only problem was that the guy down the block wasn't leaving.

Poor guy, home from work, just wants a little peace and quiet to apply a little TLC to his vehicle, and here comes one of *those* people knocking on doors. We all know the type. Once they get started you can't get rid of them.

I thought to myself how much I hate people knocking on my door. Especially *those* people. Then it occurred to me that I had become one of *those* people. What's wrong with me? How did I get in to this?

More importantly, however, what's wrong with that guy washing his car? He can't miss me. I'm almost to his driveway and he isn't showing signs of running.

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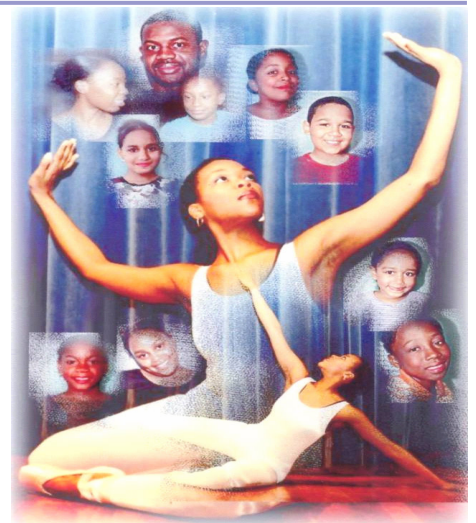
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Saint Paul's Church In the Village of Flatbush

Saint Paul's, Flatbush, offers space, money, and personnel support for its resident dance ensemble. The Ensemble continues to serve people of all ages from a diverse cultural heritage. Both liturgical and secular choreographies are presented. Now Charities is continuing its history of support of the Pauline-Brathwaite Dance Ensemble with a grant of \$4,450 to assist in the Ensemble's continuing mission of ministry through the arts.



Pauline-Brathwaite Dance Ensemble (PBDE)
Design and Photography by: Heather Patrick

Cathedral of the Incarnation Cathedral Nursery School



Part of the Cathedral's Christian Formation of Young Families Ministry and a well-established outreach ministry to the community, The Cathedral Nursery School is the recipient of a \$10,000 Charities grant.

The money will be used to make renovations so that rooms in a new facility are age-appropriate and up to code.

Cathedral Nursery School was established in 1969 by the Cathedral Women. The school has grown to accommodate 230 two-, three-, and four-year-olds from surrounding communities, all housed in Cathedral House.

The age and condition of its current quarters, however, have made it necessary for the School to find a new setting.

Fortunately, the Village of Garden City has agreed to lease suitable facilities. Charities is proud to assist Cathedral Nursery School in providing a safe, healthy Christian-nurturing environment for children.

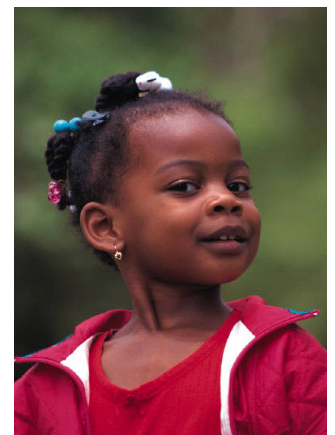
Saint Elizabeth's Friary, Brooklyn The Steve Biko Family Life Center

The Steve Biko Family Life Center is at the core of the Friary's ministry to the Bushwick section of Brooklyn. The neighborhood has some of the highest unemployment and lowest household incomes in New York City.

The Center provides a place for the neighbors to gather and build trust and social capital. Children spend their time after school and during the summer off the streets and away from television.

The Center is over a year old and serves over 25 families, including over 40 children. The primary goal of the Biko Center is to improve the lives of children, which requires improving the lives of the adults with whom the children interact.

Recognizing that Long Island Episcopalians seek to support programming precisely of this nature, the Charities Board has followed up its \$10,000 grant to the Friary in 2001 with an additional \$5,000 in 2002, along with an additional \$5,000 contingency fund.



Saint James Church, Brookhaven *Eastern Farm Workers Association*



Eastern Farm Workers Association was founded in 1972 by migrant and seasonal farm workers and other low-income working families in Suffolk County. The Association offers a self-help organization to address survival needs and longer term solutions to poverty,

St. James's Church, Brookhaven, has supported the Association for several years with gifts of money, food, clothing, and space allocation.

Father David Plank approached Charities for assistance in supporting the Association through purchase of a used van. The Van will help transport members to meetings and medical appointments, make food deliveries, as well as assist in the distribution of clothing and furniture. On behalf of Long Island Episcopalians, Charities responded with a grant for \$10,000.

Saint Peter's Church, Bay Shore *The Farm at Saint Peter's*

A community-supported agriculture model involves a partnership of mutual commitment between a farm and a community of supporters. Saint Peter's, Bayshore, adopted this model in developing the property behind its rectory. Supporters take responsibility for the costs and labor and in return share in the harvest.

Saint Peter's sponsors a Food Pantry and Sunday Sandwich Program that directly will benefit from the farm's produce. Ten families have agreed to serve as core participants in the farm. In doing so, they seek to create a sustainable relationship with the land, exploring new relationships with each other, and sharing their bounty with those in need. On behalf of Long Island Episcopalians, Charities has granted \$2,500 to the Farm at Saint Peters.



Saint Thomas Church, Farmingdale *Farmingdale Interfaith Adult Day Care Center*



The Farmingdale Adult Day Care Center opened April 8, 1996. It is a collaborative effort between St. Thomas's Episcopal Church, St. Kilian Roman Catholic Church, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, the Farmingdale United Methodist Church, and the Farmingdale Jewish Center.

The objective is to provide clientele with a pleasant day filled with socialization and stimulation in a caring environment. The Center also doubles as a way to provide respite for family and caregivers. Information and referrals are offered for long-term home health care and nursing homes if needed.

Through Charities, Long Island Episcopalians can be proud to have supported the Center with a \$10,000 grant.



EPISCOPAL CHARITIES APPEAL

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN BROOKLYN QUEENS NASSAU SUFFOLK

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NO GIFTS TO EPISCOPAL CHARITIES ARE USED TO PAY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.

Please remember!

Human need takes no vacation. Please consider adding an item to your summer to-do list: 'send a gift to Episcopal Charities.'

While we bask in the warmth of the sun, others can bask in the warmth of God's love as it is known through your generosity. We've included the enclosed envelope so that you can mail your gift today.

God bless you!



Now that's Charity!

(Continued from page 1)

Oh no. Maybe he's one of *those* people, at home taking a break from knocking on doors himself! Worse yet, maybe he's just waiting to share a piece of his mind with one of *those* people. Either way, it's not good.

With that, I was upon him. He glanced up from his bucket, dropped his sponge into the soapy water, put his hands on his hips, stepped back and looked me up and down.

I stammered, 'Hi, we're starting a new church up at the elementary school and, well, I'm just out meeting our new neighbors.' I handed him a flyer.

He examined it for a moment. Long pause. He said 'You're not from around here, are you?'

'No,' I gulped.

With that he smiled. He ventured that he and his family were not church goers but that his brother was a Lutheran pastor.

Then he did something I'll never forget. He reached over and gently took me by the arm and said 'Come on, let me introduce you to my neighbors.'

And with that, he walked me door-to-door, the rest of his block, across the street, and up the next. Every knock got a response.

Each time he took a flyer from me, handed it to a neighbor and said, 'This is Mark, he's starting a new church up at the elementary school and I thought I'd introduce him to some of his new neighbors.'

There is a moral to this true story. Charity is more than money. It's a way of life. It's a power that lies at our fingertips every moment of the day.

When we exercise charity, we are most like our Father in heaven. When we exercise charity, we change the world for the better, and our Father is well pleased.

Starting today, let's practice exercising that power.

Have a terrific summer!

Yours in charity,

The Reverend Mark Clevenger
Executive Director
Episcopal Charities of Long Island