

## **2026 January Mission Emphasis**

### **Oneonta Warming Station**

*January 4, 2026 - Moment for Mission by Rebecca LaBarr*

As a result of a New York State Executive Order -- whenever the temperature goes below 32 degrees, people must be sheltered to keep them safe from freezing to death. The Warming Station is not a shelter. It offers a warm, safe place to sleep for the night.



Catholic Charities, along with Otsego County Dept. of Social Services, runs Oneonta's Warming Station at 291 Chestnut Street on property owned by the Vets Club. This facility has enabled them to expand services to include a shower and a washer & dryer where staff can do a load of laundry for guests. There is no kitchen (only a microwave oven).

The staff is trained in CPR, the use of Narcan, Mental Health crisis response and de-escalation techniques. They can offer case management services to improve access to housing and medical care. They offer shelf-stable individually packaged items (see below).

This winter Oneonta has seen the coldest temperatures in recent history. At this time the Warming Station can accommodate 10 people per night on a first come basis. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., lights out at 10:30 p.m. and guests leave by 7:30 a.m. Some find themselves in a temporary state of homelessness and others may be chronically unhoused. Some suffer mental health issues, and they all suffer from financial troubles.

The Warming Station continues to rely on the generosity of our community to help provide basic food and toiletries as well as monetary donations to help keep the doors open. Please find it in your heart to help those who are less fortunate.

As the proverb says... "There but for the grace of God go I."

Needed items are listed below. There is a collection box outside the church office.

OR take items to Catholic Charities, 176 Main St., Oneonta. (607) 432-0061

Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri. 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM, Thurs. 8:30 AM to 6:30 PM

Closed for lunch 12:30 to 1:30 PM and on all major holidays.

Monetary donations: Make checks out to *FUPC* with *Warming Station* on the memo line.

Please Give Generously.

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### **Warming Station Needs, such as:**

Food and Drinks: ALL individually portioned and only non-refrigerated items. No cans, please.

Clothing: Socks / gloves and mittens / winter hats / underwear

Toiletries: Travel size hand lotion / soap / shampoo / deodorant / disposable razors / combs / brushes / sanitizers / Kleenex / toothbrushes / toothpaste / floss / feminine hygiene products

For The Warming Station: Bulk coffee / sugar packets / creamer packets / plastic utensils / paper towels / toilet paper / Kleenex / hot cups / napkins / hand sanitizer / liquid - bar soap / Lysol spray / sanitizing wipes / toilet bowl cleaner / glass cleaner, etc.