The expression “There’s no place like home for the holidays” rings true for each of us in different ways, but it is painfully true for those who are homeless. It is as if the whole world had a place to call its own except for you...as if there were not one little house, not one small room to keep the cold from your child and the snow from your feet.

Since our first Christmas celebration back in 1978, Bethany House has always been a very special place to be during the Christmas season. In fact, one of our frequent “return guests” was an elderly Jewish woman who came to spend Christmas Eve with us each year because she loved to see the joy on the faces of our children (and their moms!) as Santa arrived with gifts and surprises for everyone. Doris has since died, but her memory still lives on in our hearts.

The Christmas Celebration begins for us at Bethany with our Tree Trimming Party which is held on the Sunday before Christmas. All of our guests join numerous others who remember a past Christmas at this gentle house - children come from near and far to help us bless and decorate this Tree of Memories which stands tall and proud in Bethany’s living room, a symbol of the love and concern of all of you who help to make Christmas happen for the homeless children whom God has sent to this little “inn” called Bethany House where there is always room! And, in the midst of the excitement, there is a quiet peace in this house that settles in the soul of every one of us who travels the earth in search of our eternal home.

The evening comes alive even more with the traditional singing of Christmas Carols and holiday songs as we all enjoy some scrumptious dessert provided by good people like you who share their richness.

Then, there is Christmas Eve: a magical time indeed for old and young alike! Santa never passes us by - in fact, he comes right on time each year, just as our supper of homemade lasagna and salad is finishing and our children are growing drowsy. We always have the good fortune to have Santa and his Elves get to Bethany right on schedule and...laden, with gifts to thrill all the children and to amaze the adults.

Christmas morning brings us together to offer a prayer of thanks to God for the wondrous gifts of life and faith and love, as well as those of warmth, and food, and safe shelter. We prepare a delicious brunch with everyone’s help, and sit for a while to savor the sense of wonder that is ours. For, in spite of the chill of homelessness, in spite of the pain of rejection, in spite of the fear of tomorrow, we live this day with Christmas joy!

These reflections were written by Sister Aimee for the Turning Point Winter issue of 1996. Many things have changed in these nine years, but the joys and blessings of Christmas are eternal. And at Bethany House, we still celebrate with our Tree Trimming Party, our Christmas Eve magic and our Christmas Morning brunch. We all still look forward to Santa’s arrival with wonderful gifts and surprises, and we are still fortunate to celebrate the season with plentiful food, good fun, and warm friendship with our guests.

At this time in the year 2005, we are particularly thankful for Bethany’s remarkable growth and progress. We are now celebrating Christmas in two more homes and four apartments, each one as wonderful as the first! We now share the Christmas season and spirit with more Moms and more happy children than ever before! It is our deep belief that each of us needs and deserves adequate food, clothing, shelter and human warmth - especially at Christmas.

And so, we ask you not to miss the chance to help us at Bethany to make this Christmas season both wonderful and unforgettable for all of our 29 moms and 44 children who, like the Child born to us at this holy time, have found that there is still “no room in the inn” for them here on Long Island.

Jessie Fentnor
Imagine...
WHAT IT'S LIKE NOT TO HAVE ONE.

[Each issue of Turning Point will feature the story of a family or individual who has struggled with homelessness and how life has changed because of or in spite of this overwhelming crisis.]

...through the eyes of a child

I wish I were a grownup.

If I were a grownup, I would know how to get help for my mommy. You see, we used to have a man named Eddie living with us. He was very loud and always yelling. Sometimes he would get real angry and hit Mommy. I tried to help her, but I was too small and he would hurt me, too. Then Mommy got a job and told him to leave. After he left things got better. We didn’t have much money, but we weren’t afraid anymore. But it didn’t last very long because Mommy lost her job and soon we had no place to live. After that Mommy was sad all the time. She cried a lot and just wanted to sleep. I didn’t want to go to school and leave her. I needed to stay home and try to cheer her up.

One day, Mommy found out that maybe she could get help if she went to places that have counselors. A nice lady told Mommy she could get help from something called Medicaid, and they said she needed to choose something called an HMO. She picked one called United Health Care. Then someone told us to go to a counseling center in Baldwin. So we took a bus to Baldwin. They asked lots of questions for a long time and Mommy was upset again. No one helped her - they just said they would call her with an appointment to come back.

We waited and waited. Finally they called, but they said Mommy wasn’t able to come back there because they didn’t like her HMO insurance. But my mommy didn’t give up, and we took another bus to Rockville Centre to try another place. This was the same as the first time with lots of questions that made Mommy cry. Except here they told us right away that they couldn’t help Mommy because they didn’t use her HMO. Many local hospitals wouldn’t take it either. Mommy then found out that most counseling places wouldn’t help you if you have United Health Care. Mommy started to cry again.

Then a place called Bethany House found out that we needed help. They said they knew a wonderful center that worked with them all the time and didn’t turn people away because of their HMO - this Center welcomed everyone from Bethany House and would sometimes take even less money from them. So Bethany called The Center for Rapid Recovery on Greenwich Street in Hempstead for us. They said to send us right over, so we got back on the bus again. This Center was the best! They made us feel very welcome. As soon as they finished asking Mommy questions, they gave her an appointment for help by herself and another one with a group. Now Mommy goes to each one once a week. When she is there she can also do other things that help her relax and enjoy the other people who are there. And they are extra nice to kids like me! I am so happy and relieved that my mom is feeling better. Every time we come home from CRR she is smiling and making plans for us. This Center is helping her feel that she can do the things she used to do and many new things, too. I am going to school every day now and having such a good time. Every night I am so thankful that Mommy is better and for two very special places: Bethany House and The Center for Rapid Recovery.

[For more information about The Center for Rapid Recovery, please call them directly at 516 292-6449.]

Did You Know?
In the past 5 years, Bethany has provided housing, services, and lots of caring 86,785 times!
THANK YOU for helping us do so!

HOUSING STATISTICS:
INCORRECT in past FIVE years: 52%
F/Y '04 - '05
Total Nights of Shelter: 21,995
10,033 Adults; 11,962 Children
564 Families including 617 Children
F/Y '03 - '04
Total Nights of Shelter: 19,194
8,931 Adults; 10,263 Children
483 Families including 553 Children
F/Y '02 - '03
Total Nights of Shelter: 18,489
8,347 Adults; 10,142 Children
458 Families including 508 Children
F/Y '01 - '02
Total Nights of Shelter: 15,799
6,865 Adults; 8,934 Children
333 Families including 462 Children
F/Y '00 - '01
Total Nights of Shelter: 11,308
5,805 Adults; 5,503 Children
249 Families including 260 Children
If someone expresses concern about a
"Homeless shelter" in their neighborhood -

Show them one of these:

By 1987, Bethany One was proven to be an
unqualified success as a place where women and
children could come when there’s no place to go. The
concept of a full-service center was unique, and the
results were so significant that it became the "model
program" for emergency shelters. But there was one
problem: too many needing help and too little space.

Of course, it was obvious to the Dominican Sisters
that Bethany should continue to grow and open
another shelter. By now they had acquired a large
variety of supporters who were ready to tackle any
task set before them. So in 1987, the Sisters found
a small three bedroom home that they could rent and
opened the “annex” on a quiet street lined with other
small family homes. They called this little house
Bethany, too! Within a few short years, Bethany
House was able to buy this house, and the original
owner held a $60,000 mortgage for us. Bethany,
too! was the perfect spot for some of our more
needy families and for those who could not interact
well in larger residential settings.

However, a new problem was arising: The Welfare
Reform Act of 1996 deemed many people in crisis
ineligible for assistance under its new guidelines, and
these people literally had no place to go for
emergency housing. In response, Sister Aimee and
her creative Staff designed an innovative Crisis
Housing Program to assist these homeless women
and children, and they called it: REST STOP. (The
emboldened OP in the title stands for the Dominican
title of the Order of Preachers.)

The REST STOP Program housed ineligible families
while Bethany gathered the required documentation
for the Department of Social Services to show why
these families should be helped and that Bethany
House knew the unique way to do so: in addition to
the provision of crisis housing in an inviting and
cheerful home, appropriate support services must be
provided to help each guest with her special needs so
that she and her family will once again be able to
function independently with dignity and purpose.

Included in the REST STOP Program plan was an
expansion of Bethany, too! 960 square feet of living
space were added, enlarging it to an 8-bedroom
house which also included a small library, a full dining
room, spacious kitchen and living room, and a
small office. The major part of the renovation was
paid for by the HUD Emergency Shelter Grant, and
Bethany House also received a grant of $10,337
from the Ministry Fund of the ever-faithful Amityville
Dominicans. The slogan for the marketing and fund-aising campaign for REST STOP was also ready: “If
you can help provide the REST, then we can provide
all the rest.”

And that is exactly what we do at Bethany, too!
Upon arrival at the REST STOP Program, the new
guest is welcomed and an intake assessment is
completed so that her strengths, challenges, specific
needs and current situation can be evaluated by a
trained case manager who then ascertains what
services will best meet the specific needs presented.
Networking with other human service agencies and
follow-up case management are also provided so that
homelessness is not simply interrupted but ended.

And who is better equipped to do this than Barbara
Sparrow Pope, Residence Director at Bethany, too!
She can personally attest to the vital need for places
like REST STOP as she was once homeless herself
and received help and support from Bethany House
many years ago. Having trained in behavioral studies
at South Oaks Hospital, she has returned to Bethany
to use her knowledge, skills, and experience to help
other women and children who are temporarily
without a home and often without hope.

Years have passed since the beginning of REST
STOP and so many women and children have come
through the doors of Bethany, too! So many women
and children have sat around the big table in the
large, cheerful kitchen and enjoyed delicious meals
and each other's company. So many women have
stopped here briefly and acquired the strength, skills
and confidence they needed to lead productive lives.
So many children have found the stability, love and
security they needed to grow into happy and loving
young adults. Indeed, Bethany House has provided
all the rest! It has shown that it knows how to
empower women and children, and Bethany, too! is
surely a place that FULFILLS this mission.

Jessie Fentnor
"UNLESS someone like YOU cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."  

The Lorax by Dr. Seuss

someone like YOU …

In the late 1970s, Diana and Hugh McNamara and their small children were attending Queen of Holy Rosary Parish in Roosevelt when they met Sister Aimee. It was fate. Little did they know at the time that they would become such life long friends and become so intricately involved in a project called Bethany House.

In the beginning, Hugh, just out of the air force, decided to go to college and then make his mark on Wall Street. He started at Merrill Lynch & Company and remained with them, becoming the Vice President in charge of the Administrative and Compliance Department for the New York City District. Always believing in the principle of helping others, he was able to have some funds collected for the United Way directed to Bethany House. Fund raising was in his blood.

So, when Sister Aimee was searching for individuals who could bring the needed expertise and enthusiasm to her growing organization, the McNamaras were more than willing candidates. Hugh has generated a great deal of assistance and significant contributions from his many sources and contacts. He operates “like a magnet.” He is a tireless fund raiser and a brilliant organizer for Bethany. Diana has always joined the women on many of their working committees. One of her favorite projects is Bethany’s Annual Fashion Show in the Fall. Wherever help is needed, Diana is ready and able to offer her support and diligent working skills. In fact, Diana is known as “Bethany’s expert shopper,” because she and the other committee members travel all over to bring home the very best prizes to be won at Bethany’s fund raisers. All will agree that Hugh and Diana make a great team because they both care a whole awful lot!

Then in June of 2002, with the sudden loss of Bill Kerwick, it seemed that the Annual Bethany House Golf Outing could not proceed. Even though Diana and Hugh were devastated, Hugh stepped in and took over the difficult task of chairing the Golf Outing Committee in midstream. Thanks to his extensive fund-raising experience and his strong and steady influence, Hugh skillfully pulled all the pieces together and steered the Golf Outing into a successful fund-raising event for Bethany House. Since then, Hugh has chaired the event through 2005, and it has been running like a “well-oiled machine.” He promises to give us at least one more year as Chair, and also promises to have new jokes ready for us in 2006! We also look forward to his well-received MC role at the Dinner.

And now, having retired from Merrill Lynch after 35 years of service, in the past few years, Diana and Hugh have developed an envied life style of spending the winter months in Florida at their home in Stuart. Of course, Hugh is busy there also because [what else] he is the President of the Property Owners’ Association; and we all know that Diana has to help with that job! She also has been a busy Chairwoman of the Mariner Sands 9 Hole Golf Association consisting of 120 members. After 40 years of marriage, they welcome some free time. Hugh likes to spend time studying the stock market and reading; Diana is an expert game player and particularly likes Mah-jongg, croquet, and scrabble. And, of course, they both love to play golf.

When they come back to New York in May, they return to their lovely home in Baldwin, which is closer to their two children who both reside in New Jersey. Their daughter Kelly works as an Executive in the garment industry, and their son Michael is a very gifted free-lance photographer. In fact, Michael’s generous donation of his unique Tribute of Lights Collage of September 11 was very well received at the Golf Outing event.

But whatever Diana and Hugh do, or where ever they go, they always maintain their ties with Bethany, and we will always be thankful and grateful for our “Dynamic Duo.” Throughout their productive and caring lives, they have always complemented each other and used their talents together to care a whole awful lot for those in need. The McNamaras have “stayed with Bethany” during all these years - Hugh puts it simply: I love to see money well-spent and used wisely, and I love success! And as all of us at Bethany know, much of our success is due to wonderful people like the McNamaras.

Thank you, Diana and Hugh, for being “someones” who care a whole awful lot!

HUGHIE’S LATEST SUCCESS: With the tremendous cooperation and support of ALL the members of the 2005 Committee, the 9th Annual Golf Outing raised more than $83,000 for Bethany’s moms and kids! THANK YOU to ALL who worked on the event, and all who supported this effort in so many ways. Watch for Hughie and the Team again in 2006: the 10th Annual Outing will be held on July 24, 2006 at the Tam O’Shanter Golf Club.
THE AVERAGE PERSON SPENDS 365 HOURS A MONTH AT HOME.

Imagine...

WHAT IT'S LIKE NOT TO HAVE ONE

Bethany House of Nassau County
102 WHITEHOUSE AVENUE
ROOSEVELT NY 11575
516 868-6866

"a place to come when there's no place to go..."

The Children's Corner

If you look closely at my picture, you will see that I am holding a flower in my hand. I wish I could give it to all of you who are so very kind and generous to us at Bethany House!

Soon it will be Thanksgiving Day, and all the children at Bethany House will feast on a wonderful meal as we thank God for the goodness of so many friends. YOU do God's work at Bethany when you reach out to us, God's children.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL OF YOU!

And...may you have a most blessed Christmas and Hanukkah and Kwanza. All of us at Bethany House will remember you and your family in our prayers, asking God to bless you as lovingly as you have blessed us.

Maritza xxx
WaMu: The Bank That Cares!

On a hot Saturday afternoon late in July, a wonderful event took place! We at Bethany House were expecting a small group of professionals from the Washington Mutual Bank to come over to one of our residences and give our young mothers a seminar on financial topics. Surely this happened but so did much more and Washington Mutual has become for all of us "The Bank that Cares."

Imagine our surprise and delight when several employees [about sixteen], under the warm leadership of Michele Godfrey and her supervisor, Jeanne Johnson, came into our home and into the hearts of all gathered there. These remarkable people showed they really cared about our women and all of the twenty or more little children who ran to meet them. One person was dressed as a clown and entertained the children; others did face painting, while still others set up games and gave out prizes. A wonderful magician was also part of the event, and the barbecue lunch provided a wide variety of delicious, wholesome foods and special treats which were enjoyed by all of Bethany's residents, our staff members and the gracious, generous employees of Washington Mutual. And... everyone stayed to help with the clean-up as well!

It was truly a enjoyable experience for all of us and one we shall not forget. Never before in Bethany's twenty-eight years of assisting homeless families has a business partner cared enough to come and share so much time, effort and knowledge with us! Washington Mutual Bank and its generous employees showed us that they care a whole awful lot, and we are most grateful to our community-conscious business partner.

Some of the many other Businesses that help Bethany House - please support them!

Aristocrat Paint Contracting, Inc. 165A Eads St, West Babylon, NY 11704
Arrow Exterminating Company 287 Broadway, Lynbrook, NY 11563
Callaghan Nawrocki, LLP CPA’s 225 Broad Hollow Rd, Melville, NY 11747
Carpet Depot Sunrise Highway, Freeport, NY 11520
Cool Temp Mechanical Corp. 36 Harned Rd, Commack, NY 11725
D & S Kitchens and Cabinets 65 Elm St, Copiague, NY 11726
E. Van Creations 4009 Long Beach Rd, Island Park, NY 11558

P & C Electric 77 Norman Ln, Levittown, NY 11756
Pat Dolan Plumbing Company 4 Brooklyn Ave, Massapequa, NY 11768
Prestige Employee Administrators, Inc. 136 Woodbury Rd, Woodbury, NY 11797
Salerno Brokerage Corp. 117 Oak Dr, Syosset, NY 11791
Top Ladder Home Improvements, Inc. P.O. Box 757, Westhampton, NY 11977
Nicholas Varlotta Architects 112 Bedford Ave, Bellmore, NY 11710
Westerman, Ball et al, LLP 170 Old Country Rd, Mineola, NY 11501
Dear Board Members,

Thank you for all you do for us kids at Bethany House. My mom is real happy again.

Love xxx

Joey

The Board of Directors’ Corner:
[In most issues of Turning Point, we will have articles written by members of Bethany’s Board.]

Bethany House lives out the Spirit of St. Dominic

When St. Dominic traveled through the south of France in the early 1200’s, he found an extraordinary situation. In the midst of social chaos, a new heresy gripped the area. The Catharists believed that the body and matter were evil and only the spirit was good. This dualistic belief was so strongly held by its followers that they led very ascetical and disciplined lives. In fact, they were called “The Perfect.” Many people, observing their fasting, their prayer, and their sharing goods and wealth in common, were drawn to their way of life. The Catharists were seen as holy people and actually, at times they appeared to be more authentic Christians than the monks and Bishops who were preaching to them.

Dominic was moved with pity for them. He saw that Catharism had been born of a sentimental recoil from the evil present in the world. He knew that if the Cathars were to return to the faith, they would have to be reached intellectually in order to accept the Biblical truth of creation, the Gospel truth of God’s becoming human, and the redemptive truth of the Cross. And so, this was how Dominic began his preaching.

Among the first to be converted to truth of the goodness of the body as well as the spirit were women. Because of the strict control of life and families in Cathar society and therefore, also among the heretics, many women who had converted from Catharism found themselves literally homeless, disowned by their Cathar families. I’d like to think that women were among Dominic’s first converts because what woman, after giving birth to a child, could look at the child and say, “This creature is evil.”

Dominic, in his concerns for the welfare of these women, had them join other strong female followers of his and charged them with praying for the success of the preaching. This first group of future Dominican nuns was housed in an abandoned monastery in Prouille, France where they lived together and learned to support themselves, independent of their fathers and husbands.

And so, Bethany House follows closely in the spirit of Dominic. One of the first priorities at Bethany is to provide a secure, peaceful home for homeless women and children. The second priority is to assure our guests that we are there FOR them, that they are good, that we will help them in whatever they need. The atmosphere at all the Bethany Houses is one of loving acceptance, quiet concern, active assistance and a determined movement toward successful independence. Dominic would be so proud!

Sister Claire Pfundstein, OP
Bethany House Board Member and
Chair of the Finance/Business Committee
Bethany's 2005 Sursum Corda Awards Honor Two Outstanding Women

On the evening of November 15, 2005 Bethany honored two unique women for their extraordinary ability to lift up the hearts and spirits of others:

An Outstanding Woman of Compassion: Diane Dupas has been chosen for this honor because of her deep spirit of compassion and her unique gift of caring for so many. She is an Ordained Elder and Deacon in the First Presbyterian Church of Freeport, serving "the least among us" through numerous volunteer commitments. Diane is always willing to lend a hand, and she has directly helped Bethany House for many years by initiating programs to supply us with Christmas gifts, Thanksgiving and Easter Baskets, special gifts for Moms on Mothers' Day, school supplies and winter coats for our children and Metro cards for our families.

An Outstanding Woman of Accomplishment: Bridgette Francis has been chosen for this honor because of her ability to overcome insurmountable odds in working toward her personal growth and the financial security of her young family. As a single parent, Bridgette has worked to support her family while studying full time for her degree. Even though her time is limited, she always finds time for Bethany, most recently serving on Bethany's Board of Directors as a representative of the homeless community.

We congratulate you both, and we thank you for the inspiration and example that you are to all of us!

Sursum Corda - Lift up Your Heart!

Several years ago, Bethany House was struggling through a severe financial crisis brought about by a prolonged delay in the receipt of federal monies. Ironically, "the place to come when there's no place to go" seemed to have no place to go.

During this dark time, I received a call from Virginia, a woman I had known for many years from the days when I had worked in Parish Outreach. Virginia asked if I would meet her for lunch as she had something to tell me.

That afternoon will forever remain in my memory. When our hearts and spirits are the heaviest, God sends a messenger, an angel - and Virginia was my angel that day! She told me that she wanted to help Bethany House financially in memory of her late husband, Robert. I did not know the details; I only knew that she would help us - and that she was sent to us by God.

As I walked up the path to Virginia's home after lunch, I noticed a small plaque above the door. Painted on the plaque were two words: SURSUM CORDA. The meaning of these words drifted back from the days when we used to pray in Latin and I said, "LIFT UP YOUR HEART!" With surprise she answered, "Oh, you know what it means- Robert placed that plaque above our door many years ago so we would always remember to lift up the hearts of all who enter our home and lives."

Since that day, the Robert W. and Virginia Hassler Family Foundation has been instrumental in lifting up the heart of Bethany so many times through their generosity and concern. Each year our Sursum Corda Awards are lovingly given in Robert's memory.

Sister Aimee

Bethany's Angels for 2005:
Rock and Wrap it Up!

Here on Long Island there is a most unusual group of dedicated and caring people who have been providing delicious food to Bethany for the past several years. The group is called Rock and Wrap it Up! because they collect safely recovered edible food from rock concerts and other venues where high-quality foods would otherwise be wasted, wrap it up and deliver it to places like Bethany.

Rock and Wrap it Up! is energized by the commitment and vision of Syd Mandelbaum, and he is capably assisted by two extraordinary women: Rose Foley and Diane Mandelbaum.

On November 15, 2005 at Bethany's Annual Harvest Moon Fashion Show and Awards Dinner, Rose and Diane were honored for their dedication and love of God's poor as Bethany's Angels for 2005!

BocoTown XIII was held at Molloy College on October 20, 2005 and more than 75 participants raised over $10,000 for the Katrina Relief Fund and for Bethany House. THANK YOU to all who worked on and supported this wonderful event.

Photo courtesy of Meryl Tihany

Our next Issue of Turning Point will have full coverage of our Harvest Moon Fashion Show and Awards Dinner.
Dear Friends of Bethany,

The average person spends 365 hours a month at home... IMAGINE what it's like not to have one.

As you know, Bethany House is a warm, loving shelter for women and children who are homeless. Established in 1978, Bethany House has grown to include four residences for homeless families, particularly families with special needs. Bethany House was the first emergency shelter to open on Long Island, and has been singled out as a model program because Bethany has always provided safe, supportive housing combined with extensive services and resources. At present, Bethany House’s programs include emergency, transitional, and long-term housing options for up to seventy-five persons nightly.

It is in such an atmosphere as Bethany creates that homeless women and children are able to move through the crisis back to stability, with the help of dedicated professionals and surrounded by a caring community. In this past year alone, Bethany House has provided 21,995 nights of hospitality to 564 families including 617 children. Of course, this additional work brings additional expenses - we estimate that Bethany spends $23 per person, per day, over and above the government monies that are allocated to us.

Presently all our beds are full in all of our four residences, and we could double the capacity due to the pressing need. Therefore, I'm sure you understand how much we depend on all of you - the members of our extended community - to help us put bread on the table! We count on you to help us give our children the help they need at this difficult time.

All funds raised by Bethany House are used to directly assist the homeless women and children who come to our doors. The back of this letter suggests some ways you can support our efforts during the Holiday season that fast approaches. And, as you read through this latest edition of our Newsletter, I am sure you will agree that a donation to Bethany House is a wonderful investment in the future of a young family.

We have begun an Emergency Assistance Fund for Families so that we can directly help to insure the long-term stability of these young mothers and children by providing them with a brief and reasonable financial subsidy so that their homeless crisis is not merely interrupted but ended! This Fund is steadily growing, but not fast enough to meet the need. Can we count on you to support this effort in changing children's lives?

I thank you for your generous response to this request! May God richly bless you in this Season of Hope for the hope and love you give to all the children who struggle for their daily bread.

Sister Aimee and The Staff of Bethany

- 102 Whitehouse Avenue Roosevelt, NY 11575 -
The average person spends 365 hours a month at home -
...imagine what it's like not to have one.

Today, homelessness is a harsh reality for over 40,000 Long Islanders
- and more than half of them are children.

Join us at Bethany House in our efforts to change this reality -
provide a gift for a homeless child or family as you help decorate Bethany’s Christmas Tree!

A $10 donation will provide warm slippers for a little child & an ornament for Bethany’s Tree.

A $15 donation will provide mittens and a hat for a homeless child & an ornament for Bethany’s Tree.

A $20 donation will provide a cozy blanket and sleeper for a homeless baby & an ornament for Bethany’s Tree.

A $25 donation will provide a new warm sweater for Mom & an ornament for Bethany’s Tree.

A $50 donation will provide snow boots for three homeless children or blankets for a homeless family of four & an ornament for Bethany’s Tree.

A $100 donation will provide Christmas dinner for our guests at one of our houses & a SPECIAL ornament for Bethany’s Tree.

[Other Suggestions for Gifts for Our Homeless Guests Are Also Welcome! Call Barbara at 546-7970 with Your Ideas.]

Yes! I WANT TO HELP BETHANY HOUSE TO PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND THEIR MOMS AT CHRISTMAS. ENCLOSED IS MY DONATION FOR: $________

NAME: ____________________ PHONE: ____________________

Please make your tax-deductible check payable to BETHANY HOUSE
and mail it to: 102 Whitehouse Avenue, Roosevelt, NY 11575
ATTENTION: SISTER AIMEE

Thank You!

"Unless someone like YOU cares a whole, awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."  The Lorax by Dr. Seuss