



...Because every child deserves a childhood

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Archbishop Dolan Visits Astor's Hickey Center for Child Development in the Bronx

Bronx, NY – Archbishop Timothy Dolan visited Astor's Lawrence F. Hickey Center for Child Development in the Bronx, a therapeutic early childhood development program for children 3 – 5 years old with emotional and cognitive needs, on Monday, December 21st at 12:30p.

The children enrolled in the Hickey Center, staff and Mr. Lawrence F. Hickey (for whom the Center is named) and his family were excited to meet the Archbishop. During the visit, Archbishop Dolan visited all five classrooms where he interacted and played with the children.

After visiting each classroom, Archbishop Dolan along with Mr. Hickey, staff and guests, enjoyed special songs sung by the children. The Archbishop then presented each child with a Christmas gift.

"Christmas is a time for giving and I am happy to be here with the children in Astor's Lawrence Hickey Center. This is a wonderful place for children with special needs. Thank you for the love and care you show to God's little children," said Archbishop Dolan during his visit.

"It was a memorable visit where we had the opportunity to discuss our premier programs, under the umbrella of Catholic Charities, with the Archbishop. The children enjoyed his company. I am sure they will remember his visit for sometime to come," says James McGuirk, Executive Director/CEO, Astor Services for Children & Families.

Since 1953, Astor Services for Children & Families (formerly The Astor Home for Children) has been providing behavioral and educational services in a caring environment where children and their families find strength, healing, hope and trust. Now serving over 6,000 children and families annually, Astor's current range of services to families in the Mid-Hudson Valley and the Bronx include: Residential Treatment, Therapeutic Foster Family Care, Early Childhood Programs, and Community-Based Behavioral Health and Prevention Services. For additional information about Astor Services for Children & Families, please visit their website at www.astorservices.org or call Astor Services for Children & Families: Home for Children Foundation at (845) 871-1117.

