

My dear Little Flower,

During our Lenten Pilgrimage, the Church encourages us to pray, to fast and give alms. One way that Little Flower gives back is through our outreach ministries. Since the onset of Covid, our LF Homeless Ministry has been providing grocery cards and meals (including formula and diapers when needed) on a periodic basis to the families in the temporary shelter program managed by *Family Promise* of Union County. Our parish Homeless Ministry has recently **engaged** with Family Promise to **explore** other possibilities on how we could support these families and we chose to work with an individual family in the program and 'adopt' them by assisting with meeting their needs.

This week we met with Kingsley and Sakeenah, parents of a 9-year-old-boy with special needs and a twin 2-year-old girl. Kingsley works, and they are trying to secure an apartment in Union Country as they have qualified for a Section 8 voucher but this is taking time as they need a 3-bedroom apartment within their budget. ***We need your prayers for them, and any advice to secure the apartment, but will also need support once they have a home of their own.*** What would Jesus Himself do for families like Kingsley and Sakeenah's? **Our Little Flower Parish would like to join them on their journey as a young family, as our capacities might allow.**

The HEIGHTS (LF Youth Ministry) is excited and thankful for the parish. During Ash Wednesday, we collected some money for our ministries. The Heights (Youth Ministry) is one of the beneficiaries of the collection, alongside the FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY. Both ministries give their appreciation and thanks to our parish. The Heights, particularly, were permitted to gather and celebrate their friendship in the context of mystery and fun! They surely had fun being together at the Escape Room in Madison, NJ. More fun, faith, family, friends stuff coming up!

Your parish priest,
Fr JC Merino