



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Catholic Charities of Central Florida's Mission Statement

Provide vital social services to people in need, regardless of their religious, social or economic background, to improve lives of individuals, families and the community.

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Regenerations A Reason to Celebrate

Winter Haven, FL – Saint Matthew Catholic Church and Catholic Charities of Central Florida had reasons to celebrate Sunday, February 6, 2011. For the past year, Regenerations Upscale Thrift Shop, a ministry of Saint Matthew Catholic Church had operated successfully selling beautiful things such as clothing, furniture, religious and household items, that are like new and have many years of appreciation left. “The sale of the items generates funds that go to support parish ministries,” explained Marty Dunn, Minister of Stewardship for Saint Matthew Catholic Church.

The Alive in Christ campaign became a catalyst in the summer 2010 for the congregation of St. Matthew to prayerfully consider the stewardship of their funds, and the potential for church ministries. The decision was made to relocate the thrift shop, Regenerations, to a larger facility in downtown Winter Haven and to support the work of Catholic Charities of Central Florida by providing space for their outreach in the same building.

“The parish as a whole has embraced the ministry of Regenerations and the expansion of Catholic Charities into Polk County,” commented Dunn “Strengthening the presence of Catholic Charities in East Polk County is a priority at Saint Matthew, for it speaks to the hearts of our parish mission: to live the Gospel through prayer in action.” “By establishing a branch of the Winter Haven satellite office for Catholic Charities of Central Florida in a secured, second part of our new Resale Shop building will better help to address the holistic needs of our local community through their life-changing work and ministry. Through this partnership, we will lead more people to Christ as we make our call and commitment to minister to those in need” (Alive in Christ, 2010).

Catholic Charities of Central Florida, Inc. is one of the foremost providers of social services in the state of Florida, having served more than 130,000 men, women and children in this past year. Catholic Charities of Central Florida's mission is to provide vital social services to people in need, regardless of their religious, social or economic background, to improve lives of individuals, families and the community. ###