

LIVES



FOR GOD



CHANGING



IN CHRIST

2011 ALTERNATIVE GIVING MARKET
CHRISTMAS CATALOG
THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

THE BODY OF CHRIST

The Body of Christ, N. A Christian church.

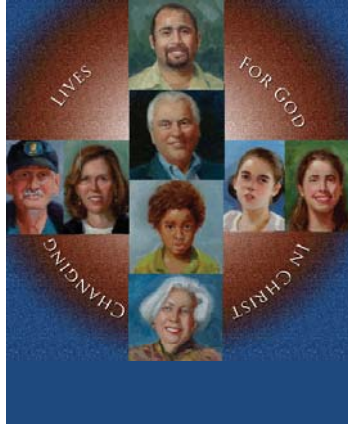
In everything we do; we embody Christ to the world. These faces represent us, the body of Christ at St. John the Divine, called to serve and minister to Houston and the world for Christ.

“The community of believers in which Christ is the head.” (1 Cor 12:27)

During this holy season when commercialism often obscures the true meaning of our Lord’s birth, consider skipping gifts that are one more “thing” in the pile of “things.” Instead give the gifts He gave - food for the hungry, community for the abandoned, dignity for the dispossessed. This catalog contains the gifts of hope, love, joy, and peace. They are the perfect gifts for everyone you know, from your teacher to your hard to buy for father-in-law. These are the gifts your loved ones will treasure and that will change lives for God in Christ.

*The portraits on the cover, painted by Joan Breckwoldt, are part of a 24-painting project titled, **The Body of Christ**. To learn more about this project, or about Joan’s work, go to www.joanbreckwoldt.com.*

AGM CHRISTMAS CARD



For only \$1 you can purchase a beautiful Christmas card announcing your gift.

The card describes the gift you have selected and the ministry that will receive it.

Example of inside message:

*In celebration of the Christ child's birth,
A gift to
Help buy property in the neighborhood
Was given to
Agape Development Ministries
By*

HOW TO ORDER

- Choose the items you wish to give by looking through the catalog or visiting the market tables in Sumners Hall December 4, 11, and 18.
- Complete the order form. Decide how many gift cards you need and include \$1 per card in your order.
- Turn in your order, along with payment, at the market tables in Sumners Hall or in a sealed envelope marked "AGM" at the reception desk. You can also e-mail your order with credit card information to Jenni Jensen, outreach@sjd.org, or order online at www.sjd.org.
- If you turn in your order in Sumners Hall when the market tables are open, you will receive your gift cards at that time. All other gift cards will be available for pick-up in Sumners Hall the Sunday after the order is received. (Deadline: 10:00 am Friday)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OUR COMMUNITY

Agape Development Ministries	5
Yellowstone Academy	6
The Guild Shop.....	7
Life/Houston.....	8
Life House of Houston	9
Nehemiah Center	10
The Beacon Day Center.....	11

AROUND THE WORLD

Crossway and Higher Ground Ministries.....	12
Five Talents International.....	13
Haiti Education Foundation	14
Mustard Seed Project.....	15
New Life School.....	16
Orphan Cry	17

“St. John the Divine is my family and my second home. Everything I do with SJD is out of love and being part of our church.” Scout Wingate

AGAPE DEVELOPMENT MINISTRIES



Agape Development Ministries is working to transform one of Houston’s poorest neighborhoods from the inside out, empowering the community for sustainability rather than dependency. Agape was founded by St. John the Divine members Kirk and Amanda Craig.

GIVE

\$10 SNACKS FOR BACKYARD BIBLE CLUB

\$50 SEND A YOUNG ADULT TO A RETREAT

\$100 HELP RENOVATE A BUILDING FOR PROGRAM AND OFFICE SPACE

YELLOWSTONE ACADEMY



Yellowstone Academy was formed in July 2001 for the purpose of establishing a PreK 3 through 8th grade private Christian school that would equip children in Houston's poorest neighborhoods with the academic, social, practical, and spiritual foundation they need to break the cycle of generational poverty. This year, we celebrate our 10th Anniversary and our first 8th grade graduating class. With continued support, our children will continue to succeed. The best is yet to come!

GIVE

\$25 SUPPORT THE SCOUTING PROGRAM

\$50 PURCHASE MIDDLE SCHOOL UNIFORMS/EQUIPMENT

\$100 FEED ONE STUDENT TWO MEALS A DAY FOR ONE MONTH

THE GUILD SHOP



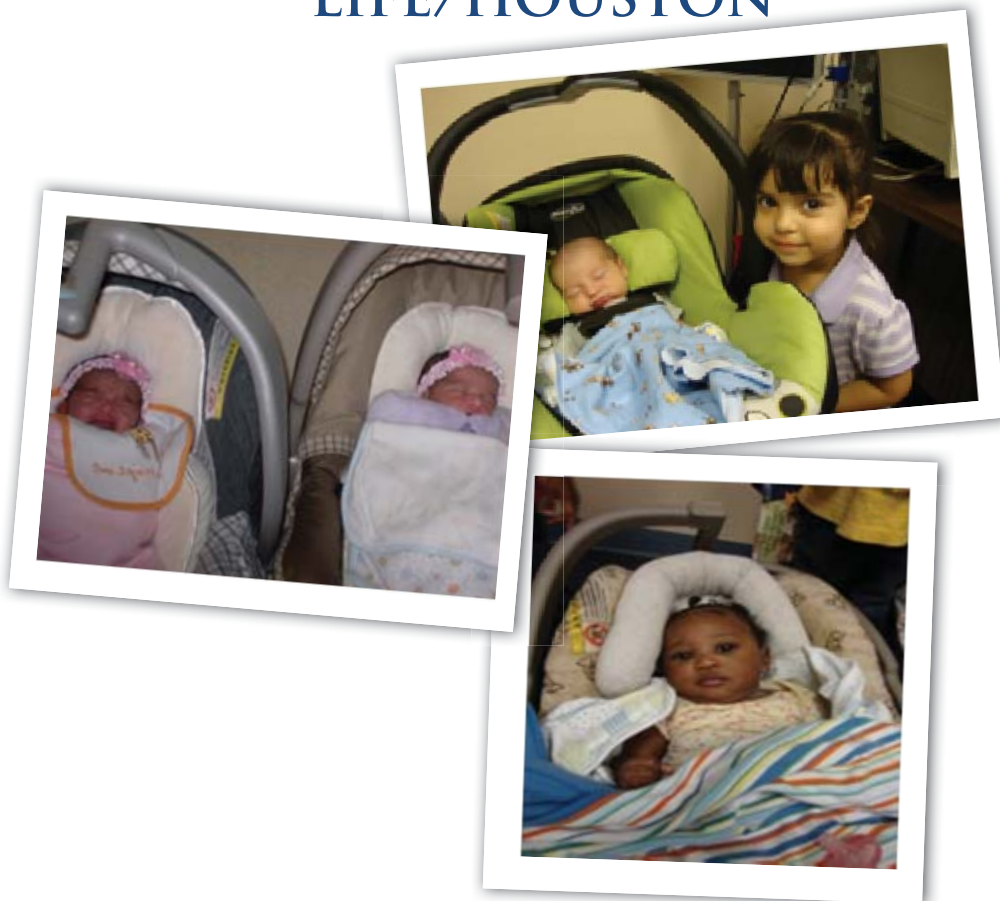
The Guild Shop, St. John the Divine's resale shop, works with the church's outreach program to provide clothing and house hold items to persons in need, as well as to the outreach organizations supported by the church.

GIVE

\$25 A GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR SOMEONE IN NEED

"It is not only important, but it is a normal response, for all of us to consider St. John the Divine our anchor. What I do give, I offer happily with gratitude and without reservation." Shirley Shockley

LIFE/HOUSTON



Local Infant Formula for Emergencies (LIFE)/Houston operates Food for Hungry Babies, an emergency formula assistance program. Food for Hungry Babies exists for those families who are struggling to make ends meet. Families who visit LIFE/Houston are provided with formula, baby food, and other non-nutritional, essential items at no cost to them.

GIVE

\$10 PROVIDES FOOD FOR A HUNGRY BABY

"Although I'm not a member of this church, I am a part of The Body of Christ." Kevin Dana
*Kevin serves the Body of Christ by protecting all who enters St. John the Divine.
He is known for his warm smile and never forgetting a name.*

LIFE HOUSE OF HOUSTON



LifeHouse of Houston is a Christian ministry providing housing, healing, and hope to teens and young women who have been touched by an unplanned pregnancy. Our desire is to turn this crisis into an opportunity for growth for the pregnant woman and to ensure life for her unborn child. We facilitate this by providing a Christian family home setting under-girded by counseling, life skills instruction, and post-partum support.

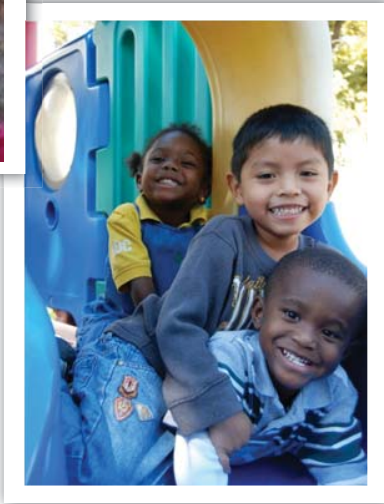
GIVE

\$10 FOR SUPPLIES FOR CRAFT NIGHT

\$25 MATERNITY CLOTHES FOR GIRLS

\$50 FOR A FAMILY OUTING

NEHEMIAH CENTER



For years, Houston's at-risk children have come to this safe-haven to attend Pre-K, After-School Enrichment, College Prep programs and more. This year's addition of the Nehemiah Middle School offers inner city students a full-time Christian education that will prepare them academically, socially and emotionally for high school and beyond.

GIVE

\$25 A GIRL SCOUT UNIFORM FOR A MEMBER OF OUR NEW TROOP

\$60 A MONTH'S TUITION FOR A PRE-K, MIDDLE, OR AFTER-SCHOOL STUDENT

\$100 A WEEK'S WORTH OF HOT MEALS AND SNACKS FOR A STUDENT

THE BEACON DAY CENTER



The Beacon Day Center provides a hot meal, laundry services, private shower, lavatory facilities, case management, and pastoral outreach to people living on the streets of Houston. The Mission of THE BEACON is to provide services that restore dignity, self respect & hope to Houston's poor and homeless.

GIVE

\$10 SOCKS, UNDERWEAR, AND TOILETRIES FOR 2 HOMELESS PEOPLE

\$45 FULL LAUNDRY AND SHOWER SERVICES FOR 10 HOMELESS PEOPLE

\$150 A HOT, NUTRITIOUS MEAL FOR 125 HOMELESS PEOPLE

“We give and receive gifts from the AGM, which is much more rewarding. We are far more touched by a gift to a worthy cause made in our honor, than just about anything else.” Tom Knudson

CROSSWAY & HIGHER GROUND MINISTRIES

KATHMANDU, NEPAL

“And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.” ~ Ezekiel 44:23



Crossway and Higher Ground Ministries provide Christian outreach programs through social services and micro enterprise for underprivileged and at-risk women. By offering education, training, and viable employment opportunities with sustainable income, Crossway and Higher Ground Ministries are giving these women safe haven and a healthy spiritual life. In addition, Reverend Arbin Pokharel and his wife, Bimala, founders of Crossway, are actively working to plant churches, nurture Christian leaders, and grow Christian communities in surrounding Nepali villages.

GIVE

\$15 PURCHASES BEADS TO PROVIDE WOMEN A JOB MAKING JEWELRY

\$25 PROVIDES EVANGELICAL MATERIALS FOR PASTORS & LAY LEADERS IN NEPALI VILLAGES

"Since I have Special Needs and people have to help me in so many ways, I believe it is very important to give back in any way I can." Caroline DeLuca

FIVE TALENTS INTERNATIONAL TARIJA, BOLIVIA & LIETHNOM, SUDAN

"Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His Master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your Master.'" ~ Matthew 25:20



Five Talents International is a worldwide ministry which empowers the poor in developing countries by using innovative savings and credit programs, micro lending, and business skills training. In countries where illiteracy is greater amongst women, the Five Talents initiatives in Bolivia and South Sudan make it possible for women to become community leaders by offering them credit, literacy, and numeracy skills to develop their small businesses and increase their competency and income generating capacity.

GIVE

\$20 PROVIDES THE INGREDIENTS TO MAKE 150 EMPANADAS

\$50 PROVIDES BUSINESS TRAINING TO ONE ENTREPRENEUR IN RURAL SUDAN

HAITI EDUCATION FOUNDATION

PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

~Proverbs 22:6



In a country incapable of educating 50 percent of its school-aged children, education is a luxury many Haitian children can only hope for. The Haiti Education Foundation continues to make a difference in the lives of these children by providing them an education, proper school uniforms, and textbooks. Today over 12,000 children and young adults are enrolled in 34 elementary schools, 7 high schools, and vocational schools located in the remote mountaintop villages of Port-au-Prince.

GIVE

\$10 PROVIDES A FULL YEAR OF TEXTBOOKS FOR ONE CHILD

\$75 PROVIDES A FULL YEAR OF SCHOOL FOR ONE CHILD

MUSTARD SEED PROJECT

MUSANZE, RWANDA

"It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds of the air perched in its branches." ~ Luke 13:19



The Mustard Seed Project, established in 1993, is actively engaged in giving orphaned Rwandan children the hope and tools necessary to rise above their circumstances. The Sunrise School, one ministry of the Mustard Seed Project, provides primary and high school students training in academic excellence, leadership, the teachings of Jesus Christ and a loving home. In March of this year, the Sunrise High School graduated its very first class of students.

GIVE

\$37 PROVIDES A BUNK BED MATTRESS FOR ONE CHILD

\$50 PROVIDES A UNIFORM FOR ONE STUDENT

“Before I was a family member of St. John the Divine, I was losing hope in humanity with selfishness. I have seen people give and have helped a lot of people around the world. They give expecting nothing in return, restoring my hope in humanity.” Homero Ayala

NEW LIFE SCHOOL SANTA MARIA DE JESUS, GUATEMALA

“But when you have a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed.”~ Luke 14:13



New Life School provides accredited Christian education, nutrition, medical care, and therapy to Mayan children with special needs: severe vision and hearing deficits, learning disabilities, spinal bifida, cerebral palsy, and Down syndrome. These children have no access even to a basic education in the overcrowded Guatemalan public school system. New Life offers them a loving environment and purpose to their lives.

GIVE

\$30 PROVIDES A STUDENT BREAKFAST, SNACK, AND DAILY VITAMIN FOR 1 MONTH

\$100 PROVIDES GLASSES & EYE EXAM BY AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST FOR ONE STUDENT

The Church is important because I love God and He wants me to go to church. He wants me to think it's important because he wants me to think about him." Judah Omar

ORPHAN CRY

KALUGA, RUSSIA

"A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling."~ Psalms 68:5



Orphan Cry ministers to abandoned and orphaned children in Russia, a country which has an estimated four million homeless children. The ministry helps meet the practical living needs that exist in orphanages by providing much needed clothing, boots, shoes and toys to the children, repairing dilapidated rooms, supplying furniture, obtaining equipment such as furnaces and stoves, and constructing playgrounds. A new Orphan Cry initiative offers training seminars in developmental traumas and attachment disorders to orphanage staff and teachers.

GIVE

\$25 PROVIDES SNOWSUITS FOR TODDLERS

\$50 PROVIDES EYE GLASSES AND BRAILLE SUPPLIES TO ORPHANAGES

Thank you for sharing the true spirit of Christmas
with those Christ called His own.
May the gifts you've selected bring blessings to
those who receive them,
those in whose honor they are given,
and
you and everyone you hold dear
during this sacred season of celebration and joy!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



THE CHURCH OF
ST JOHN
THE DIVINE

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