



Circles of Mercy staff and volunteers announce our modified reopening of their offices and clothing thrift shop, “Catherine’s Closet,” located at 11 Washington Street in Rensselaer. As a result of the COVID-19 virus, effective on Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, the closet will be open only 3-days per week; Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; from 10am until 2pm. Until further notice all donations of clothing and household items will only be received on Wednesdays and Fridays. For the foreseeable future, no walk-in drop off of any donations will be accepted.

During the Monday, Tuesday and Thursday thrift store hours all visitors will undergo a health screen, must wear a face masks (or facial covering) and practice 6-foot social distancing. We are also limiting visitors at 2-persons for maximum time of 20 minutes each. Sanitizing of hands must be performed upon entry and exiting the building. There will be no available fitting room or bath room.

Additionally for clothing donation we will require that they be recently dry cleaned or freshly laundered. The donations should then be placed in closed plastic bags for handling. Items like shoes, sneakers, handbags, etc., must be thoroughly cleaned using sanitizing wipes, let completely air dry and also placed in closed plastic bags. For everyone’s safety and to avoid crowding, the drop off of all donations must be scheduled in advance for either a Wednesday -or- Friday, to ensure that someone is here to accept them and to see that the donations have been properly processed.

Circles of Mercy is a non-profit organization sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy Northeast Community. Circles of Mercy provides a variety of services to local residents, including low-cost clothing, job skills, computer training, social service support, free income tax preparation and supplemental new baby clothing and supplies. The thrift shop and offices are located on Washington Street, ½ block north of Columbia Turnpike (next to the old closed gas station). Our building is easily accessible by wheelchair, and street parking is convenient. Please call us at 518-462-0899, email us at [circlesofmercy@nycap.rr.com](mailto:circlesofmercy@nycap.rr.com) or for more information visit our website at: [www.circlesofmercy.org](http://www.circlesofmercy.org) or our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/circlesofmercy/>