



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Christmas Sweets, Treats & Treasures**

PARK RAPIDS, MN (November 17, 2017) – The 5th Annual Christmas Sweets, Treats & Treasures will be held Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 am to 1 pm at Riverside United Methodist Church on Hwy 71 in Park Rapids.

Sponsored by CHI St. Joseph's Health Auxiliary, this event raises funds to enhance patient comfort and healing.

"This fundraiser includes a Cookie Walk featuring over 100 kinds of sweets and treats, Holiday Décor featuring gently used holiday treasures, a gift boutique, and a visit from Santa," said event co-chair, Carol Machovsky.

"We appreciate all of our volunteers who do a tremendous amount of work to make this a successful event," said Betsy Meyer, CHI St. Joseph's Health Volunteer Services Coordinator. "They put their hearts into their baking and convey the Christmas Spirit to all who come to this event."

The Cookie Walk includes thousands of cookies, bars and candies! Treats include many holiday specialty items such as: Lefse, Krumkake, Kringla, holiday breads, Biscotti, assorted cookie platters and fudge, just to mention a few. Credit cards are accepted.

A handmade Christmas Quilt will be raffled off at 1 pm. Raffle tickets are \$2 and are available at the event. Door prizes will be drawn at 1 pm. Guests do not have to be present to win.

"Our cookies go very fast, so we encourage people to come early to take advantage of the best selections," said Kay Naeve, event co-chair.

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**About CHI St. Joseph's Health**

*CHI St. Joseph's Health is a 25-bed critical access hospital serving communities in Hubbard, Becker, Cass and Wadena Counties since 1946. In recent years, CHI St. Joseph's Health's award-winning teams received several national honors including: The Joint Commission Top Performer on Key Quality Measures in surgery; Top 100 Critical Access Hospital, HealthStrong; WomenCertified's America's Best Hospitals Women's Choice Award in obstetrics; and the Studer Group Fire Starter Healthcare Organization of the Month among other national, regional and state recognitions.*

**About CHI**

*Catholic Health Initiatives, a nonprofit, faith-based health system formed in 1996 through the consolidation of four Catholic health systems, expresses its mission each day by creating and nurturing healthy communities in the hundreds of sites across the nation where we provide care. The nation's third-largest nonprofit health system, Englewood, Colorado-based CHI operates in 18 states and comprises 103 hospitals, including four academic health centers and major teaching hospitals as well as 30 critical-access facilities; community health-services organizations; accredited nursing colleges; home-health agencies; living communities; and other facilities and services that span the inpatient and outpatient continuum of care. In fiscal year 2015, CHI provided almost \$970 million in charity care and community benefit - an 8% increase over the previous year -- for programs and services for the poor, free clinics, education and research. Charity care and community benefit totaled more than \$1.6 billion with the inclusion of the unpaid costs of Medicare. The health system, which generated operating revenues of \$15.2 billion in fiscal year 2015, has total assets of approximately \$23 billion. Learn more at [www.catholichealthinitiatives.org](http://www.catholichealthinitiatives.org).*

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