

NOVEMBER 2022 CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Since only one person was able to attend in person the decision was made to meet virtually.

FUNERAL LUNCH

Helen Ickes is back after a few months of therapy, etc. after her accident during the summer months and we are all thrilled to have her return!

Luncheons have been going well; Bob Modes is able to quickly cook more food should the need arise and the attendees are much more than what was expected.

We have added mostaccioli to the menu which was well received at the first luncheon where it was incorporated. Menu is now: chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, mostaccioli, salad, rolls and dessert.

We have asked the parish office – when a luncheon is requested for a funeral - to include in the emails that go out about an upcoming funeral that there is a luncheon is planned and if you can volunteer to work at the luncheon or provide a dessert to call Helen and let her know. We did this pre-COVID and it worked wonders and now that Helen is back we're going to do it again.

GOSPEL OF LIFE

The AAA Pregnancy Resource Center Baby Bottle Campaign concluded Nov. 6, 2022. So far about 250 bottles, out of 380, have been returned. A final report on the money collected will be reported after more bottles are returned.

The Right to Life--Lifespan Christmas Cards Sale will be Nov. 13-14 and Nov. 19-20 in the Church Hall.

MOPS

MOPS and MOMSNext is off to a fantastic start to our year. We welcomed nearly 60 moms and over 40 children to our first meetings. We are sharing our faith, motherhood journeys, and family struggles as we explore our topic for the year: We Go Together, inspired by Luke 5:18-20, the story of the paralyzed man lowered through the roof to meet Jesus and be healed.

Our group is preparing for our largest fundraiser of the year. We are inviting all members of the Family of Parishes to join us on Nov. 11th from 6-11 pm at St. Edith for our first annual Trivia Night with *My Trivia Live*, including prize raffle, 50/50 drawing, and a light supper. To register, see the announcement in the bulletin.

OUTREACH

Because the number of our local families that we normally help has decreased and the need for help from nearby charities has increased, it has been decided that the best way our parish can help the most people in need is to change our Holiday Outreach Program to focus on those charities.

Beginning this Thanksgiving, our food and gift collection will be directed to established charities while our local families will be helped, if needed, with gift cards rather than a food/gift home delivery. The parish will collect food at Thanksgiving for Loaves and Fishes of SW Detroit and St Christine Food Kitchen only, and at Easter for St Christine. At Christmas we will not collect food but rather gifts only for Loaves and Fishes, Franciscan Ministries, and Starfish Family Services, a nearby center aimed at families especially with young children. (Parish Objectives I.3, I.6)

Sort and pack will not be necessary at Thanksgiving and Easter. However, plans for Christmas include the need for volunteers to sort and pack only gifts for the three charities on December 12. Volunteers for Saturday Loading and Delivery Days, including individual drivers, will no longer be needed for any of

the three holidays. Arrangements for a weekday bulk delivery of the collected food at Thanksgiving and Easter and the gifts at Christmas to the charities listed above will be arranged by the Christian Service Office.

Letters of appreciation were sent to all past Outreach volunteers thanking them for their time, support and hard work over the past twenty plus years. A very special thank you goes to **Pauline Drabicki** who did a phenomenal job recruiting and coordinating all of the individual drivers for the majority of those years.

PARISH COUNCIL

1. Committee Reports:

**All committees under each commission including Christian Service (ie: Knights of Columbus, Gospel of Life, MOPS, Outreach, Funeral Lunch, etc.) are asked to list in their report which of the parish objectives their various activities fall under. See objectives below. This is to emphasize how the various parish activities are meeting the parish goals and objectives. Most Christian Service committee activities will fall under these objectives:

Objective I.1- Encourage people to return to Mass post-pandemic

Objective I.3 -Establish small groups and social events to encourage Parish Family members to form deeper relationships with one another.

Objective I.6 – Establish Christian Service opportunities for groups of people of all ages within the Parish Family.

Objective III.2 – Support all Parish Family young parents by establishing programs to help them in parenting.

2. Parish 60th Anniversary:

Specially designed Christmas ornaments celebrating our 60th year as a parish will be given to parishioners at Christmas.

3. Evangelization Committee:

The focus of this group will be on welcoming and hospitality within our parish.

4. Creating synergy within the parish- Church, school, and religious education:

Family-oriented regular weekend Masses will be held four times a year for each group to encourage and highlight and involve the students from each group.

5. Other business:

-Diaper changing stations will be installed in the gym bathrooms.

-Mother's lactation room is located in the Reconciliation Room.

-Young Catholic Professionals, a Catholic speed dating service, is looking for a place to host events.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our council continues to support St. Christine's soup kitchen and pantry every Monday, Tuesday and Friday when the kitchen is open.

The Knights continue to look for fund raising activities to help support the Parish and the community.

The Knights will be collecting money to fund the Council's 'Coats for Kids' collection. The collected funds will help purchase winter coats for those in need.

Our council will be the host charity for an upcoming Texas Holdem event at Vision Lanes in Westland scheduled for November 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th.

The Knights have helped Sandy Rogala with the Baby Bottle Drive.

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