



Supporting Those In Need

## About Bart Codd

Bart's Pantry is named after the ministries long time coordinator, Bart Codd. Always calm, humble, organized, and generous, Bart was totally dedicated to the survival and improvement of the Ministry to the Poor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Oakland NJ. When he became terribly ill in 2003, his wife Dorrie encouraged him to relinquish his work. But Bart, the giving person he was, refused (in the nicest possible way, of course), and continued his faithful involvement until his final entry into the hospital on Easter Sunday, 2006.

Bart and Dorrie moved to Oakland from Staten Island in 1967 with their three small children. They all became active parishioners at OLPH from the day they arrived. Shortly after their arrival, pastoral associate for social justice at OLPH, Sr. Mary Magdalene Yauch, SSJ, knowing the suffering of so many people in the Archdiocesan seat of Newark, began establishing a sister parish relationship between OLPH and St. Mary's Parish in Newark. Bart, along with many others, quickly signed on for "Ministry to the Poor" which operated much the same as it does today, with monthly food collections, a special Thanksgiving turkey collection, and, of course, the Christmas gift program that began with hats, mittens, scarves, gloves, etc.

After several years of coordinating the ministry, Sr. Mag decided to become more directly involved in ministering to the poor. She transferred to St. Mary's Parish, leaving the program she so ably started at OLPH in the capable hands of the ministry volunteers to carry on her work. Bart gradually began taking on a more leadership role and continued that role until his passing in 2006.

Before his passing, Bart worked closely with Fr. Lipnicki, who had just become the new pastor of OLPH, on expanding the Ministry to the Poor to include Holy Spirit/Our Lady Help of Christians (HS/OLHC) in East Orange. Today, because of their hard work and dedication, Bart's Pantry can support both St. Mary's and HS/OLHC pantries by delivering food on alternate months.