

MANNA *in the wilderness*

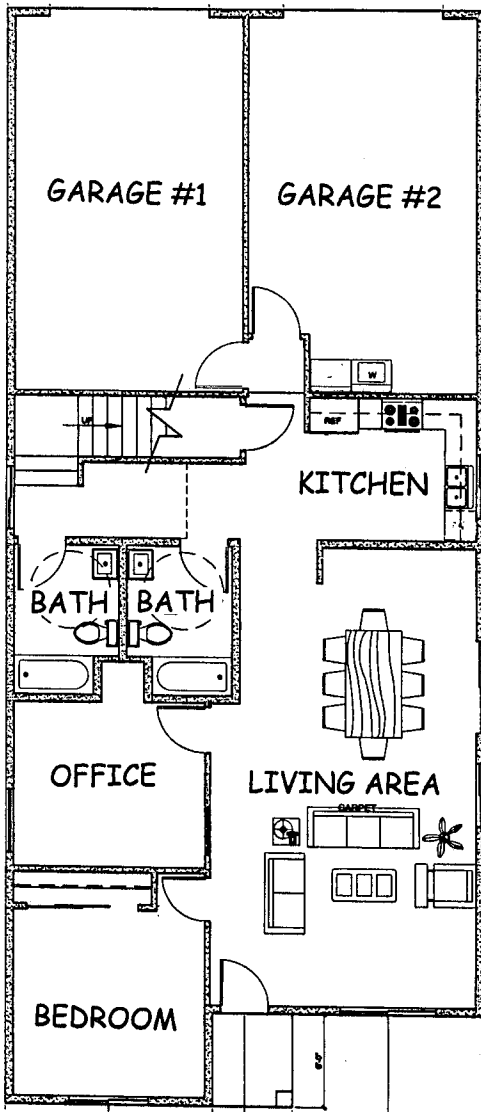
December 2002

The Newsletter of the Las Vegas Catholic Worker

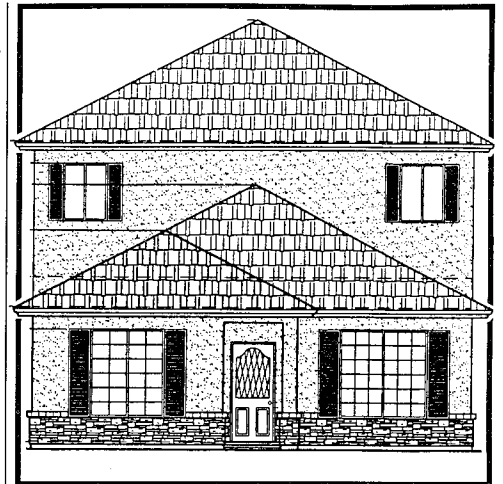
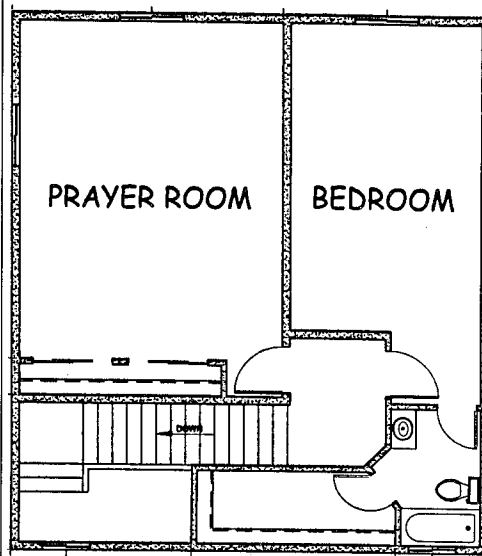
Volume 17, Number 2

Help Us Make Room for the Poor & Homeless

FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



Plans for 502 W. Van Buren Ave.
"Making Room for the Poor"
PLANS BY JAM DESIGN STUDIOS

by Julia Occhiogrosso

We are excited to report that we are very close to reaching the financial goal needed to build another hospitality house next door to the present Catholic Worker house. Our plan is to continue to collaborate with the Interfaith Hospitality Network program serving homeless families by using the new space to serve as a daysite for these families. Since 1996 the Catholic Worker has shared its hospitality house with this program. As both ministries continued to grow it became clear that more space was needed. With this new house the families (fourteen individuals) will have two bathrooms instead of sharing one. They will have room for two washing machines, a big living area, additional storage space and more. The Catholic Worker house will continue to provide room for our live-in volunteers as well as hospitality, soup line and food distribution

projects. We also hope the additional space will give us the opportunity to offer retreats to cultivate the spiritual component of our works of mercy. The vision for this house was affirmed by the funds that started to come to us over the last year. Station Casino has promised \$50,000. Martin Sheen surprised us with a generous donation of \$10,000, and the great gift of the Empty Bowl

fundraisers has given us a chance to put \$20,000 aside for this project. Our contractor has secured donated materials and labor. This along with the \$80,000 already raised, leaves us asking for your help with the remaining \$20,000 needed to build another hospitality house. We greatly appreciate all that you have given and hope that you will be able to support this new endeavor.

Blessings,

THE LAS VEGAS CATHOLIC WORKER COMMUNITY

Bonnie Pilcher, Ryan Hall,

Julia Occhiogrosso, Gary Cavalier

WEDNESDAY MORNING SOUPLINE VOLUNTEERS:

*Michele Brodoski, Colleen Brown, Ed Fox, Ed Gerhard
Jim Dufault, John and Karen Hazard, Fr. John McShane*

THURSDAY MORNING SOUPLINE VOLUNTEERS:

*George and Peg Bean, Jacquie Bundren,
Paul Colbert, Dale and Peggy Devitt,
Diane O'Hair, Ed Fox, Ed Gerhard*

FRIDAY MORNING SOUPLINE VOLUNTEERS:

*Grace Cassetta, Peter Daher, Laurie Rivera,
Mu-Weigh Chen, Iris Lo, Suzanne Psang, Denver Cruz,
Elicia Forst, Patrick "Q" Quilao*

SATURDAY MORNING SOUPLINE VOLUNTEERS:

*Lori Bossy, Sonja Brouwers, Peter Ediger,
Rob Rudloff, Carla and Michael Javier, Grant Staly,
Jim France, Brock Fraser, Tim Wertzberger,
Erandhi Seneviratne, Jim O'Connor, the Schill family*

MONTHLY FOOD BASKET DISTRIBUTION VOLUNTEERS:

*Lori Bossy, Sonja Brouwers, Stevi Carroll, Laurie Caves,
Dale and Peggy Devitt, Claudia Trujillo, Anne Welsh*

*"It is no use saying that we are born two thousand years too late to give room to Christ. Nor will those who live at the end of the world have been born too late. Christ is always with us, always asking for room in our hearts."
-Dorothy Day*

Las Vegas Catholic Worker Community Blessed by Gifts

Following are examples of some of the many donations we have received this past year:

✱

St. Bridgets Church and A-men ministries have been collecting food and money the last Sunday of each month and bringing it to the Catholic Worker. We are treated to hymns by their chorus each time they arrive.

✱

St. Joseph Husband of Mary collected kitchen utensils and pots and pans for homeless families in need. We filled the van and trailer with sets of kitchen supplies. Thanks to Rob & Gail Holman and the youth group who sorted and organized everything.

✱

Christ the King Catholic Community continues to chop the ingredients for stew and bring it to the house for our most popular breakfast the first Thursday of each month.

✱

During the hot summer, about 15 participants in the L.I.G.H.T. retreat at St. Thomas More planted 14 apricot trees around the outside of the Catholic Worker and put in irrigation and decorative gravel. A beautiful mural of "Christ in the Breadline" was installed by Patrick "Q" Quilao. St. Thomas More also donated food and supplies through their "Christmas in the Fall" collection.

✱

Brock Fraser, our Saturday volunteer, continues to print our newsletter for free through his printing business, AccuPrint & Copy. Jim Campbell of Campbell Printing donated the printing of hundreds of envelopes.

✱

Guardian Angel Cathedral and St. Viators Catholic Community provide a generous monthly tithe to our ministry. St. Viator also donates food to our program.

Fr. John McShane volunteers each Wednesday morning and is available to our homeless guests when they need to talk. He gives ashes on Ash Wednesday to our homeless guests in the soupline who request them.

✱

Martin Sheen donated his speaking fee of \$10,000 to the Las Vegas Catholic Worker while in Las Vegas in the Spring addressing the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

✱

Dave and Carol Welch volunteer every other Saturday, watching the families in the IHN program. They have both done a lot of work in the yard and house. One Saturday this November during a wind storm, Dave staked all 14 apricot trees to prevent them from blowing over.

✱

Anne Welsh and Joann Bingham are our Christmas Card "Santas" again this year, hosting a table where our morning soupline customers can write parents, friends and relatives. She provides stamps, too. What a blessing it is for relatives to hear from someone they love and worry about.

The Empty Bowls fundraiser has brought in close to \$10,000 each year for the Las Vegas Catholic Worker. We thank the many volunteers who made this second annual event a success, including: The Nevada Clay Guild, Battista's Hole in the Wall, Green Valley High School, Donna Potter, John Andruss, and the many Green Valley High students, Nevada Clay Guild members and friends of the Catholic Worker who made the event such a success.

✱

We held a memorial service and tree planting for our dear friend and Saturday volunteer Marsha France in May. A beautiful plaque was donated by Doug Forsberg. A Desert Willow was donated by Marsha's friends and family and planted in the front yard.

✱

Finally, we thank Masjid As Sabur mosque which shares use of the old St. James parking lot where we serve our morning breakfast. They have been helpful to us and friendly with our homeless guests. They now serve a Sunday meal to the homeless (we don't serve on Sunday) inspired by our ministry.

**PRAY
FOR
PEACE
IN OUR
WORLD!**

(FOR
TAB)

*Thanks to all our
Donors who make this
ministry possible!*

"The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy... Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."



—Martin Luther King, Jr.

PLEASE JOIN US:

Wed., Fri., Sat., 6:00 a.m.:

Morning prayer at Catholic Worker.

Wednesday-Saturday, 6:30 a.m.:

Breakfast meal served at old St. James Church parking lot (G & McWilliams St.) to the poor and homeless.

Monthly, 4th Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.:

Potluck with faith sharing afterwards. Call for location and time.

Seven Days a Week:

Hospitality (IHN) to 3 to 5 homeless families, call 638-8806 to volunteer.

Last Saturday each month; 8:30 a.m.:

Deliver food to homes in need, gather for reflection & prayer, call for info.

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