

HOLY REDEEMER COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hi ladies! Happy February! Here's to hoping that spring is around the corner! We had another productive and busy meeting on February 8th, with 44 ladies in attendance. We enjoyed yummy beef brisket and cheesy potatoes for dinner, thanks to our honorary member and chef Greg, as well as all the delicious potluck additions. Thank you to Monica Howe standing in as chaplain to lead us in prayers and the Pledge of Allegiance. We heard reports from our board and commissions, notably marking February 8th as the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking.

Business discussions included our successful Wine Tasting and Euchre Tournament, plans for February Bake Sale, Scholarship, Lenten Retreat, Fashion Show, Day Trip to Our Lady of the Woods Shrine in Mio, and Fr. Steve's Retirement (pancake breakfast with K of C). Beth Clark provided us with some information about upcoming Holy Redeemer fundraisers, including Holy Redeemer Family Fun Day on June 4th, and Dinner and Auction in October. Joan Clark asked about getting some more help for funeral luncheons. We discussed our donation for February, and decided that since February is Random Acts of Kindness Month, we would give to a person through Outreach that has a specific larger expense (such as an electric bill, etc) and would coordinate this with Deacon Omar. We also had a request for CCW to provide soup/salad and host/serve for March 16th during Fr. Steve's Lenten Six Last Words.

I brought this up at the meeting, and I wanted to reiterate here that I do recognize we have a lot of events going on, and we are really busy. When I first ran for president, I was clear that my goals included making us more visible in the parish and planning more activities for both fundraising and social purposes, to help bring our parish together. We have made a positive impact in the parish so far this year, raising funds to support our causes and donate to a large variety of charities. We have gained 20 new members so far this year. We are now co-sponsoring events with our brother Knights of Columbus organization. I believe that we have seen a lot of

great benefits coming from our activities, and it has been a chance for more people to participate. I certainly don't expect everyone to volunteer for everything, but appreciate the support of our ladies at our various events, and I also want everyone to know that I would never ask anyone to volunteer for anything that I wouldn't be willing to do myself. I plan to clear my schedule to the best of my ability to be at as many of our events as possible. Thank you all for your support.

WINE TASTING

Thank you to all of the ladies who came out to help at our Wine Tasting event on January 21st. We had 30 people in attendance, and enjoyed a great presentation from Michael Cregar, certified sommelier from Oliver T's. He brought 7 different wines for us to taste and provided great explanation about each of the wines, as well as finer points of tasting wine and how to select good wines. The CCW provided a wonderful selection of hors d'oeuvres to enjoy with the wine served. We had a lot of positive feedback from everyone, and look forward to hosting another next year. We broke even on our costs vs. profits, which was what we were hoping for. Some future ideas we discussed included pairing this next year with a fancy dinner as a Valentine's/couples event, or doing a beer tasting as well.

EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

We had a successful Euchre Tournament on January 12th with the Knights of Columbus. We had 10 tables playing, and everyone enjoyed the sub sandwiches, chips, and cookies that we served. We split over \$500 in profit with the K of C. Our next tournament is scheduled for April 13th. The Knights have proposed that we try to make this a monthly event. We will work on getting a committee together with the Knights to discuss a rotating menu for these, as well as other logistics. If you have any interest in serving on this committee, please contact Teresa Sherman-Gach at (810) 875-0604.

FEBRUARY BAKE SALE

On behalf of Cheryl Elizondo and Natalie Butler, we send you a huge "Thank You" to all those who baked, volunteered and gave monetary donations to the February Bake Sale on February 11-12. It was a huge success. Everyone was surprised with the variety and amount of goodies we had to offer, especially the 'football cakes' (thank you Karen Thornton). Also a thank you to the church office for advertising the sale in the bulletin, on the Holy Redeemer website and the announcements during mass. Final profit totals are being finalized; we did very well.

SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for both of our CCW scholarships are now available in the church office. We have a \$1000 scholarship available for a graduating high school senior (boy or girl)--these applications are both in the office, and John Mira from the Youth Group has been given some. We also have applications for the Pat Paris scholarship, designated for a woman in the parish returning to education in a non-traditional fashion. This scholarship can be used for tuition, continuing education, or any reasonable expenses. Thank you to Donna Borges for chairing this committee--we appreciate your help!

LENTEN RETREAT

Our Women's Lenten Mini Retreat is being held Saturday, March 4th 8:30 am – 1:00 p.m. in the Holy Redeemer Family Life Center (FLC). It begins with Mass at 8:30 a.m. in the FLC followed by presentations from Father Tom Nenneau and Janet Cassidy. The theme of the retreat is: "Opening up the essential prayers of faith; The Creed and the Lord's Prayer". Brunch is included. Cost: \$10 before February 24th and \$15 after. Please register by contacting Sylvia Walton (810-624-7776 or walton.sylvia@gmail.com). Please make checks payable to HRCCW and mail to: Sylvia Walton, 4467 Crimson Court, Grand Blanc MI 48439. Thank you to Karen Thornton, Sylvia Walton and their committee for putting this event together!

LENTEN SERIES MEAL

CCW has been asked by the church to provide a soup, salad, and rolls dinner on Thursday March 16th for one of the Fr. Steve's Six Last Words Lenten Series meals. We will be serving about 100-200 people. We will need volunteers to help prepare the food and serve. Cost for the food will come out of our budget (likely from receptions). If you are interested, please contact Teresa Sherman-Gach at (810) 875-0604 or sign up at our next meeting.

FASHION SHOW

Our CCW Fashion Show will be held on Saturday May 6th in the Family Life Center. Chairman Karen Thornton is looking for volunteers to help with this committee, as well as to help model the clothes from Kim Rose Fashions. More information will be coming at our next meeting as to time, food, and other details. Please contact Karen if you are willing to help (thornzinger@comcast.net).

DAY TRIP

CCW is arranging a day trip to Our Lady of the Woods shrine in Mio on Saturday May 13th. We would leave by bus from our campus about 9 and probably pray a rosary on the bus. We would arrive in Mio about 11, attend Mass, enjoy luncheon prepared for us by the church, have some time to visit the shrine/gift shop, and then depart around 3 to return to Holy Redeemer about 5. Right now, all times are approximate. We have chartered a 55-passenger bus through On the Move Coaches for \$2000. The luncheon cost is also about \$7.50 per person. If we can fill the bus, our cost for the trip would be about \$45 per person. Thank you to Maria Brown for organizing this, and she will provide more information at the next meeting.

FR. STEVE'S RETIREMENT

We will be co-sponsoring a pancake breakfast with the Knights of Columbus on Sunday June 25th after the 9AM and 11AM Masses in honor of Fr. Steve's upcoming retirement. We will likely provide fruit and pastries and help serve at both meals. If you are interested in working on this committee, please contact Teresa Sherman-Gach at (810) 875-0604. I have also spoken with Mike

Joliat about the possibility of putting on a co-sponsored event to welcome our new priest later in the summer, and he was very interested in this, so likely our committee will work on both ideas.

HR FAMILY FUN DAY

The parish is holding a Holy Redeemer Family Fun Day fundraiser on Sunday June 4th in the pavilion area. The event will include a craft show, kids games, concessions, and many other events. CCW has been asked to hold a parish-wide bake sale and to co-sponsor a euchre tournament with the Knights of Columbus to help support this event. If you are interested in helping with either of these events, please contact Teresa Sherman-Gach at (810) 875-0604.

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

Joan Clark has asked the ladies of the CCW to please contact her if you are available to help with the church's funeral luncheons. She says that her volunteer pool has dwindled quite a bit, and she could use more support. If you are available to help, please let Joan know, and let her know what days you could help cover (she has some Saturday days that pop up). Contact her at antelopejoan1@aol.com

MEMBER PROFILE--Teresa Sherman-Gach

Sorry, it's been a really busy month, so you get me for this month's member profile. I will be better next month, I promise!

When did you join CCW? I joined in 2004, when Barb Butler was president. I had just moved back to the area with my husband and kids, and wanted a way to get to know more ladies in the parish.

What is your favorite part of CCW? The fellowship and fun that we all share!

What is your favorite CCW memory? Working with the committee on the Late Night Catechism 2 fundraiser--I got to know so many fun ladies and had a great time being part of planning that show!

Why would you recommend to someone to join CCW? It's a great place to meet lots of people, get involved in helping with an important ministry for the church/altar, and have a lot of fun!

CALENDAR

Meetings--September 7, October 5, November 9, December 7, January 4, February 8, March 8, April 5, May 10
Lenten Retreat--March 4
Euchre Tournament--April 13th
Fashion Show--May 6th
Day Trip--May 13th
Fr. Steve's Retirement Breakfast--June 25th

BIRTHDAYS

Feb 1	Ruth Cassidy
Feb 1	Madeline Martin
Feb 2	Joanne Dinnan
Feb 6	Constance Hodge
Feb 6	Thao Paris
Feb 7	Paula Paul
Feb 8	Fran Bontumasi
Feb 8	Dorothy Bowlsby
Feb 8	Elizabeth Mattson
Feb 10	JoAnn Lubiato