

CHURCH OF THE DIVINE CHILD
CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, October 10, 2017

OPENING PRAYER: Diane Rivard opened the meeting at 7:10, with a prayer to bless a meeting.

ATTENDEES: Beth Stawasz-Donovan, Andrea Fitzgerald, Mary Kirby, Freda Bova, Marisa Szpytman, Carole Zikowski, Bernadette Dzieciuch, Amy McMichael, Jojie Castillo, Janet Laliberte, Diane Rivard, Laura Sherlag, Nancy Bialy, Joan Reed, Marylou Jansen, Cathy Ballnik, Connie Zavitowski, Elaine Heaman, Carmen Mosquera

SUBCOMMITTEE #1: Assist Local Charities/Outreach

- **Wee Care Collection Report (9/30 and 10/1):** Formal report regarding baby items collected for Wee Care was not yet available, but drive was very successful.
- **Blood Drive Report (9/24)– Cathy Ballnik:** Of 95 appointments, only 40 units were collected. It was suggested that phone calls be made in advance of the next drive, to remind donors of their appointments. This may be a good opportunity for members of the This & That committee. The next blood drive will be 1/7, so sign-up for volunteers will take place at the next CS meeting.
- **SVDP Report – Diane Rivard:** \$428 was collected in the Top Hot Collection on the weekend of 9/30 and 10/1. Another \$521 was collected at Sacred Heart. This money will be kept for the local SVdP conference. No report was available regarding funds raised for the Walk for the Poor on 9/30.
- **Fall Clothing Drive Report (hosted by HS):** Formal report regarding collection was not yet available from HS, however the drive was very successful. Items collected will be donated to SVdP.
- **Mercy in Action Day (10/14) - Andrea Fitzgerald/Amy McMichael:** The collection of items to fill backpacks to be donated to the Michigan Veterans Foundation for homeless veterans was very successful – we far exceeded our goal of collecting enough items to fill 100 backpacks. Additionally, approximately \$900 was collected in cash donations. This money will be used to purchase some “filler” items to fill out the backpacks; the remainder will be donated to the Michigan Veterans Foundation. 50 volunteers have signed up to work on 10/14 to fill and deliver the backpacks.
- **St. Patrick’s Senior Center Meal (11/12) – Marylou Jansen:** Our next service date is 11/12. Volunteers will cook and serve a meal for the seniors and engage in fellowship with them. This service opportunity will be available to all parishioners; information will be in the bulletin.
- **Drive to Benefit CCSEM Refugee Resettlement Program (11/18-11/19) - Marisa Szpytman:** Sign-up sheet was circulated to work collection on weekend of 11/17 and 11/18. Items collected will be donated to CCSEM’s refugee resettlement program and distributed to refugee families being resettled in southeastern Michigan.
- **Fiber Arts Ministry Update:** Barbara Lucas provided a report to Beth Stawasz by e-mail. 19 people attended the first meeting on 9/21. Projects included pillows for post-op cardiac

patients, scarves for children at infusion clinics, hats for newborns, and scarves and hats for the homeless. Because of strong interest, it was decided that ministry will meet 2x per month, on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Second meeting on 10/5 was also well-attended.

- **Prison Ministry Update – Mary Kirby:** In advance of the prison ministry speaker coming to DC in February, Mary suggested that our parish do some type of prison ministry service project. After discussion of several potential projects, it was decided that our parish should prepare Christmas cards for registered Catholic inmates at the Huron Valley Women's Correctional Facility. We will collect cards (either to be donated by CS members or made by ES students – Mary will investigate this) and address them to inmates. Cards will then be distributed parishioners after Masses in early Advent. Parishioners will be responsible to write a kind message in the card, sign it, stamp it, and mail it. Will are targeting 300 cards. After Mary determines best avenue for obtaining cards, then Beth and Mary will work on scheduling date to distribute cards to parishioners.

SUBCOMMITTEE #2: Care of the Sick & Elderly

- **Nursing Home Ministry - Freda Bova:** All is going well. Fr. Matt Hood is very well-liked by the nursing home residents.
- **Bereavement Cards – Jan Laliberte:** Cards are up-to-date.
- **Homebound Parishioners:** No report available.

SUBCOMMITTEE #3: Life Issues

- **Respect Life Sunday/Life Chain Report (10/1):** 40-50 parishioners participated in the pro-life demonstration at Wilson and Telegraph. Fr. Matt attended and his presence was very much appreciated.
- **RTL Christmas Card Sale (11/11-11/12):** No update available.

SUBCOMMITTEE #4: Men's Club

- Jack Szpytman provided update by e-mail to Beth Stawasz. Recent activities include continuing on building a wheelchair ramp for a homebound parishioner; supporting home varsity football games with light security and ticket sales; continuing to work on replacing carpeting at the Lennon Pregnancy Center; doing a Poker Room Fundraiser for future service projects; and running the Draw Down at the Hall of Fame event on 11/11.

Beth closed the meeting at 8:00 pm, with a Hail Mary.

Next Meeting: Our next Christian Service Meeting will be on Monday, November 13, 2017 at 7 pm in the Elementary School MPR.