

## "Flea" from Clutter! "Flea" from Disorganization!

Have clutter? Getting ready to downsize? Just want to rid yourself of some extra furnishings, knickknacks, or other items?

St. B's Flea Market is accepting your donations!

Our Flea Market will be held on Saturday, September 11 (or the 18<sup>th</sup>, the rain date), 8:00 am-1:00 pm.

The Flea Market is one of St. B's most important Outreach fundraisers and we are collecting donations now. <u>We will accept donations between now and September 1 each Wednesday from 7:00 to-9:00 pm, and</u> <u>each Sunday from 8:00 to 11:00 am, in the following departments</u>:

- Jewelry (real, costume or anywhere in between)
- Collectibles (all kinds of knickknacks, hobby pieces, figurines, bar ware, etc.)
- Art, pictures, frames, baskets
- House Wares (pots, pans, platters, dishes, flatware, serving utensils, small appliances like blenders and slow-cookers, etc.)
- Electrical (lamps, decorative electrical items)
- Electronics (all kinds but please no tube TVs or CRT computer monitors!)
- Toys, puzzles and games (please note: we need items that are in good shape and ready for the next child to use nothing that is stained, missing pieces or is broken, outdated or nonfunctional)
- Linens: sheets, towels, blankets, comforters, pillow cases, pillow shams, throw pillows, etc. (please no used bed pillows and no mattresses).
- Music and movies (please no VHS or cassettes)
- Books (all genres, all ages however, please no textbooks, magazines, or encyclopedias)
- Clothing and accessories (all ages, kids, men and women, includes shoes, scarves, hats, etc.)
- Notions (candles, candle holders, eyeglasses, etc.)
- Seasonal (Christmas, Halloween, etc.)
- Plants and Garden Items (plants, seeds, vases, planters, small garden tools, etc.)
- Sporting goods (bats, balls, tennis racquets, etc.)
- Pet Items (carriers, beds, bowls, cages, etc.)

We'll give you a donation receipt for your tax purposes. You can just drive up and drop off – we'll take care of the rest. Look for the table in the parking lot near the red back door.

**Please make sure all contributed materials are ready to be re-sold.** Items that are broken, missing parts, nonfunctional, damaged, etc. are not going to sell. A good way to decide whether to contribute something is to ask yourself the question, *"Would I buy this?"* 

What CAN'T St. B's take? Here is a quick rundown:

**FURNITURE** – no matter how good it is, no matter whether it is antique or modern, no matter whether it is upholstered or not, no matter what size, <u>we have no place to store it</u>; we're sorry – please ask a charity like Salvation Army, Goodwill, Habitat for Humanity, etc., or try a local Facebook Buy Nothing group, Freecycle forum or CraigsList-Free Stuff.

**BUILDING MATERIALS, PAINT AND CHEMICALS** – We <u>can't accept</u> paint (or paint thinner, paint remover, gloss coating, wallpaper, wallpaper paste, etc.), wood scraps, metal scraps, drywall materials, sinks, toilets, tiles or flooring, bathtubs, toilet seats, etc. Paint brushes, trays and rollers can be accepted <u>only if they have</u> <u>never been used and are still in the original packaging</u>. Gasoline canisters cannot be accepted either. Please note that all the previously mentioned materials need to be disposed of at a local dump, or you can contact Habitat for Humanity or Second Chance, or possibly another forum, to inquire about donations. You may also be able to pass along some things on "free item" neighborhood platforms or forums, if the rules allow.

**<u>BIG EXERCISE EQUIPMENT</u>** –stair masters, rowers, elliptical, etc. Again, no place to store it. Please try the outlets mentioned above.

**LARGE YARD EQUIPMENT** –Mowers, blowers, chain saws, hedge clippers, heavy-duty tools and equipment, etc. Again, no place to store it. Please try the outlets mentioned above. Also, no gasoline canisters for the previously mentioned equipment.

BABY CAR SEATS AND BIKE HELMETS – Laws prohibit us from re-selling these (sorry).

We will accept items between 7 pm and 9 pm on Wednesdays (through September 1) and on Sundays between 8 am and 11 am (through August 29).

And of course, we need volunteers! Volunteers to sort items in advance of the sale, and volunteers to sell items on the day of the Flea Market (Saturday, September 11, rain date of Saturday, September 18). No training, skills, or resumé necessary at all. We'll be using the Undercroft for all departments except clothing and accessories (those will still be in the upstairs of the Parish House). If you have kids who needs community service hours, this is a great option.

Note: If you do not feel comfortable working this summer and want to contribute to the Flea Market (and to St. B's), you have other options:

- We will have items that need to be cleaned and/or polished prior to the Flea Market; please feel free to offer to do this; you can do it at home on your own time.
- We need someone to manage our eBay sales (selling and shipping the more expensive items, on the church's account).
- We will need people to set up and/or break down on the day of the Flea Market
- We will need people to shop the day of the Flea Market
- We will need people to pray for good weather so we don't have to use the rain date!

Any questions? Please contact Flea Market Chairs: Mary Helen Sprecher at <u>mhsprecher@gmail.com</u> or 410-419-4543 Or Debbie Wacker at <u>dwacker50@gmail.com</u> or 410-636-7751. Thank you!