

Sister Jean Korkisch, C.S.C. - Sisters of the Holy Cross

Sister Jean Korkisch, C.S.C. (Sisters of the Holy Cross), who is based at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Clintwood, (Dickenson County) Virginia, coordinates the Housing Repair Program. Born in upstate New York and growing up in Maryland, Sister Jean came to Dickenson County, Virginia, in 1983.

Sr. Jean first worked with the housing repair program at Binns-Counts Community Center in Nora, VA. In 1998, she began the St. Joseph's Housing Repair Program at St. Joseph's in Clintwood. With her staff she lines up projects suited to the make-up and skills of each work group. Participants do a variety of household repairs at owner occupied homes of low-income residents of southwestern Virginia.



Volunteers should be prepared to do some hard work, meet new people, and learn new things. Cultural events, local site-seeing and discussions around Appalachian issues are also a part of the experience. Groups of high school & college students and adults offer their time each spring, summer and fall including people from: St. Anselm College, Manchester, NH; Center for Social Concerns, Notre Dame University, South Bend, IN; Benet Academy, Lisle, IL; McAuley High School, Chicago, IL; 4th World Movement; St. Margaret Mary Parish, Naperville, IL; Academy of the Holy Cross, Kensington, MD; St. Joseph Parish, Mantua, OH; St. Edward the Confessor, Richmond, VA; St. Margaret Mary I, Milwaukee, WI; St. Charles Youth Group, Hartland, WI; St. Margaret Mary Parish II, Milwaukee, WI; St. Joseph, Wisconsin; Christ the King, Norfolk, VA.

St. Joseph's of Clintwood, VA, is one of several churches in the area that has formed a ministerial association to meet some of the needs of local residents. Their community and its people have been greatly impacted by the coal, gas and timber industries, and absentee ownership. Despite the poverty, and land and water devastation, they are determined to assume control of their destiny. St. Joseph's Housing Program offers low-income people home repairs and engages the community in discussions around housing related issues and actions.

St. Joseph's is a Catholic parish located in the heart of the Appalachian Mountains. They are part of Region 10 of the Richmond Diocese and known as The Trinity Cluster of Southwest Virginia which includes St. Anthony's (Norton), Holy Spirit (Jonesville), Sacred Heart (Big Stone Gap), St. Joseph (Clintwood), and Knights of Columbus Glenmary Council #7853).



For more information, please visit www.stanthonycatholic.org you may call St. Joseph's at 276.926.5451 or e-mail the parish at stjoesclintwood@verizon.net

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