

## The Ladder Fund

Since 1989, the Ladder Fund has been assisting families, seniors, and individuals climb out of some terrible situations---evictions, shut-offs, staggering medical bills, or an empty pantry. Christian Service administers the fund for St. Michael's as our outreach to the needy. We work closely with the Good Shepherd Coalition, the Community Action Center, St. Vincent de Paul and other groups to make sure that the need is real and that there is no duplication in services.

St. Michael has become respected in the community for our willingness to help, and for our ability to work with other human service agencies and churches. It was the availability of the Ladder Fund that enabled our parish to become the founding church of the Good Shepherd Coalition in 1995. The Coalition won a National Association of Counties Award in its first year of operation, and has since grown to include over 80 churches and agencies in Macomb County. Every dime put into the Ladder Fund goes to help people in need; there are no administrative costs whatsoever.

Funds come from our Christian Service Projects, our recycling program, and free-will donations throughout the year. A financial report is published every year and is available at any time from the Christian Service office. Over the years the Ladder Fund has helped hundreds of families.

This was all due to your generosity and concern for the poor. Whether you supported one of our Christian Service projects, or took a Ladder Tag from our Giving Tree, or recycled your newspapers in our paper retriever, or donated what you could during the year---you reached out with the hands and heart of Jesus. This is a tremendous blessing for our parish, one that will rebound on us and those in need all year long.

**If you want to help with this outreach, checks may be made out to St. Michael Catholic Community, with Ladder Fund on the memo line, and mailed to:**

**St. Michael Christian Service  
40501 Hayes  
Sterling Heights, MI 48313  
Thank you!**

