

#### Service To Children, For Love of The Christ Child



Hello Anne,

"When I read 'She wrapped him in swaddling clothes,' I longed to do the same, and He Himself taught me that I might still do so in the person of His poor, and a great desire was born within me to go out and find the poor that I might find Him." Mary Virginia Merrick, Servant of God and Christ Child Society Founder

**Shower of Love** is only **TWO** days away! Stop by this Saturday at Carmel Mission's MacMahon Center between 10 and noon with friends and/or spouse and connect with other members, all while enjoying baked goods or sipping something warm. Your loving presence and in-kind donations will go a long way to supporting the children in our area who really need our help.

In October, we wrapped up our month-long National "Day" of Service at Santa Catalina. Thanks to VP Kathy Gibbs, Ibi Murphy of Santa Catalina School and many generous Santa Catalina School families, we collected an astounding 452 board books over the course of the month. It didn't stop there: check out below some of the bookmarks the Catalina students created to include inside the books in our baby bundles. This is such a personal and lovely touch to welcome a Christ child into this world.

November is the month we highlight giving thanks. At Thanksgiving, we gather with friends and family to share in our blessings, including this beautiful area we call home. We are so very grateful for your support and compassion, opening your hearts and giving hope, love and light to all the little children in our community. Personally, I am also thankful for your friendship, our Board who keep our chapter running smoothly and for enabling the Christ Child mission to fill my soul. Our founder Mary Virginia Merrick believed "find a need and fill it."

Our founder's birthday is today, November 2nd. In celebration of Mary and in name of the Christ Child spirit, just last year, the National Christ Child Society volunteered 308,417 total volunteer hours, served 87,980 children, impacted 43,159 families and distributed 22,468 baby bundles. Our small chapter contributed more than 3,000 of those hours, and is on track this year to have served more than 500 children through our various programs, thanks to your efforts. Thank you so much for all that you have done in 2023!

I wish you a very happy and healthy Thanksgiving!

With gratitude,

Sarah Hills, President







### **SEE YOU SOON!**

# Shower of Love





We hope you'll join us on

# Saturday, November 4th 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Carmel Mission | MacMahon Center 3080 Rio Road, Carmel

for a baby shower to benefit local under-resourced infants served by the Christ Child Society of Monterey Bay. Get more info:

www.christchildmontereybay.org/event-details/Shower-of-Love





November 1 is "opening day" for payment of your 2024 annual membership dues--which are "due" no later than January 31, 2024. The amount for an individual is \$50 and for a couple is \$80. \$40 of each person's dues is paid to the National Christ Child Society to support that organization, which in turn benefits our chapter with grants, education and assistance. The remainder supports our limited administrative costs, including the roster, our e-newsletter subscription and the website.

We will be ready to take your dues payments by credit card or check at Shower of Love--and feel free to add a year end donation of any size! We will also have envelopes at the Shower of Love to help you return a check by mail. But the easiest way to pay your dues or make a donation is online on our Donations page: **CLICK HERE** and scroll down to the bottom of the Donations page to pay.

#### **Volunteering and Social Opportunities**

Yarns & Stitches November 1, 15 & 29 10:30-noon

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

Contact Joan with any questions





## Pack or Deliver Baby Bundles

We pack and deliver bundles at the end of the month.

To help, contact Rita

#### Walking Group Saturday, November 18 at 10:00 a.m.

We'll meet at the Garland Park parking lot and walk the "loop" there. Let's hope for another sunny day and lovely time together. Make sure to bring your water . . .

Let Nanci know you're



#### **Literacy Craftorama**

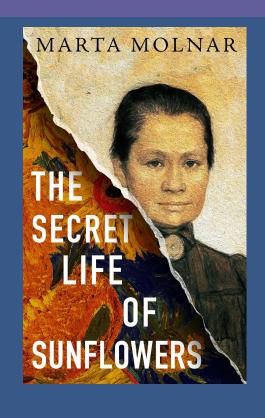
Thursday, November 16 at 5:30 p.m. St. Angela's Small Hall

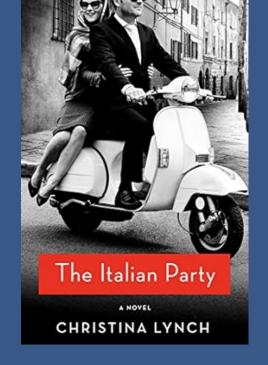
We will be preparing the crafts for the book "Snowy Day" for our year end lessons at this month's Craftorama. Many hands make light work--join us!

Let Ann know you're coming . . .



#### Special Double Book Club Meeting November 15 at 6 p.m. at Mission Ranch in Carmel







Join the Book Club on November 15 for a Book Club dinner at our usual time of 6 p.m. at the **Mission Ranch** in Carmel to discuss these two fun and fascinating books . . .

RSVP to Linda by November 7

Erlinda Franklin (11/1)

MARY VIRGINIA

MERRICK, Servant of God

(11/2)

Joanne Ablan (11/4)

Paula Browning (11/6)



Mary Fritsch (11/9)

**Joan Hill (11/28)** 

Grace Gambucci (11/29)



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