

HOLY REDEEMER COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER, 2023

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello ladies! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I'm sorry this newsletter is so late—I got busy during the holidays, so now I'm trying to catch up! I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday and celebrated the joy of our Savior's birth. We had a great meeting this month, with 55 ladies in attendance. We started with a beautiful Infant Jesus Mass celebrated with Fr. Georges and collected many beautiful baby gifts for Heartbeat of Flint. We enjoyed a tasty catered dinner prepared by Joan Clark, covered a lot of business, and got to enjoy some fun games and entertainment—hope you all liked Rudolph and his buddies! We also listened to a guest presentation from Maxwell Loxton about his Eagle Scout project and request for our support, which we will discuss further at the January meeting. Our monthly donation for December was made to the Divine Mercy Foundation. We had planned to give \$150 for refreshments for the Christmas Concert, but the church was able to procure these with other funds, so we combined these funds with our monthly \$100, and donated a total of \$250.

SCRAPBOOKING

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our scrapbooking event a success. Special thanks to Jennifer Mikonczyk for chairing this event and Joan Clark for running the kitchen. We had 51 baskets donated for our basket raffle—thank you all for your generosity! We also appreciate all the volunteers and food donations. Our total profit was \$4655.68.

EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

Our CCW/K of C euchre tournaments are starting up again! We will be holding these the third Thursday of every month in the Family Life Center. Doors open at 5:30 pm, game play starts at 6:30 pm. Our next tournament will be Thursday January 18th, and sloppy joes will be served. We have decided to increase the cost to \$20 for game play and food—this will help with costs, but also enable us to pay out better prize money as well.

COOKIE WALK

Thank you to Alisa Wells and Joan Clark for chairing our Cookie Walk on December 9-10. We also want to send a special thanks to all of our ladies for donating the delicious cookies, breads, and specialty items. The setup in the Ministry Center looked really nice and gave everyone a chance to see all the items. We made over \$850 in profit, final numbers will be confirmed at the January meeting.

WINE TASTING

Our Wine Tasting event is scheduled for Saturday January 20th at 1:00 PM in the Family Life Center. The sommelier from Oliver T's will be present to discuss several wines that we will sample, and we will also enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres. Cost is \$30 per person, which includes a free wine glass. We will be selling tickets after all Masses the weekend of January 6-7, or you can contact Teresa Sherman-Gach for more information at (810) 875-0604.

DUELING PIANOS

We will be holding our Dueling Pianos event on Saturday May 4th in the Family Life Center. Doors will open at 5:30pm, food/drink will be served, and then the event will start at 6:30 pm. The committee will be working on further details and having another meeting soon.

LENTEN RETREAT

CCW Lenten Retreat is scheduled for Saturday March 2nd. The event will begin with Mass at 9:00 in the church, which coincides with Mass for the World Apostolate of Fatima. After Mass, everyone will congregate at the Family Life Center for brunch and speaker program. Cost will be \$10 per person. Please contact Gerri Lajewski for more details.

OUTREACH REQUEST

Julie Grandquist spoke to the council at the meeting with a request for rosaries and prayer books to give away at Outreach. CCW has voted to underwrite this program on an ongoing basis, starting with \$60 to purchase 100 rosaries and 100 prayer books. We are also discussing a possible Rosary Rally in the spring to augment this project.

PRIEST/DEACON GIFTS

We voted to give \$150 to Fr. Bob McGraw and \$75 to Deacon Ken and Deacon Omar as our Christmas gift to them. We also decided to purchase household items for Fr. Georges for his Christmas present—the church purchased him a new queen bed, and we purchased sheets, comforter, blankets, and pillows for him, for a total of \$200.

JANUARY MEETING

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday January 10th in the Family Life Center, dinner at 6:00 pm. Thank you to the non-guild members who signed up to host. January is our soup, salad, and appetizer meeting—we are looking forward to everyone's delicious food! We will also be holding our White Elephant auction, bring your special treasures! Monthly tangible donation will be household items for the St. Francis Prayer Center—they did have a special request for sets of silverware, but would welcome all items. They also have asked for donations of small suitcases to help people transporting their items. We will also hear from Sr. Rachel and Sr. Force about their ministry at St. Mary's Mission.

PRAYER REQUESTS

I apologize that I don't have the usual list of prayer requests to send (I'm writing this from the airport). Please pray for all of our members and the intentions in their hearts.

CALENDAR

Meetings—September 6, October 4, November 8, December 6, January 10, February 7, March 6, April 10, May 8
January 20-Wine Tasting
February Bake Sale--February 10-11
Lenten Retreat--March 2
Dueling Pianos-May 4

BIRTHDAYS

Jan 1	Virginia Neustedt
Jan 2	Dorothy Rybarczyk
Jan 5	Barbara VanOverbeke
Jan 6	Monica Howe
Jan 8	Cathy Atkins
Jan 15	Alice Thomas
Jan 16	Denise Fortune
Jan 18	Kathleen Cauley
Jan 22	Giulia Vallecorsa

Jan 28	Iva Gould
Jan 28	Cecilia McDonald
Jan 29	Ardith Palmer
Jan 29	Patricia Tilley

SICK LIST/PRAYER LIST

If you know of a member who is ill or otherwise in need of prayers, please contact **Teresa Sherman-Gach** at treetah82d@yahoo.com, and we will include her in our prayer list.