



## Sleep in Heavenly Peace: Our Almsgiving Project for Lent

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) is a national nonprofit organization with chapters spread across the country. They are working toward a solution for child “bedlessness” by building beds for children who have no place to sleep.

All children deserve a safe, comfortable place to lay their heads. In Idaho, where the nonprofit began, and across the U.S., too many boys and girls go without a bed--or even a pillow—to sleep on. These children end up sleeping on couches, blankets, and floors. This can affect their health and their happiness. SHP is a group of volunteers dedicated to building, assembling and delivering top-notch bunk beds to children and families in need. This

organization has grown steadily over time, and they are hoping to add more chapters in different states to serve these families.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace started like many other charities, in a garage in Idaho. It was Christmas time, a time of joy and happiness, a time of giving and love, but also a time of bitter, cold weather and snowstorms. A project which began as building one bed for a single family developed into something a whole lot more. With wood left over from the first bunk, another idea was created. “Who could benefit from another bunk?” A simple post on Facebook sparked an unexpected response. What was thought would be a litter of requests from needy families turned into a litany of local people eager to help and volunteer. The generosity of these volunteers was so surprising that it was no longer who needs a bed, but how many beds could be provided. From there, the idea for SHP became a reality.

So many great charities provide clothing, meals, and toys to families in need. Few, however offer suitable beds and bedding to the kids in these families. Sleep in Heavenly Peace believes that a bed is a basic need for the proper physical, emotional, and mental support that each child needs. Their motto is “no kid sleeps on the floor in our town!”

SHP is constantly looking for volunteers to build bunks, go on bed deliveries, be vocal advocates for their mission, and start new SHP chapters in unserved communities. Holy Rosary will be working with chapters in Harrison and Lewis counties and we will be contributing our bedding locally.

In your generosity this Lenten season, please think of the children who can benefit from your donations. Beds are made for children and teens ( no cribs for babies). We need:

- New twin sized sheets, blankets, and comforters for kids and teens
- New pillows and pillow cases for kids and teens
- Tools
- Wood and other construction materials
- Donations for mattresses and other expenses

All donations can be brought to Marist Hall, or left in the vestibule of the church. Of course, monetary donations are accepted. Please watch the bulletin to see how to provide monetary donations. Members of the Christian Concerns Committee and Brother Roy Madigan will be glad to answer any questions you might have about this special Lenten project. Thank you in advance for your generosity to this worthy project.

