

HOW YOU CAN HELP US TO HELP OTHERS

Your financial help in support of Out of the Cold ensures that we will continue to be able to offer our program in the years to come.

Financial gifts are tax deductible if they are made out to:

St. Patrick's Church
re: Out of the Cold Program.

Your financial contribution supplies:

One night of Out of the Cold	\$1,000.00
Dinner for one evening	\$500.00
Nursing for one evening	\$100.00
5 pairs of clean pants	\$50.00
20 pairs of clean socks	\$10.00

We are also grateful to accept donations of clean, gently used articles of winter clothing and men's pants. These can be dropped off at the parish office during office hours or left in the hamper in our religious articles store at the back of the church.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

www.stpatrickstoronto.ca/ooc

St. Patrick's Out of the Cold Sunday nights, November – April

139 McCaul Street:

Two blocks west of
St. Patrick's Subway Station.
North of Dundas
Entrance through the basement doors north
of St. Patrick's Church.

Contact:

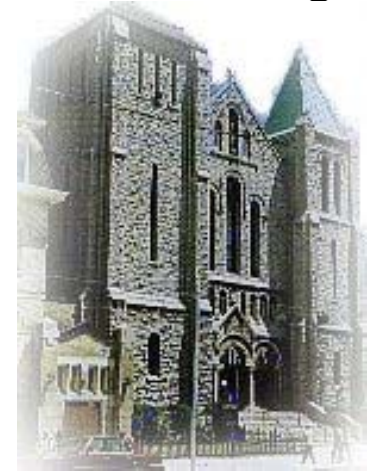
Fr. Jon Hansen
141 McCaul Street
Toronto, Ontario
M5T 1W3

416-598-3269
ooc@stpatrickstoronto.ca

2007-2008 SCHEDULE

- 4 PM Doors open
Soup and Bread available
- 4-6 Nurse care available
- 5 Main Dinner course
- 6-7 Clothing Room opens
- 6-8 Haircuts (when available)
- 7 Movies
- 6-7 AM Breakfast
- 7 Doors close

St. Patrick's Parish Out of the Cold Program



2007-2008

Reaching out to Toronto's
inner-city community with
compassion and kindness.

Its another cold winter's night on the streets of downtown Toronto. Outside the temperature which is in the minus teens is made worse by the cutting wind blowing puffs of snow up and down Dundas Street. In the Parish Hall of St. Patrick's Church however there is a Sunday night refuge from the elements. Here hundreds of grateful men, women and children sit back comfortably to enjoy a hot bowl of soup and a nutritious meal, glad to be out of the cold.



St. Patrick's Out of the Cold, is part of the cooperative Out of the Cold Program in downtown Toronto. Each winter many faith and community based organizations band together to ensure that on any night of the week people can find shelter, a meal and a bed as an alternative to sleeping outdoors and going hungry. St. Patrick's has been a part of this program for

about 15 years now and on a regular basis serves meals to about 150 people and offers overnight shelter for 65 men and 10 women.

The one thing that strikes me most about OOTC is the diversity of people, both in those using the service as well as in the volunteers that keep it running. Each week there are represented many ethnicities, faiths, economic backgrounds, and ages range from 8 to 80. Our guests include homeless men, women and children, single mothers trying to make ends meet, lonely seniors from the neighborhood as well as many others whose stories are all unique. What keeps it all running smoothly week after week can only be attributed to the Spirit and a committed group of volunteers who have been doing the job for so long it all usually goes like clockwork. Our volunteers are parishioners as well as Catholics from other parishes and Christians from other denominations, medical students, recovering addicts, people from the street as well as many other groups and individuals.

Out of the Cold is one of those strange ministries in that each year we hope it will be our last and growth in our numbers is actually a sign of failure. Nobody is under the illusion that soup and a mat on the

Church Hall floor is an adequate solution to the crisis of poverty in our city. Yet we keep marching on knowing that for the time being the best we can offer is our hospitality and a safe, non-judgmental environment..

Fr. Jon Hansen, C.Ss.R.
St. Patrick's Parish.

For the 2007-2008 Season
St. Patrick's is glad to offer:

- A meal for whoever drops in (some nights as many as 200)
- Overnight accommodation for 75
- A first aid room staffed by registered nurses
- A clothing room featuring clean, gently used winter gear
- Movies and recreation
- Breakfast and a Bus token
- Courteous, welcoming volunteers from a diversity of backgrounds