

Service Commission Report  
January 2017

Happy New Year to you all.

I hope you all had a blessed Christmas season. It is such a joyful time. People everywhere are spreading love and joy to family and friends and those less fortunate. We all seem to have a spirit of charitable giving unlike any other time of year.

We serve the homeless and hungry at soup kitchens, we hold coat drives for the cold, we fill the shelves of food pantries for the needy and we provide Christmas to families in need. But as we know, Christmas giving usually wanes during the rest of the year, although the organizations we serve still have tremendous need year round. I challenge all of us to extend our generosity in some way each month throughout the coming year.

Serving others doesn't have to be hard - if we do all things with love, then serving others will be a JOYFUL experience.

I would like to give an update on the FILL THE BOX FEED A CHILD. I hope that each deanery and parish has had a chance to kick off this service campaign. To date I have received 2 boxes. Our goal is 150 boxes filled to help feed the hungry children of Utah. If donations are being made to local food pantries in your cities please keep me updated and also let Angela know so we can put it on the website and track our progress. It takes each of us doing a small part to achieve our goal. I'm hopeful that the ripple effect of adding a few items to our grocery list each month to help children with food insecurities will bring JOY to their lives and JOY in our hearts.

I am also excited to share with you the service speakers for the upcoming convention. James and Karyn Anderson will be sharing their uplifting experiences as international humanitarian workers serving in the countries of Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, and Iraq. James was in commercial banking for 45 years and Karyn is a registered nurse, who has traveled internationally with the facial cranial team. They have worked closely with many relief agencies in their service work, including Catholic Relief Services, the Red Cross, and many religious congregations. Their hearts are full with experiences that they so willingly will share with us. We are honored to have them join our convention.