



Taste and See Cape Cod

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Summer 2017

Dear friend of those in need:

Aware of the many demands on your generosity, I am writing you to ask that you consider sponsoring an important tradition here in the mid-Cape area.

Taste and See is a sixteen-year old fundraising event held at Oyster Harbors Club, this year on Thursday, September 28. Proceeds are used to support local homeless shelters and to defray the costs of community service programs using Our Lady of Victory Parish Center. As you may know, Taste and See is one of the high points of the "shoulder" fall season. It is a celebratory evening of cuisine donated by the area's finest restaurants, wine tastings, auctions, and the opportunity to socialize with over 250 neighbors and leaders of the business community.

Taste and See 2016 was a great success and raised a total of \$118,000. Because of your generosity, much needed funds were distributed to CHAMP Homes, St. Joseph House (formerly NOAH) Fund, designed to facilitate NOAH guests' move into transitional or permanent housing, Homeless not Hopeless, and St. Clare's House, which provides housing and support services to women coming out of prison. Funds remaining after expenses were allocated to Our Lady of Victory to help with unreimbursed costs of running the event and overhead costs of the Monsignor John A. Perry Community Center which provides a home for more than ninety local civic, fraternal, and service organizations.

A featured aspect of the evening is the lively "Give a Bed, Create a Dream" auction. Allocation was made on the basis of number of beds provided, previous levels of support, organizational need and future viability, and the Committee's interest in supporting a new approach to breaking the cycle of homelessness represented by Homeless not Hopeless. All Give a Bed gifts are used for shelter and associated direct services.

Shelter providers have calculated that the cost of a bed for a night, the care and comfort of one person for a one-night stay, is approximately \$50. We ask the people in attendance to bid the number of nights they can. Last year this auction item alone provided funds for 800 bed-nights right here on Cape.

Because each winter is so hard for the people we help, people living in automobiles, "sofa surfing" from relative to friend, shelter availability became an even more valuable commodity. That is why we are redoubling our efforts this year to make sure that everyone who needs a warm, safe place to go this coming winter, will have it. *Which is where you and your business come in.*

You don't even have to be present at the auction to help. You can help by sponsoring Taste and See 2017. Your participation is a clear message to those who see your name and recognize the importance of serving others from our abundance. Consider how worthwhile it will be for you and your business to be associated with an effort that tangibly demonstrates that we cannot afford not to care for one another.

All forms may be returned using whichever above method is convenient, and are also on our website at olvparish.org.

Thank you, on behalf of those with the least among us,

(Rev.) John J. Perry, Pastor of Our Lady of Victory and Our Lady of the Assumption parishes