



CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY
OF MONTEREY BAY
WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

Service to Children, for Love of the Christ Child









Greetings!

“When you create a difference in someone's life, you not only impact their life, you impact everyone influenced by them throughout their lifetime. No act is too small. One by one, this is how to make an ocean rise.” "Ripples" by Danielle Doby

This quote was sent out from National Christ Child Society. It really resonated with me. To think that we, as members of CCSMB, not only impact the children and mothers we serve, but that can impact everyone influenced by them throughout their lifetime. That is powerful to think about!

And powerful to see! Just look above at some recent photos of families we have assisted and read more about how we're making a difference in Buncle Chair Dee Rasco's article below . . .

2026 looks to be a very exciting year! First, as you can see in the below pictures, we held our fourth annual New Member Reception last Sunday where new members and chapter leaders get to know one another and share about our organization. Thanks to Membership Chair Jalyne Redman for putting on this event. And welcome to the eight new members who have joined us since Shower of Love 2025:

Rita Flores
Angie Gladstone
Maria James
Lisa Lavagino
Phyllis Nicholas
Mimi Schwertfeger
Zoe Sippel
Diane Trompeter

Most importantly, this year is the 10th Anniversary of the Christ Child Society of Monterey Bay! Anne Kelley and our founding members had an idea to start a chapter here in Monterey and look at how we have grown!! We will be celebrating this with several events throughout the year. We encourage you to get involved in helping us plan these special events--no contribution of your time is too small and I guarantee it will be fun. Our planning begins this month, so please sign up [HERE](#) to help plan the year; we hope all members will be involved in some way with this celebration . . .

Finally, our **Annual Meeting** will be **Saturday, April 18 at St. Angela Merici starting at 10:30 a.m.**, with our officer elections, continuing with a Mass from 11-12 followed by lunch and the meeting. It is always a wonderful time to come together and celebrate all the wonderful things we have accomplished. **SAVE THE DATE!**

We look forward to celebrating all that we have accomplished together in the last 10 years and what is to come for CCSMB.

With love and many thanks,
Kathy Gibbs, Co-President





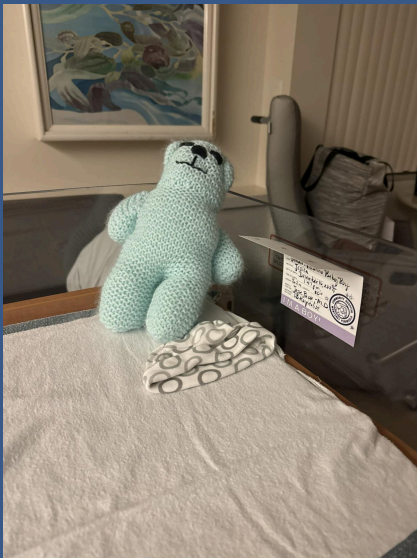


Bundles Update

by Dee Rasco, Baby Bundles Chair



As many of you know, we don't often have pictures of the children and families we serve that we can share with our membership. Dignity and privacy are important and so it is a special bonus when we can take or receive photos that we have permission to share in this newsletter. But nothing is more personal and brings home the importance of what we do than seeing a baby in our of their cute outfits or wrapped in one of our blankets.



So I thought I'd tell you a little bit about the babies and parents in the recent photos above Kathy's letter to make what our volunteers do all year long just a little bit more personal.

The first photo is of a military mom whose husband was assigned to DLI and had to move here quickly within weeks of giving birth. She had nothing for the baby and the day was approaching, so she reached out to us on our website. We provided her with a baby bundle which you can see she loved, especially the "Jay Bear", which she took to the hospital when she delivered her sweet baby son.

The two parents in the picture with the car seat were the first recipients of a bundle and car seat from us through our newest partner Parents as Teachers (more commonly known as "P.A.T"), which provides support and training to low income families in Castroville. The mother to be and father were thrilled to receive the bundle and the car seat--because she was due in a matter of days!

The darling infant in the pink outfit was born to a resident at Genesis House, another of our partners which provides residential drug and alcohol rehab in Seaside. Her mother was most appreciative of our baby bundle as she had almost nothing for her baby.

Thank you to everyone involved in the bundle program--which is pretty much all of you. The beautiful handmade items, the generous donations--including car seats--and the

beautiful packing you all do every month all transmit our collective love to these infants and families. What a privilege and joy it is to be a part of this important work begun so long ago in 1887 by our founder Mary Virginia Merrick!

Volunteering and Social Opportunities



Walking Group Outing Saturday, February 7 10:00 a.m.

We will meet at the foot of the Mission Trail across the street from the Carmel Mission Basilica and loop around Carmel-by-the-Sea. Make sure to bring your water bottles!

Let Lydia know if you're coming



Christ Child Prayer Group Tuesday, February 10 at 5:45 pm The Marsh Building 700 Camino El Estero, Monterey

As usual, the evening will consist of one hour of praying together in one accord with gratitude, thanksgiving and intercessory prayer. We will end promptly at 7:00 p.m.

If you have prayer requests please send them to Mary and please RSVP if you plan to attend, using the button below.

Please enter the building on the backside off of Cortes St., which intersects the Marsh

Building and the San Carlos Cathedral complex. The octagon-shaped front door is located between two Asian pillars; please ring the doorbell, and you will be joyfully greeted.

Let Mary know you're coming and/or your prayer intentions

Yarns & Stitches Wednesday February 11 and 25 10:30-noon

As usual, we meet in St. Angela's Small Hall in Pacific Grove.

Contact Joan with any questions



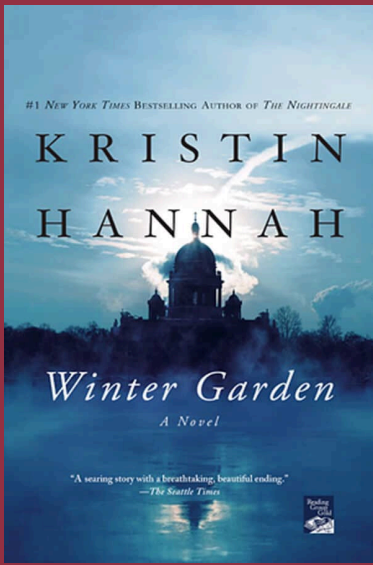
Help Pack Baby Bundles Wednesday, February 18 1:00-3:00 p.m.

We will Pack bundles together on the second floor of the Victorian House at St. Angela Merici Church

And the **February Donation of the Month** is: "**BONUS ITEMS**" for our bundles, like pacifiers, rattles, spoons, comb & brush sets, etc.

Please drop these off at the St. Angela Merici parish office in Pacific Grove on 9th Street across the street from the church between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. **Thanks for thinking of us!**

To pack or with questions, contact
Dee



Book Club Dinner
Wednesday February 25
5:30 p.m. at Lugano's at the
Barnyard

This month we will discuss "*Winter Garden*" by Kristin Hannah.

Join us for a fun discussion and good meal. Remember to bring cash to pay your portion of the bill and to RSVP below.



LET LINDA KNOW

Final reminder that 2026 dues are "overdue".

Please pay your dues on the website or send a check to the P.O. Box listed below . . .

Membership
Dues



Our January Birthdays!

Patricia Boitano (2/2)
Barb Haiduck (2/2)
Jalynne Redman (2/2)
Diana Cryan (2/5)
Kiley Gibbs 2/16
Dr. Alfred Forrest (2/28)

Check out our 2026 Calendar
[HERE](#)



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