



CHILDREN OF THE IMMACULATE HEART

Restore All Things in Christ ~ Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking

January-2020

A Message from the President

Dear Fathers, Brothers, and Sisters in Christ,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a blessed Christmas and Epiphany. Christ was born for us, manifested in the flesh! What a beautiful and necessary season this is, which reminds us not only that Our Savior came for us, but that we need Him, and that He came in humility, born of a peasant Virgin in a stable. Those who had eyes to see and ears to hear recognized the Child as Divine and worshipped Him. May He give us such eyes to see and ears to hear as well!

This second half of 2019 was quite busy for Children of the Immaculate Heart. Many of you may have already heard, but on November 19, 2019, Children of the Immaculate Heart sued the California Department of Social Services for stonewalling our licensing process to open The Refuge, our home for trafficked minor girls. During a review of our application which we received in July 2019, the Department wrote that our mission statement was “offensive” because it mentioned restoring all things in Christ – our motto – and trafficking victims – the second part of our motto – in the same sentence. The State also pushed the envelope on wanting us to facilitate transportation to LGBTQ community events, to provide the teenage residents contraceptives, abortions, or gender transition medications if they want these things. Naturally, to do so would be a violation of our conscience and would constitute a grave sin on our part; thus, we will not do these things.

Throughout the second half of 2019, Children of the Immaculate Heart went back and forth with official correspondence with the State in an attempt to resolve these issues without recourse to litigation. Unfortunately, these efforts proved fruitless. With the Freedom of Conscience Defense Fund serving as our legal counsel, we sued the State and for the last two months have been involved in this painstaking process, for which we sincerely ask your prayers.



The following passage from Cardinal Sarah’s most recent book, *The Day is Now Far Spent*, is applicable for the situation CIH now finds itself in:

“A great British poet of the last century, Thomas Sterns Eliot, wrote these lines that say more about this than whole books do: ‘In a world of fugitives, the person taking the opposite direction will appear to run away.’ Dear young Christians, if it is permissible for an old man, like Saint John was, to speak to you directly, then I too exhort you, and I tell you: you have overcome the Evil One! Fight any law against nature that they try to impose on you, oppose any law against life, against the family. Be one of those who take the opposite direction! For us Christians, the opposite direction is not a place; it is a Person, it is Jesus Christ, our Friend and our Redeemer. One task in particular is entrusted to you: to save human love from the tragic drift into which it has fallen: love that is no longer the gift of oneself but only the possession of the other – a possession that is often violent, tyrannical. On the Cross God revealed himself as “*agape*”, that is, as the love that gives itself even unto death. To love truly is to die for the other.”

Thus Children of the Immaculate Heart is taking the opposite direction – the direction of Jesus Christ! Though the world may see it otherwise, our sole goal is to “save human love from the tragic drift into which it has fallen” and to love trafficked girls and women back to life. These women and girls need a chance at life! Please pray for us at Children of the Immaculate Heart and the Freedom of Conscience Defense Fund, that we have the courage and fortitude “to die for the other.”

Yours in Christ,

Grace Williams, President & Executive Director



Children of the Immaculate Heart's 7th Annual
Charity Gala & Silent Auction

Our Mother of Confidence Catholic Church
Saturday, February 8th from 6:30 PM-9 PM.

Join us as we listen to...

- ◆ **Cy Kellett** ~ *Talk Show Host* of Catholic Answers Live, MC
- ◆ **Chris Check** ~ *CEO* of Catholic Answers, as our keynote speaker:
 "The Catholic Option: What are you Doing Here?"
- ◆ **Paul Jonna** ~ *Senior Trial Counsel*, giving an update about CIH's religious liberty and freedom of speech lawsuit against the State of California over the opening of The Refuge.
- ◆ **Grace Williams** ~ *President* of Children of the Immaculate Heart, sharing about the growth of CIH over the year and our plans for 2020.

The evening will include refreshments, appetizers, and dessert

Caprese salad ~ beef tri-tip
Napoleon potatoes ~ grilled vegetables

*Dietary needs can be met upon request.

<https://cihgala2020.eventbrite.com>



Children of the Immaculate Heart has a meal train for our weekly women's group, giving them the opportunity to be together, support each other, and grow in their personal human development. If you are interested in cooking for our ladies, please visit this link!

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/q3nk7l>

CIH Wish List

- Dressers
- Pull-out couch
- Gift cards
- Diapers: size 6
- Children's clothing
- All-in-one microphone/amplifier system
- Hygiene products
- 3XL Women's clothing
- Furniture & Household items

***CIH has a
 Car Donation Program!***

Please consider donating your vehicle to CIH! *Car Easy* will come pick up your car, boat, or trailer whether it is running or not! Cars can be donated from anywhere in the country. To start the process just call **855-500-7433** or type **<http://careasy.org/details?4567>** into your web browser.

Proceeds go to support our programs!



Contact Information

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