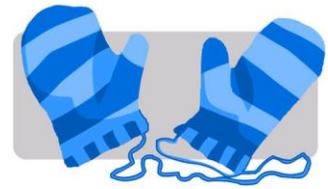


# ***Beth Katsaros Winter Coat Drive***

## ***– November 24, 2019***



As we have our first day of snow and slush, we're reminded of those for whom winter weather is especially difficult –even life-threatening.

As your family pulls out the winter wear and realizes some of it won't be worn this season, please remember our Winter Coat Drive. We will be hosting our Drive on November 24 so that the recipient organizations can get the donations into the hands of those who need them before the weather gets too treacherous.

On November 24th, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., families are asked to donate coats, mittens, scarves and boots for the benefit of the families of needy families in the Chicago area. If you can assist us in any way, please email Beth Marek, the Director of Outreach, at [elizabethm@oldstpats.org](mailto:elizabethm@oldstpats.org).

This clothing drive is named in memory of Beth Katsaros, a champion of the less fortunate.

The Katsaros Family joined the OSP community in 1987. Beth, her husband Peter, and children Sarah, Matt, and Kathryn, as was their way in many aspects of their lives, became active participants immediately. They became involved in helping at the Block Party, in the FXW School, the Celebration of Life, and Clothing Drives, to name just a few of their commitments. Beth was one of the original Family Advisory Board members, responsible for creating faith opportunities for the families of Old St. Patrick's Church. She served in this capacity until 1999.

Throughout her life, Beth was committed to non-for-profit work, education, and public housing. Upon learning of the assassination of a school-aged child from Cabrini Green who was on his way to school, Beth made it a point of going to see the principal of that school -- Sojourner Truth. They established a close relationship, and it became Beth's mission to help out the school in whatever way she could. She began by raising money for their Drum Corps which desperately needed uniforms and instruments. Appealing to the OSP community, Beth was able to raise the needed monies and eventually bring the students here to gift us with their music during mass. Soon afterwards, Beth and Dee Leonard began collecting coats and winter clothing for the Sojourner Truth School families. Beth's efforts to help those in need continue to this day.

She departed this life January 20, 2001.

Beth's passion, service, and activism live on in so many, many different ways. Unfortunately the Sojourner Truth School is now closed, but the need for winter coats extends throughout Chicagoland, and we will continue to donate to them in Beth's honor.

*Please look through your closets to see if you might have any winter coats, boots, etc. which you might be able to share. Collections will be taken on **November 24<sup>th</sup> ONLY** in the FXW School Cafeteria.*

***In addition to needing those who can donate clothing, we also need people to help sort and deliver the donations. Families and children of all ages are welcome! Sorting will probably continue until 1:00pm. Please sign up to help by emailing Beth Marek at [elizabethm@oldstpats.org](mailto:elizabethm@oldstpats.org). Please contact Beth Marek with any questions.***

*Many thanks for your generosity and for helping to continue Beth Katsaros's mission to share life and love, remembering that "family" extends beyond the people living within our own four walls.*

