

# Mercy Seekers

“... Go and find out the meaning of mercy.” Mt. 9:13

March 2019 • Volume 268



## Mary's Mercy Center, Inc.

Mary's Table • Veronica's Home of Mercy  
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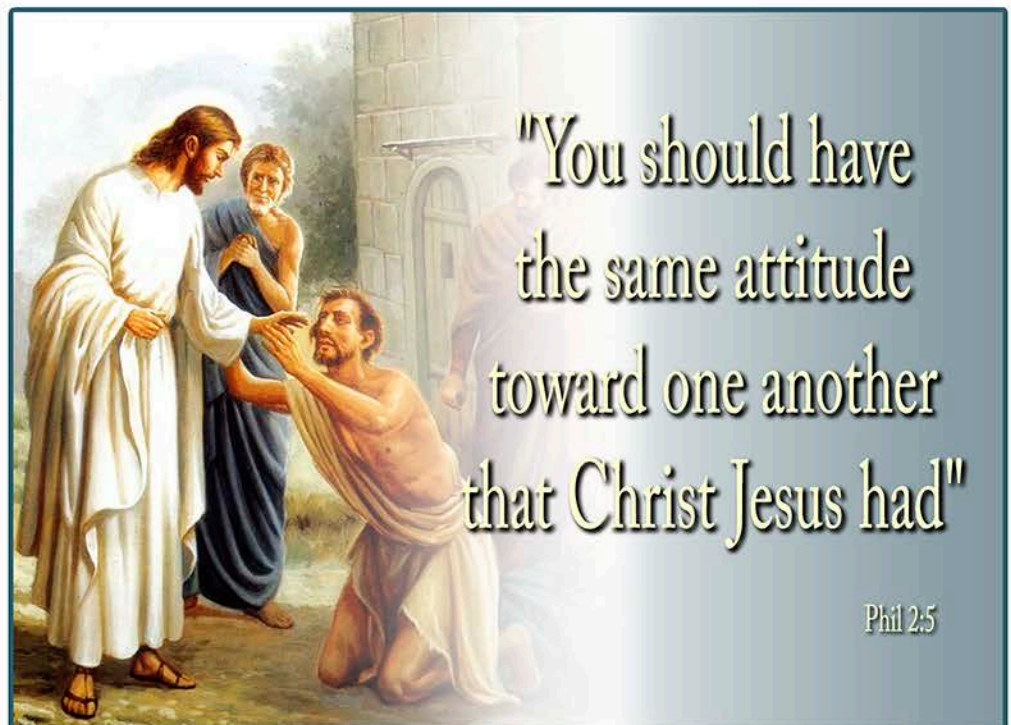
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## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR FATHER MICHAEL BARRY, SS.CC.

As the New Republic was being formed in 1776, the noted philosopher Montaigne said that everybody had a plan for the New Republic. It is much the same today as we try to resolve the problems of the poor and the homeless. Some say that we should appropriate more monies. Others say that we should provide shelter. Still others say that they should get jobs. The NIMBY concept is very present which says 'not in my backyard.' There is definitely separation between us and them. Any and every approach must include the Creator. God created them as our brothers and sisters. We need somehow or other to approach them as Jesus did because He called them "Blessed". The poor and homeless are people too. We have learned a lot of helpful approaches at Mary's Table. One is that we welcome them; we treat them well; they have a dignity as God's creation; feeding and housing them is only a beginning; they need to be encouraged and not pitied or even separated from the rest of the so called normal people. So often they are more normal. At Mary's Table I am daily greeted with a 'good morning' or 'how are you' or 'can I help you' and always a sincere 'thank you.' When God created He saw that all was good. So often the poor and the homeless do more for us than we do for them. "Because you did it to the least of my brothers and sisters you did it to me"

- *Father Mike*







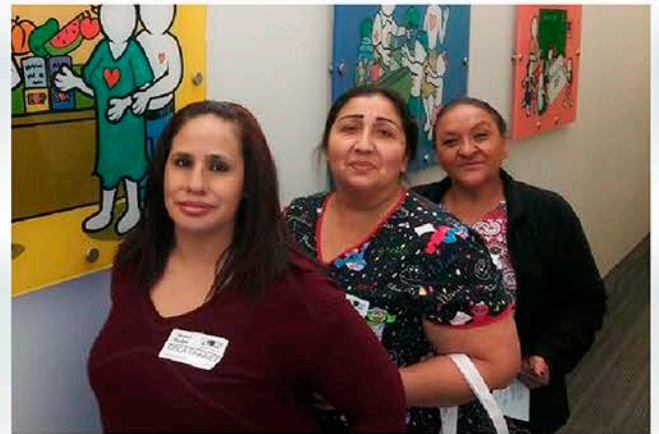
## Dignity Health.



We are grateful to Dignity Health for the affirmation of our Veronica's Home of Mercy. It is through their Community Grants that Dignity Health partners with non-profits working to improve the quality of life for the poor and suffering. These Community Grants are funded by contributions from their member hospitals. Fr. Barry and, director of Veronica's Home of Mercy, Debra Olguin attended a luncheon to accept the grant.

## Networking & Inspiration

Members from our Veronica's Home of Mercy staff attended an IEHP Community Partner Network Meeting. More than 80 community-based agencies from the Inland Empire attended. More than lunch and talks by guest speakers, it was opportunity to learn about other agencies in our community, to network, and raise awareness of our homes and the hope given to our residents.



## We Find Kind

thank Gabriella Torres and students from the Find Kind Club of Canyon Hills Junior High in Chino Hills. They came out on a Saturday to spend time with the children of Veronica's Home of Mercy to teach the children how to craft. The club brought materials and enthusiasm to help each child make their own rosaries.







Valentine's Day fell on one of our giveaway Thursdays. We were able to make it special with candy, hats and hygiene kits. We thank God because these items come in randomly and, it seems, just when they are needed.



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY  
School of Nursing

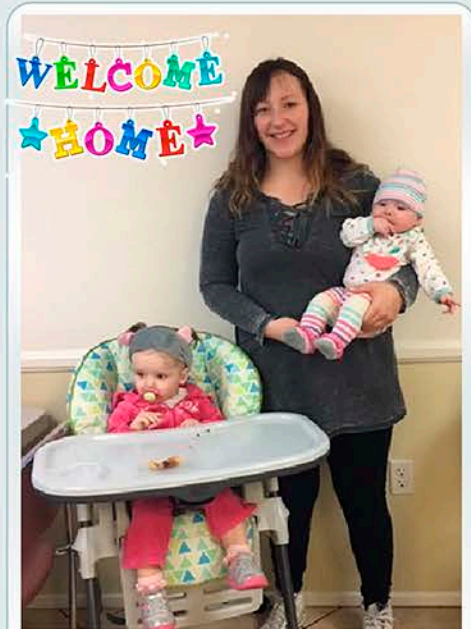
Thank you Loma Linda University School of Nursing! We are blessed to have such high caliber students help our guests with health screenings. Blood pressure and blood sugar checks are the mainstays but so often the students provide education and encouragement to our guests. You make a difference, thank you.

## Something to pray over

Being homeless is difficult even in fair weather. These past weeks we've had record rains and temperatures that have been near and sometimes below freezing. Understandably the number of calls we receive for shelter is up significantly. The most difficult to field are the calls involving children or the elderly. Let us pray for God's mercy. That in His wisdom there would be provision for and lessened suffering for our homeless.



God, whose love for mankind was made known in the life of Your son, Jesus. His earthly life began in the poverty of a stable and ended in the pain and isolation of the cross. We pray those who are homeless and cold especially in the bitter winter weather. We pray for all those suffering and sleeping on the streets, especially Father for children, who are vulnerable and the elderly who are frail. Father make a way for them, draw them near, and comfort them in spirit. Empower and embolden the missions that bring Your love to them. **AMEN**



We welcome our new residents: Jessica, Mom, with Evelee and Ivorie



# Mary's Mercy Center

PO Box 7563  
San Bernardino, CA 92411

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SAN BERNARDINO, CA  
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We are a non-profit public benefit corporation and organized exclusively for charitable, religious and educational purposes.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Veronica's Home of Mercy is funded in part by Arrowhead United Way



Did You  
KNOW



In January 2019 Mary's Mercy Center through its Mary's Table and Mary's Children provided the following services;

Meals served: **6017 (includes lunches for parolees)**

Food Bags: **564 (over 4 Wednesdays)**

Showers (including a change of clothes): **401**

Hygiene kits: **364 plus 162 shaving kits**

Hair Cuts: **17**

Clothing (2-4 outfits and shoes): **186 of which 161 were for extreme emergencies.**

Thursday Giveaway: **475 individuals & families**

Children's Program: **28 families' needs were met.** We were able to help these families with a crib, two bassinets, four strollers, six car seats, 16 baby blankets and over 300 pounds of clothes.

We were also able to help families with two twin beds with mattresses, a dresser, an end table and a microwave. Did you notice? Thanks to your generosity we have expanded our Thursday giveaway to include Tuesdays!

THANK YOU - what we are able to do is possible because of you!

LENT IS A  
JOURNEY

"...what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?"

Mt 6:8