FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

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MEDIA ALERT

Catholic Charities Parish Engagement Expanding to Downtown San Jose
Services Still Needed and Continuing to Grow Post Pandemic

Who: Greg Kepferle, Catholic Charities CEO;
Father Jon Pedigo, Parish Engagement Director
Father Steve Kim, Pastor of St. Leo’s Parish

What: Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County (CCSCC) continues to expand and enhance their services with their Parish Engagement program opening their newest location at St. Leo’s Parish on Thursday, June 11th. St. Leo’s will serve their community neighborhood with FREE services including a warm meal provided by Loaves & Fishes, immigration legal services from CCSCC, groceries from Second Harvest of Silicon Valley and medical and mental health services from Gardner Health Services each Thursday from 5pm-7pm.

Parish Engagement Director, Father Jon expresses, "We are thrilled to expand our Community Market to St. Leo’s in partnership with Second Harvest, Gardner, and Loaves and Fishes. After surveying 171 households in this neighborhood, it is clear that there is a great need for support in downtown San Jose and the Sunol Midtown Neighborhood. The pandemic has heightened economic disparities in developing neighborhoods and we are determined to support those who are most in need so that they can stay in the neighborhoods that they know and love. This will be our first effort into supporting the families of downtown San Jose."

When: Thursday, June 11, 2021 4:00pm-5:30pm
Where: St. Leo’s, 88 Race St, San Jose, CA 95126

About: Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County (CCSCC), is one of the largest social services agency in Santa Clara County. As COVID-19 hit Santa Clara County, CCSCC reacted immediately to increase total food distribution outreach. In previous years, we served 40,000 individuals annually. From March 2020 to May of 2021 service has increased more than 10x as we have served more than 130,928 households with enough food for 13.9 million meals and 499,987 individuals served and counting. CCSCC creates pathways for the community to provide hope, dignity and opportunity and Parish Engagement Program continues past the pandemic to serve Santa Clara County through their accompaniment services where volunteers spend 4 hours of their month with residents who are in need of service navigation and a loving committed presence in their lives. Through a mutually trans-formative experience, volunteers and clients work together to overcome barriers to poverty - together.

For more information, please visit: www.CCSCC.org
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