Rowing 340 Miles for Holy Childhood and the new Special Touch Bakery

This coming June 22-30, seven amazing young men from McQuaid Jesuit High School will embark on the journey of a lifetime. They will row the entire length of the Erie Canal to raise $30,000 worth of hope and support for Holy Childhood’s expanding Special Touch Bakery.

Eight demanding days, 340 miles. That’s like rowing from Milan, Italy to Paris, France or Boston to Washington, DC. You get the idea, it’s really far!

For the sixth consecutive year, members of the McQuaid Jesuit Crew Team will row the Erie Canal for charity. This year, we are thrilled and grateful that the team has chosen Holy Childhood as their charity, specifically to support the expansion of our beloved Special Touch Bakery.

“Row for Hope’s support for Holy Childhood’s expanding Special Touch Bakery will mean more opportunities for meaningful employment and training for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities,” said Donna Dedee, Holy Childhood President and CEO. “This new initiative will be truly transformational in their lives; we are celebrating people’s abilities and giving them the tools for independence. The support we are receiving is a building block for a sustainable model that will last long into the future—and who doesn’t love an amazing premium Special Touch Bakery pie made with pride and love.”

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With the help of sponsors, donors, families and Holy Childhood friends like you, every stroke will propel someone’s life to a better future. Get to know these seven remarkable young men, in their own words.

Sean O’Connor, 2018
“My name is Sean O’Connor and I am a junior at McQuaid. I am excited to participate in Row For Hope again this year, so I can use my love for rowing to raise funds for Holy Childhood’s Special Touch Bakery. This is an amazing organization that does wonderful things for the individuals they serve.”

Kevin Reed, 2019
“I’m Kevin Reed; I am a 16 year old sophomore at McQuaid Jesuit High School. I love playing music, mostly the old stuff: Tom Petty, Big Star, etc. I also love rowing and I am glad that I can use my passion for rowing to help Holy Childhood. Please help and donate!”

Alex Patterson, 2018
“I’m Alex Patterson, a junior at McQuaid. The coxswain, who is not so large, but in charge! I have been rowing for 7 seasons and participated in the 2016 Row for Hope! This year’s row is important to me as it is for the benefit of Holy Childhood. For many years my family has been a supporter of Holy Childhood, I am proud to say that this year’s row lets me be the 4th generation to give hope to Holy Childhood.”

Mike Solazzo, 2018
“My name is Mike Solazzo. I am a junior at McQuaid Jesuit HS. I have enjoyed being a part of the McQuaid Crew Team for the past four seasons. I am looking forward to the challenge of the 2017 Row For Hope. I am excited to raise money for Holy Childhood because I think what they do to help people with disabilities is very admirable! This is a great opportunity for me to do what I enjoy and give back to the community.”

Christian Mathews, 2018
“Hi! My name is Christian Mathews; I am currently in my junior year at McQuaid Jesuit and loving it. I have been rowing since seventh grade and last year I acted as an extra man for the 2016 Row for Hope team. I am delighted to have the chance to raise money for Holy Childhood and their Special Touch Bakery this year for the Row for Hope and hope you will donate to this great cause.”

Joey Marang, 2018
“My name is Joey Marang and I am a 16 year old junior at McQuaid Jesuit HS. I learned about Row For Hope through my older brother and his friends who rowed the Erie Canal 3 years ago. When I learned that I could be part of this amazing experience and support my friends at Holy Childhood, I couldn’t turn down the opportunity.”

If you would like to support this dedicated group of young men from the McQuaid Crew Team on their 340 mile, 8 day journey on the Erie Canal, please visit www.rowforhope.net for easy online donation.
SEVEN WAYS TO Remember Holy Childhood

There are many ways to remember Holy Childhood in your estate plan, and you may be surprised to discover how inexpensive most of these are to accomplish. Here are some points to consider:

1. Amend an existing insurance policy to add Holy Childhood as an additional beneficiary. You could also purchase a new policy for Holy Childhood’s benefit.
2. Visit your personnel office and ask to amend your group life insurance policy or retirement plan to add Holy Childhood as one of your beneficiaries.
3. You can instruct your lawyer to prepare a simple update to your existing will or estate plan, creating a bequest for Holy Childhood.
4. If you’re over 65 and disappointed with the income you are receiving from your long term stocks or your certificates of deposit, consider Holy Childhood’s charitable gift annuity program. Besides providing attractive tax benefits, this easy-to-accomplish gift may reward you with higher annual income.
5. Deed your house to Holy Childhood and continue to live in it. Your income tax savings from the gift may cover the legal costs.

6. Leave written or verbal instructions for your surviving spouse to include Holy Childhood when redrawing his or her will (which will be necessary).
7. If you have a sizable estate, let us show you how a charitable trust may benefit both you and Holy Childhood. Again, the tax advantages are significant and may offset any legal costs.

Some of the gift arrangements are revocable and others cannot be changed once established. Some work better with cash and others with appreciated assets. There are many variations, enough so that a giving plan can be tailored to your needs, desires and capabilities.

Although we do not practice estate planning, we do have a planned giving representative who can sit down with you and explain these things so you can get the ball rolling. For your protection, they will urge you to check with your professional advisor(s) before completing any planned gift. They are also available to meet with your advisor(s) to assist in the process.

If you have any questions about planned giving, please call Brian Wirth, our Director of Development, at 585-359-3710, ext. 140 or you may email him at bwirth@holychildhood.org.

Dear Friends of Holy Childhood:

___ Please contact me about a personal visit or other assistance.
___ I have already provided a bequest for Holy Childhood in my will or estate plan.
___ Please send me information about Holy Childhood’s Sister Seraphine Society.

Name: _________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
City: _____________________________________________________________________________________________________________
State: ______________________________  Zip: __________________ Phone: __________________

Mail this form to: Brian Wirth, Holy Childhood, 100 Groton Parkway, Rochester, NY 14623
Things are moving right along with the newly expanded, community-based Special Touch Bakery and we couldn’t be more excited!

You may have noticed at the top of this page, that Special Touch Bakery has a brand new look! With the help of our friends at Partners and Napier, we believe it is the perfect depiction of what our famous legacy pies-and our experienced bakers-are all about. Premium pies made with love.

We are thrilled to welcome the first two employees of the new Special Touch Bakery. Meet Richard Ohlson who will take the helm as Bakery Manager for the newly expanded bakery located at 1999 Mt. Read Blvd. in Rochester. Richard comes to Special Touch Bakery with life-long bakery experience which was rooted long ago in his family’s owned and operated Ohlson’s Bakery in the Buffalo area.

Most recently, he was the bakery manager at Donuts Delite in Rochester where he was responsible for all aspects of baked goods production and operations management. He brings us a breadth of experience which includes his former work as baker and pastry chef at Malek’s in Brighton, production supervisor at another family bakery and district supervision and product development for PLPL Development LLC (Budwey Markets) in the Buffalo area. Richard has a keen sense of our mission, which will be the perfect complement to his expertise in the bakery industry. Richard is working with our team in the current Special Touch Bakery so he can experience what makes our pies—and people, so special. Equally excited to work with the expanding Special Touch Bakery is Kevin Young, who is the bakery’s Facilities Manager. Kevin comes to us with more than 25 years of experience working in facilities for a variety of manufacturing environments. He has special expertise on project management, government regulation, quality and contracts and more.

Not only does he have the technical expertise to oversee the facilities operations for a food manufacturing enterprise, but he also has a great deal of experience working with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Kevin comes to Special Touch Bakery from Continuing Developmental Services/Unistel, where he has served as Equipment/Facilities Maintenance Manager since 2003. Kevin was instrumental to the Unistel operation which provides food product to customers worldwide including the US Military.

We are so happy to have Richard and Kevin join our Special Touch Bakery team!

In April, we held a “Sledgehammer Swing” at the new bakery facility to commemorate the beginning of construction. We are extremely grateful to our project partners; Palmer Food Services, Wegmans, the charitable foundations, donors and organizations that are helping to make the Special Touch Bakery expansion project possible. You’ve probably heard the expression; “it takes a village”... that statement has never been truer. So many
generous helping hands are involved and we appreciate the support we are receiving for Holy Childhood’s beloved Special Touch Bakery.

The bakery equipment has been ordered to bake these iconic pies, which is also very exciting! One of the most important pieces—and one that takes a longer lead time to produce than other equipment—is the pie-line which was purchased from Comas in Italy. Comas studied our recipes, and by all accounts from Joe Perdicho, Director of Strategic Business Development, who was on site, the pie crusts which came off the line were “perfetto e delizioso” which, is to say - perfect and delicious Special Touch Bakery legacy pie crusts!

Of course, we will continue to keep you informed of all the exciting happenings with the bakery expansion project. Stay tuned for more information about the spectacular Special Touch Bakery grand opening in late summer/early fall. In the meantime, follow the progress on the new Special Touch Bakery Facebook page, and “like” us while you’re there.

Yes I Can!
Respite Program Bowling League

For six weeks this spring, Respite Program participants took over the lanes at Bowl-A-Roll on Jefferson Road in Henrietta for the “Yes I Can!” Respite Program Bowling League. Strikes, spares and a whole lot of smiles are plentiful each Tuesday afternoon as more than 50 bowlers roll for that elusive turkey (three strikes in a row). Bowlers who roll a turkey are rewarded with lunch at the restaurant of their choice with Tim Baird, Manager of Respite Programs. “It’s one of the most popular respite activities we do,” said Tim. The spirit of teamwork and pride is evident; and it’s very gratifying to watch them give their all, not only for themselves, but for their team as a whole.” The group utilizes volunteers to help out with the league, specifically the Boy Scouts and area school students looking to complete their service hours.

The bowling league has been a respite activity for the past five years and takes place two times a year, in the spring and fall. Many thanks to Bowl-A-Roll for their ongoing support; we appreciate their partnership in this important respite program.

When the league concludes, the top 15 bowlers with the highest average compete in a bowling championship. Don’t let these smiling faces fool you, this is a competitive bunch!
Danielle Arieno, a Special Education student attending SUNY Geneseo, has been spending time in Mrs. Rice’s classroom. This past April, she planned a lesson for the students about recycling called, “Earth Day Groceries Project.”

The lesson plan went like this: Danielle contacted Trader Joe’s in Pittsford and asked the manager if he’d liked to participate in a project with Holy Childhood School Program students. The manager, Tim Sander, was more than happy to get involved! In fact, he donated enough paper bags for the entire School Program. The bags were decorated with colorful environmental messages, stickers, a lot of glitter and pictures. When finished, the decorated bags were returned to Trader Joe’s where customers received their groceries in the decorated bags on Earth Day, April 22nd.

“This project started as a simple idea that turned into such a fulfilling experience for me,” said Danielle. “It was clear to see how much the students enjoyed it. They are so proud of their work and happy to spread the message to protect our environment! Their excitement and enthusiasm put a smile on my face and I know the customers at Trader Joe’s will leave with a smile as well.”

A bit of history about Earth Day that you may not know – the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970, activated 20 million Americans and is widely credited with launching the modern environmental movement. The passage of the landmark Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act and many other groundbreaking environmental laws soon followed. Twenty years later, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries.

No doubt, this was a fun, rewarding and educational experience for the students and the customers at Trader Joe’s!
Eastman School of Music students from the Outreach Program “Music for All” visited with Holy Childhood School Program students recently. The group visits area schools with their entertaining and informative program.

Students from Our Lady of Mercy School for Young Women visited Holy Childhood this past March and April. The groups spent time in our School Program classrooms, art and physical education classes and the Bianchi Family Job Training Lab.

Thank you, Ryan Elia, for painting a beautiful wall in our gym for your Eagle Scout Project. We love that you chose Holy Childhood and we love our new wall!

Our good friends at Maplewood Estates hosted a private dinner for the Work-Based Learning team to celebrate the dedication of our student workers and job coaches. Chef Brad prepared a delicious three course meal of pumpkin soup, beef tenderloin, and homemade dessert. We value our partnership with Maplewood Estates and the many companies and organizations that support our Work-Based Learning program.

We are extremely grateful for our long-standing partnership with Moonlight Creamery in Fairport. So many people look forward to this event each February. This year, Heidi Grenek and the hard-working Moonlight Creamery staff graciously donated $2,520 to Holy Childhood. If you haven’t attended this event, you absolutely should join the hundreds of customer who have. This unique event is something you have to experience to believe! Delicious homemade ice cream treats and Special Touch Bakery pie for breakfast – who doesn’t love that?!
Special Touch Bakery Celebrates All Of Our Partners Who Support Us In So Many Ways

Alsco
Christa Construction
Davenport Hatch Foundation
Empire State Development
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Flaum Management
Foodlink
Golisano Foundation
Greater Rochester Enterprise/Farash Foundation
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