

COMMISSIONED BY CHRIST



Commissioned by Christ is delighted to be partnering with The Mercy Project to send a mission group to Lare, Kenya. Led by Sister Rose Wangui, The Mercy Project has worked to bring clean water and an accessible health clinic to the people of this agricultural community in the Great Rift Valley, and is now in its third phase, dedicated to the empowerment and education of girls through the Mother of Mercy Girl's Secondary School. Though the school was only founded in 2010, its students have already ranked 3rd out of 26 private schools in trial National Kenyan Exams. We eagerly invite you to become part of the loving and transformative influence in the lives of the 205 young women already enrolled.



“What you are doing I cannot do, what I’m doing you cannot do, but together we are doing something beautiful for God, and this is the greatness of God’s love for us — to give us the opportunity to become holy through the works of love that we do because holiness is not the luxury of the few. It is a very simple duty for you, for me — you in your position, in your work and I and others, each one of us in the work, in the life that we have given our word of honor to God. ... You must put your love for God in a living action.”

-Mother Theresa

Commissioned by Christ Volunteer of the Year: Pat Martin

Commissioned By Christ volunteer Patricia Martin has been honored as Volunteer of the Year at the CBC 2016 annual benefit reception on October 14, 2016 at St. Luke Catholic Church in McLean, VA. Pat has been volunteering with CBC's international and local mission trips since 2013, first as a missionary and more recently as a mission trip leader.

She has served the poor with CBC in Jamaica, Peru and the Dominican Republic, and in our own community at Merica House, The Little Sisters of the Poor, The Lamb Center, DC Food Bank, The Christ House, Missionaries of Charity and Martha's Table. "Pat is very generous with her time and talents and we are blessed to have her part of the CBC family," said CBC Executive Director Michelle Haworth.

Pat's extraordinary example is part of a multi-generational tradition of charity. One of her early experiences in volunteer work came from following her mother in working for the USO, and was

later joined there by her own children, Christopher and Kimberly, in preparing care packages for the troops. Pat and Kim have continued their beautiful practice of family service by undertaking weeklong missions to Peru together. At the 2016 benefit reception, CBC was humbled and delighted to have the opportunity to recognize Pat for her zealous and unflagging generosity and her commitment to give her time, her energy, and her love wherever she perceives the need of others.

"My only regret is that I discovered CBC so late in life but am very grateful for all the relationships and experiences I would have missed if the Lord hadn't nudged me," Pat said following the ceremony. We can only affirm that our own gratitude that the Lord saw fit to nudge her in CBC's direction is as deep as Pat's manifest love for the children of God she has served at home and across the world.



It is my honor and great privilege to represent Commissioned By Christ as the organization's first Executive Director. I have been serving in this role since November 2015 and am humbled to have the privilege to lead such an impactful organization.

Originally from Kentucky, I developed a strong sense of dedication to community service as an undergraduate at the University of Kentucky. As a volunteer with Catholic Social Services, Shriners Children's Hospital and Habitat For Humanity, I was inspired to pursue service opportunities internationally. After receiving my Bachelor of Arts in Communications, I accepted an invitation with the Peace Corps to work with women and children in a small, rural town in Tunisia, North Africa. This opportunity deepened my passion for international service and brought me to Washington, DC, where I continued working in the non-profit world while pursuing a Masters of Science in Business from Johns Hopkins University. Most recently, I enjoyed the opportunity to help grow the consulting division of an international non-profit education association. My husband, Pedro, and I have been blessed with four chil-

dren and are parishioners at Church of the Nativity in Burke, VA.

Commissioned By Christ is a mission ministry, but for me it is much more. It is a movement of the faith-filled Catholic laity working together to promote the teachings of the Church. It is a movement that desires to engage in the corporal and spiritual works of mercy – one that is not only driving awareness, but is also inspiring others to experience the mission life of the Church.

The passion that drives our volunteers and missionaries to go out into the world and serve the poor is a catalyst that is creating greater and stronger ties within our Catholic parishes and communities. Our volunteers and missionaries are fellow parishioners, who are being connected to something larger than themselves in a very profound way. Commissioned By Christ is changing lives – one mission trip at a time. We are bringing together you – the families, college students, young professionals, mid-life adults, and retired persons - with the poor, homeless, and marginalized. When you participate in one of our mission trips you will be building homes, repairing churches, teaching Bible school, delivering clothes, feeding the homeless, and working in a hospice center. I find that exciting and rewarding and look forward to facilitating the continued growth of CBC's mission ministry throughout the Diocese of Arlington.



I am humbled to serve as the Chairman of the Board for Commissioned By Christ. As a founding board member eight years ago, I could never have imagined the level of growth and success CBC has enjoyed. I am deeply thankful to our supporters, whose gifts of prayers and donations make serving the missionary activity of the Church in the world a reality.

Over the past eight years, CBC has served fifteen international mission trips with over one hundred and twenty missionaries. Certainly, many Catholics long to participate in a meaningful way in the missionary activity of Christ and His Church. Our programs provide Catholic adults and families the opportunity to be formed in Faith, through catechizes and sacramental worship, building up communal bonds of friendship, and service to those in need. Often our missionaries experience a profound awakening to the realities of poverty in our local community and in the world. Many are moved with a deeper compassion and continue to get more involved in the Church's life of sacrificial service to the poor.

The coming year, 2017, promises to be another year of growth in our missionary activities. We have planned for international mission trips, to Bánica, Dominican Republic, to Piura, Peru, to Lare, Kenya, and Kingston, Jamaica. Our hope is to provide each of these mission trips annually. We are also increasing our opportunities to serve on one-day mission trips to various locations in the Washington Metropolitan Area. These one-day trips are perfect for those who do not have the ability to attend an international trip, but still wish to find a way to serve.

Last year CBC hosted its first benefit reception, *Mission Possible*, which was not only a great success, but also a fun and enjoyable evening for our eighty participants. This year's benefit, *Masquerade, the Many Faces of Need*, was also a wonderful success and an enjoyable event for our one hundred guests and participants. These benefit receptions give CBC an opportunity to thank and recognize our missionaries and our patrons. I certainly hope that you will be able to join us next year on October 20, 2017 to continue to celebrate Christ's work through CBC missionaries.

As a Catholic non-profit, it is important for CBC to make affordable the individual costs of attending these mission trips. Therefore, it is our policy to price each of the mission trips per person at the cost of the trip. As we grow, we hope to continue to make significant contributions of the various Catholic mission sites we visit and serve, as well as to subsidize the cost of the mission trip for each missionary.

Please keep Commissioned By Christ, her members, missionaries, and her work in your daily prayers. We entrust all that we do to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Rev. Jamie R. Workman



Upcoming Mission Trips

**Bánica, Dominican Republic (February 4-11, 2017;
February 3-10, 2018)**

CBC missionaries are involved with on-going projects, including repairing houses for needy families, building chapels, and working on construction to improve the basic sanitary needs of the community. Missionaries meet and work alongside the people of the parish, celebrating Mass with them and more!

Piura, Peru (June 24-July 1, 2017; June 23-30, 2018)

Santisimo Sacramento provides food packages to families, donated clothing, building materials, access to medical care, private education, orphanages, in addition to caring for the spiritual needs of the Parish. Meet the people of the parish, celebrate Mass with them, and work in a few of the social service projects the parish is carrying out to improve the standard of living for the poorest in the community

Lare, Kenya (July 6-15, 2017)

CBC missionaries will be involved with the expansion efforts of the project to provide sleeping space for the girls enrolled at the Mother of Mercy Girls' School. The project will involve the con-

struction of a dormitory to accommodate between 450-500 students once it is completed.

Kingston, Jamaica (October 21-28, 2017)

The mission of the St. Patrick's Foundation is to impart relevant skills, opportunities and caring to residents of selected low income communities. CBC missionaries work in the vocational schools and in the early learning center. We have helped to rebuild school fences and organized painting the inside of an educational building, while working side by side with the local children. We have also worked together with the kids inside the classrooms on various projects.

One-Day Local Missions

We invite past and future missionaries to engage in corporal and spiritual works of mercy in our local communities by joining a one-day mission to organizations such as Missionaries of Charity, The Lamb Center, Sunrise Senior Center, Hogar Services, and more. These short missions run several times throughout the year. Visit <http://www.commissionedbychrist.org/get-involved/become-a-missionary/> to find your opportunity to see and serve Christ in your community.



Prayer for Commissioned by Christ

Dear Heavenly Father, in a special way, you have led Commissioned by Christ, her members, missionaries, and supporters, to participate in the missionary activity of Jesus Christ, your Son, through Divine Worship and service to the corporal and spiritual needs of others in the world. Please, O Gracious Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit and Blessings upon Commissioned by Christ, that she might continue to bring forth the message of true love and your Divine Mercy to the world.

Amen

How to Donate

Commissioned By Christ relies on the generosity, kindness and prayers of those called to support the mission life of the Church. Your financial contribution will help us to continue serving the poor through spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Commissioned By Christ has partnered with Faith Direct – the leading eGiving program for Catholic churches and organizations all across the country. Through Faith Direct you can make all of your contributions to Commissioned by Christ via automatic payment from your checking account or credit card – just as you may do now with your mortgage, household bills, and other monthly payments. This is a great way to simplify your giving – and it's the most cost-effective, environmentally-friendly way for us to receive your gifts. Go to www.commissionedbychrist.org/donate to make your gift today.

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