



THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF SAINT HELEN

1600 Rahway Avenue Westfield, NJ 07090

908-232-1214

## "SLEEP OUT IN THE CHURCH"

For youth in grades 5-8 and 9-12

*To support MERCY HOUSE in Jersey City, NJ*

The Archdiocese of Newark recently opened another Mercy House in Jersey City. Mercy House offers a food pantry to those who need help supplementing their own shelves, as well as clothing, household accessories, and their spiritual needs. The Jersey City location will be able to house 30-40 women in need of housing. Mercy House estimates that each room will cost approximately \$1000.00 to prepare, which includes a bed and a dresser. They are actively looking for sponsors and donations. Some women are already living at Mercy House and many more waiting to get in.

In an effort to help, we are raising awareness and funds by having a "Sleep out in the Church" on Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9 PM until Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup> ending at 9 AM. All participating will attend the 8 AM Mass. This is a 12 hour event where all participants will be asked to get sponsors, with a minimum fund raise of a \$100.00 for each participant. All the money raised will go towards a bed and dresser for the rooms, paint and supplies. We are working on putting an adult team together to assist with the painting. When the room is ready to be set up, we will need our youth to volunteer at Mercy House with setting up the rooms and decorating them. Other donated items needed are: pillows, comforter sets, sheets, towels, and pictures for the walls. Depending on how much is raised will determine the number of rooms we can take on. We welcome parents to participate as well (anyone over the age of 18 will need to be in compliance with Protecting God's Children). We hope that you can be part of this in some way! Any questions, please reach out to Patti: [pgardner@sainthelen.org](mailto:pgardner@sainthelen.org)

Register on-line. Print out and bring sponsor form and money the night of the event. We hope to see you there! 😊