



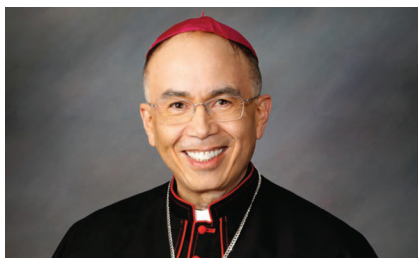
Honoring the new Auxiliary Bishops of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles



Auxiliary Bishop Albert M. Bahhuth,
Episcopal Vicar for the San Fernando Pastoral Region;



Auxiliary Bishop Matthew G. Elshoff, O.F.M., Cap.,
Episcopal Vicar for the Our Lady of the Angels Pastoral Region.



Auxiliary Bishop Brian Nunes,
Episcopal Vicar for the San Gabriel Pastoral Region; and



Auxiliary Bishop Slawomir S. Szkredka,
Episcopal Vicar for the Santa Barbara Pastoral Region.

Catholic Charities of Los Angeles
congratulates the four new Auxiliary Bishops
who were ordained for the Archdiocese
of Los Angeles on September, 26, 2023.

Catholic Charities Provides Support for Ukrainian Families

Employment Support Partnership (ESP) is a case management and employment program of Catholic Charities primarily serving immigrant and refugee communities within Los Angeles County. Per the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services, Ukrainians currently make up 56% of all new refugee arrivals to Los Angeles County. Having fled a war-torn country, these brave individuals often arrive with little more than the clothes on their backs and are in desperate need of support.

In response to the needs of Ukrainian new arrivals, ESP recently collected donations of furniture, bedding, linens, dishes, cookware and kitchen supplies, cleaning supplies, and personal hygiene items to help six Ukrainian families reestablish their lives in the United States.

Artak S. and his wife arrived from the Ukraine in 2022 with nothing but personal belongings that fit into one suitcase. "ESP provided us with beds, pillows, a table and chairs, food, clothing and even Christmas decorations for our new home," a grateful Artak said.

Margarita Z. and her family, also from Ukraine, were referred to ESP for



Ukrainian refugees Karen, Lyena, and daughter Karolina are grateful for the assistance received from ESP and happy to be in America.

support as well. ESP was able to provide them with food, clothes, shoes, tables, chairs and other home furnishings. Later, when Margarita received her work authorization, ESP's Job Coach, Lilit Manasyan, helped her find employment to support her family. "I am very grateful to Lilit," Margarita expressed.

To learn more about the work of ESP or to make a donation, contact James DeRose, Program Director, at jderose@ccharities.org or visit the ESP website at www.catholiccharitiesla.org/esp/. ❖

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Message from the Executive Director,

Rev. Monsignor Gregory A. Cox

Karen was blind from birth. Yet, she was in college, doing well in all her studies. She could find her way anywhere on campus, unaided, except when she was in a hurry. Then, one of her classmates would assist her.

One night the electricity went off; the dormitory was pitch dark. The young women were struggling to find their way, stumbling and bumping along the hallways. However, Karen was in her element. From living in perpetual darkness, she was able to lead others safely and surely wherever they wanted to go. Karen really came into her own that evening.

When I ask people why they work or volunteer at Catholic Charities of Los Angeles (CCLA), the majority identify someone in their past who led them through a dark period of their lives. There is no question that there are moments when we all go through challenging times. We are fortunate when someone reaches out with a helping hand, not only to help us through that difficult time, but also to help us learn and grow from the experience.

Staff and volunteers of Catholic Charities reach out to those stumbling in the darkness of poverty, substance abuse, unemployment, homelessness, mental illness immigration, domestic violence and hunger. The 16 community centers and 9 shelters of Catholic Charities are located in the poorest communities of Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. They provide food, clothing, energy assistance, shelter, job training and after-school care to the working poor and homeless in their neighborhoods. Last year, Catholic Charities served approximately 145,000 clients with 728,708 services. This was possible because of the support of 5,100 volunteers who provided 79,695 service hours.

When we serve people during the dark moments of their lives, we bring to life the words of William Arthur Ward, when he said, “When we seek to discover the best in others, we somehow bring out the best in ourselves.” ❖

Catholic Charities Offers Help and Hope to Newly Arrived Migrant Families

A migrant is a person who moves away from his or her home, either temporarily or permanently. In recent months, many migrants have traveled up from the southern border to Los Angeles, seeking safety from dangers in their home countries. Some have relatives and friends in the U.S. who can assist them, but, sadly, some new arrivals do not, and are in desperate need of guidance and support from agencies such as Catholic Charities.

Catholic Charities has recently assisted several families, who are part of this group, through its various programs and services. In July, Catholic Charities started working with two families who arrived with nothing but the clothes they were wearing. The families were provided assistance to meet their immediate needs, including: shelter; food; clothing;



Catholic Charities' staff provide lunch at a local park for a new migrant family.

medical services; transportation; cultural and legal orientations; and case management support.

Similarly, in September, a police officer contacted Catholic Charities to ask if we would provide shelter and support to a family that had flown to Los Angeles from Texas but did not have local contacts to help them. Staff responded affirmatively, understanding the family's situation.

It is difficult and time-consuming work to assist families in such great

need, but, even more so, it is a privilege to offer restoration and hope to “brothers and sisters” in their time of need.

To be a part of our work to welcome newly arrived immigrants by volunteering time, or to make a donation, please contact Brenda Thomas at bthomas@ccharities.org. ❖

Jobe Resident Assistant is Good Role Model

Erick, the new Resident Assistant at Jobe Transitional Living Program, entered Jobe in April 2021. He earned his new position by displaying excellent leadership qualities during his tenure at Jobe. Erick is always willing to help new residents with moving in and assimilating into the program. He provides residents with transportation, advice and job leads, and is an overall great role model.

Erick explained, "I enjoy that I get to be a role model for the new residents in the program. I show them what it means to be a Jobe resident. I also like seeing their growth and being able to take on more responsibilities as I become an adult myself."

Having stable housing has helped Erick to flourish with his education and personal growth and build up his savings and credit. Erick has made the Dean's list multiple times during his years at CSUN. In the past summer, Erick completed a paid internship at LAX with United Air Lines. Erick aspires to become a flight attendant and travel the world while doing something that he loves. He plans to graduate in May 2024 with a Bachelor of Science in Tourism, Hospitality, and Recreation Management. ❖



Erick has shown leadership qualities during his time at Jobe.

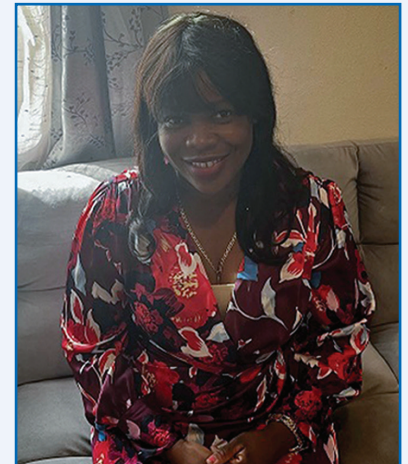
Good Shepherd Shelter Helps Mother and Three Sons

An emergency shelter referred Mimie and her three boys to Good Shepherd Shelter (GSS), a transitional shelter for mothers and children impacted by domestic violence.

On top of finding her way through her trauma, Mimie expressed a great deal of anxiety because her family is originally from the Congo and their first language is French. She was concerned that they would not be able to complete the GSS program successfully.

However, with a little encouragement, Mimie chose to enter GSS, enrolling her oldest son in the onsite elementary school and her two youngest in the Child Watch program. The boys took to the classrooms immediately. Mimie dedicated herself to participating in all the Adult Learning Center classes and quickly realized her English was better than she thought!

Fast forward one year and the family is thriving. Throughout the program, Mimie advocated for herself and her family. She took advantage of the GSS savings incentive program and built up a nice little nest egg for her family. She secured a full-time job, quality childcare, a placement in a Catholic School for her oldest son, and an apartment, thanks to a time-limited subsidy program through PATH. ❖



Mimie shared, "I will always be grateful to this program. Thank you!"

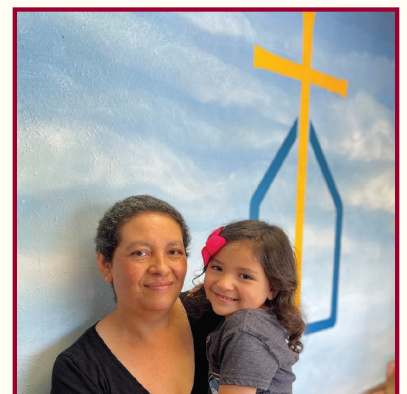
Ventura Community Center Assists Client

Unfortunately, for Catholic Charities' Ventura Community Center client Mariana Deleon, she was recently diagnosed with cancer. Now, the mother of four, with children ages 16, 11, 8, and 4, finds herself undergoing radiation treatment five days a week in Ventura, forty-five minutes away from her home in Piru.

To say that Mariana has fallen on hard times is an understatement. Her eldest child was diagnosed with Autism, and her husband is disabled and unable to work. Getting to and from appointments has been a challenge. However, Mariana is hopeful and has found stability at the Ventura Community Center.

Mariana utilizes the Ventura Community Center Food Pantry to keep her family fed and has used the social services provided there in the past. "A couple of years ago," she shared, "Catholic Charities helped me with utility assistance, and for that I was extremely grateful." Currently, she is scheduled for a rental assistance appointment.

As Mariana battles her disease, Ventura Community Center will try to provide temporal, spiritual, and emotional support for her and her family. She commented, "It is good that a place like this exists, where one can go in difficult moments to get help." ❖



Mariana and her daughter like the Ventura Community Center Food Pantry.



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Address Service Requested



Employment Support Partnership (ESP) provides social and case management services to refugees, immigrants, and trafficking survivors to help them acclimatize to life in the U.S.



Please, like us on the CCLA Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Catholic.Charities.LA>

St. Margaret's Center Renovated, Thanks to Rotary Club of Westchester

St. Margaret's Center recently underwent a nine-month renovation project, organized, sponsored and worked on by the Rotary Club of Westchester. Highlights of the project included building a custom counter for the lobby, expanding staff workstations, furnishing the mental health counseling office and immigration services' office, painting various spacing throughout the building, and improving the classroom and the homeless services' office. New flooring and energy-efficient lighting were also installed throughout the 2,000 sq. ft. facility.

The Westchester Rotary Club raised over \$100,000 for the renovation. The club selected St. Margaret's Center as its 2023 Makeover recipient because of the depth and breadth of the services that the center provides to the most vulnerable people in the surrounding community. Each office throughout the building was "made-over" thanks to



A new counter, cupboards, flooring, lighting and paint revitalize the lobby/front office of the center.

the skill and generosity of project lead Tori Hettinger and members of the Rotary Club of Westchester.

Catholic Charities' St. Margaret's Center extends its gratitude to the Rotary Club of Westchester, Tori, Pen and Napkin, the sponsors, and all volunteers who made this makeover dream become reality! The positive impact of the renovations will be felt by the center and its clients for decades to come. ❀