

The Excuses

As promised, an explanation for my tardiness follows.

Right now, I am very sick, with a nasty cough, head congestion, fatigue, achiness. I can barely speak. You've seen the Nyquil ad. You get the picture. Before that, I was extremely busy, working day and night, making and shipping icons all over the world. Occasionally I stay up all night at the print shop to print them.

I also had the joy of assisting Nick Papas and Bob Brewster install a 20 foot diameter Pantocrator icon surrounded by four fourteen foot wing-spanned seraphim on the ceiling, some thirty feet above the floor at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Pittsburgh, PA. Last week, I supervised and assisted Niko and Kristen Chocheli's installation of four large icons on the walls of the daily chapel of St. Basil's RC Church, Kimberton, PA.

Each Thursday, I roast a turkey and make a huge kettle of soup to serve on the streets of Philadelphia.

Perhaps I need some help.

Turkeys R' Us

St. Philip's Antiochian Orthodox Church has been gathering frozen turkeys to distribute to those in need, again this year. The program set a new record with 100 birds pledged and more than that coming in. The King's Jubilee will be getting about half of them. We will have enough so that there will be meat in the soup every week. We also deliver about 25 to Word in Action International Ministries to serve and distribute to needy families in North Phila.

St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church in Philadelphia has donated about a half dozen turkeys along with the vegetables, beans, rice and noodles to make the soup complete. Their ladies group has also made hundreds of sandwiches and several of them have come out to help distribute them with us on Thursday nights.

Cookie Exchange

Some of the ladies at St. Philip Neri RC Church, Pennsburg, PA, have added a new purpose to their annual cookie exchange. They not only make cookies to trade with each other; they make extra for us to share on the street. That's what they did until a couple of years ago, when they stepped it up a notch. Now they don't just give us plates of cookies to share. They bag them with new socks or gloves or a hat, along with a personalized Christmas card. What a privilege we have to be able to share these gifts of Christ's love with the people on the streets of Philadelphia!

Thanks, ladies!

What We Do

The King's Jubilee serves soup, sandwiches, pasta with meat sauce, hot chocolate, fruit and goodies (if we have them) to between 50 and 150 men and a few women in Center City Philadelphia every Thursday night. This is in a park, year-round. We also share toiletries, blankets and season appropriate clothing with them.

We serve in the open air, because some of those we serve are paranoid and will not readily enter a place with which they are unfamiliar. Also, some of them are not homeless, but are on very low fixed incomes. They won't go to a soup kitchen to take from a program just for the homeless, but they feel free to eat with us to stretch their food budget, so they can stay off the street.

We also try to gather resources for other ministries that serve the poor in Jesus' Name. If we can't do it in Jesus' Name, we don't have the time or the desire to do it.

The Ad

"COME AND SEE" Icons, Books & Art was started with the hope that it would provide a steady income with flexible hours to facilitate my involvement in service with The King's Jubilee. After nearly four years, the website has over 1,000 different icons on it. We have signed royalty agreements with more than a dozen iconographers of a variety of styles. The collection is growing all the time. We have shipped to all 50 states, every province in Canada and to over thirty other countries on all six inhabited continents. We average about 7,000 hits per day on the website. Please come and browse our collection at www.comeandseeicons.com

The Appeal

We can only do what we do, because there are many others who share the resources God has given them with us. Donations are gladly and gratefully received. In addition to checks and cash, personal size shampoos, soaps & lotions are always welcome, as well as men's clothing in season.

Checks can be mailed to:



216 W. Fourth St.
East Greenville, PA 18041-1629

Our phone is: 215-679-7563

email: TKJ@shoutforjoy.net

Thank you. May the Lord bless you as you bless the poor in Jesus' Name. Have a Blessed Nativity Season!

Peace,

Cranford Joseph Coulter