

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR OUR OLDER FAMILY MEMBERS AND PARENTS

A couple of years ago, a parishioner shared a new family tradition. She said that she and her husband had all the “things” that they needed. Instead of making it hard for their children to come up with a gift, they suggested that a donation be made to some charitable organization instead. It brings them great pleasure to see that others enjoy the benefits of Christmas by donations. Here are some organizations that we encourage for those of you that would like to do the same:

Episcopal Relief Fund
P.O. Box 7058
Merrifield, VA
22116-7058

Heifer Project
International
1 World Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72202

COCHLEAR IMPLANT SUPPORT GROUP MEETS AT GRACE CHURCH



Imagine what it is like to lose your hearing. What if you couldn't hear your loved ones? What if you couldn't hear your favorite music? What is it like to become deaf in today's world? These are just a few of the problems affecting a growing number of people in the nation who have lost or are losing their hearing. One answer is a surgical procedure called “cochlear implant.” After the surgery, the results can be dramatic and life changing. People can hear once again!

A new support group for people who are considering the procedure, who have undergone the surgery, or have a family member with cochlear implant is now meeting at Grace Episcopal Church in Haddonfield. When member Kathie Simcox shared her hearing loss with Fr. Pat, he understood. He learned sign language and ministered with the deaf at his former parish in northern New Jersey. After her cochlear implant surgery, she asked to start a support group

at the Church. This past week they held their first meeting. 15 people were in attendance for the organizational meeting. Kathie Simcox had asked another cochlear implant patient to help her start the group, Wayne Roorda. They hope to form a support group for people familiar with the surgery, the problems, the questions and the need to talk with others. The support group will be a safe place for people to learn the different stories of people. The first meeting included people from Philadelphia, the Jersey shore and north Jersey. People with cochlear implants struggle with feeling isolated and need to network with others. Those who have had the surgery can help others know the benefits of the implant and how to maximize them.

The next meeting will take place at Grace Church on Thursday, January 8th at 6 pm in the Parish Hall. The meeting is opened to people with cochlear implants, those considering implants, family members and others. For more information, contact the group at cochlearimplant1@yahoo.com or Grace Church at office@gracehaddon.org. The group hopes to establish a monthly meeting schedule for 2009 at Grace Church.

HILLBILLY'S 10 COMMANDMENTS

1) Just one God. 2) Honor yer Ma & Pa. 3) No tellin' tales or gossipin'. 4) Git yerself to Sunday meetin'. 5) Put nothin' before God. 6) No foolin' around with another feller's gal. 7) No killin'. 8) Watch yer mouth. 9) Don't take what ain't yers. 10) Don't be hankerin' for yer buddy's stuff. Posted on a wall at Cross Trails Baptist Church in Harland City, KY

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF GOD'S KIDS

A little girl was fascinated by a nativity scene set up in her church. Asked by her mother, she was able to identify Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the animals in the stable. “And what's that?” her mother asked, pointing to the manger. “Oh, that's Baby Jesus' car seat, Mommy!” the little girl said, proudly.

PLEASE NOTE

The Parish Office will be closed on December 25th and 26th. Merry Christmas!

