

MARY & MARTHA NEWS

Dear Ladies,

Happy Easter!

My sincere wishes that you and your families have enjoyed a wonderful Easter. He is indeed Risen!



And now for apologies. I was very late in getting the word out about our next meeting. Some years, in April, we don't even meet due to Easter. For this year, and the way dates fell, we were able to

use our Donor Hall on April 23, and that has been scheduled for a while – not a sudden change. This is not the traditional 3rd Sunday. I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused and look forward to being with you on the 23rd!

One important item on the agenda for the 23rd will be to identify a slate of recipients of our available outreach funds. We've worked very hard under the guidance of our Ways and Means Committee to build these funds. Please think about this and come prepared to nominate that certain organization and tell us a little about why you think we should help out. Our Treasurer, Mary Bettin, will share what funds we have available and suggest how we can divide these funds to reach as many as possible.

Happy Eastertide!

In Christ,
Julie

The Saint Joseph Women's Society

We are friends in faith who share the Gospel, serve the parish, community, and world; and mold strong Catholic women leaders. Celebrating 75 years of service to St. Joseph parish and the community (1948-2023)

Prayer Requests

Our prayers are so important, and the needs are ongoing. Thank you for keeping family and friends and SJWS sisters close in your hearts.

- For the members of our St. Joseph Women's Society, for a blessed Easter season in 2023.
- In thanksgiving for our "Food for the Bereaved" groups.
- For Leslie Michael, who has been very ill.
- For Mark Nix, our prayers in support of his battle with cancer.
- For Mitch Michaelis who had successful cardiac surgery on Thurs (4/13).
- For our sister, Maria Carter, who died on February 22, 2023.
- **Malia Sue Myers, who died on February 5, 2023, daughter of Sue Myers**
- For Ala Sledzinska, who died on March 18, 2023, sister of Teresa Chmura.
- For Walter Procko, husband of our deceased sister, Betty, who died several months ago. We recently learned of his passing.
- For Libba Anderson and her family. Libba's daughter, Christina, died on April 9.
- For Pat Atkins, who remains in Nursing Care.
- For Leighton Pugh, as she prepares for marriage, and for our friend, her Mom, Blair and the family during this joyous time.
- For Sister Mary Cecile, in appreciation for her friendship and example to each of us.
- For all the families who have lost loved ones and for all the dear ones who have died. May eternal rest be granted unto each of them.
- For all intentions which remain unspoken.
- For the dignity of all human life. May we work together, despite our differences, to truly appreciate God's great gift of life, from conception to the grave.
- For the healing of individuals named in our weekly SJ bulletin, who are shut- in or sick.
- Specifically too, for Monsignor Harris and Father Frei, for all things good as they shepherd us.
- For the Seminarians of the Diocese of Charleston, for good grades, perseverance, and a growing love to serve and shepherd the Catholics in our Diocese.
- For any and all sisters, and family, who need our prayers, or who may have been inadvertently omitted here.

Add your prayers here...

Easter Greetings from Your Sisters



Dear Friends,

Happy Easter to you and your family as we celebrate God's greatest sacrifice through His Son, Jesus Christ. Easter brings God's endless blessings of love and amazing grace. May you know the joy of His resurrection, the abundance of His life, the peace of His promise, and the Spirit of Easter which is Love!

**Easter blessings of Hope, Peace, and Love,
Patricia Voorhes, NCCW President**



**BEST WISHES TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
FOR A BLESSED AND JOYFUL EASTER!**

Elease Amos-Goodwin, SCCCW President



Easter Blessings, from Gwen Skipper, Columbia Deanery President

MASS INTENTIONS



May 19th, 7:30 am Mass, for Ala Sledzinska, sister of Teresa Chmura
June 3rd, at 5:30 pm Mass, for Louise Cunningham, member and sister of
Ann Funderburk (date was rescheduled)

*May their soul and all the souls of our faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.
If ever you notice a misprint or omission, please bring this to our attention.*

Membership Committee:

Happy April from your Membership Committee!!

In our January, 2023 SJWS Mary and Martha Newsletter, we spoke briefly about

“What we gain by being a member of Saint Joseph Women’s Society!! ”

- “Joy of Fellowship” - it is our hope that by belonging to the SJWS, you will receive many blessings by being surrounded by our Sisters in Christ as we pray, share stories and care for one another.
- Let us emphasize our Spirit of Community.

And as a reminder to us all (as quoted from the NCCW Guidance and Resource Manual)
.... Recruiting new members and sustaining membership is not a job for one person.
.... Membership growth and development is every member’s responsibility.

St. Joseph Women’s Society is so excited to welcome these ladies who have joined our affiliate over the past few months!!

Karen Torres
Katie Bennet

Sheila Cooper
Maria Cooper

Sloan Keifer
Brenda Nauful

Easter Blessings! — Martha Becht, Beverly Stricklin, Mary Bettin, Julie Rotureau

Did you know that.....

Our Scrapbook Committee took the Honors for First Place in the Large Scrapbook Category at Convention. Thank you ladies, for your dedication, especially to Teresa Sowers and Regina Spell.

To Update You:

Committee Work in Progress

Description of Duties – there is a group just now beginning a review/update process of the duties for our Officers and Committees. This committee includes Martha Becht, Mary Sue Barnum, Ann Marie Andrieski, Maria Carrero, Mary Bettin and Julie Rotureau.

Bereavement – a committee to formulate an outreach plan to the ladies of the Parish to join in with our Bereavement work. Maria Carrero is heading the committee and will be seeking at least two additional members to work with. Included is our desire to enlarge our Bereavement groups from 3 to 4 groups.

Mary and Martha Newsletter – Our Editor, Mary Ellen Perretta, has had to give up this role. In making an invitation to one of our members to take the spot, Julie quickly realized we do not have a written document that outlines our goals and that provides a framework for each edition. Julie has invited Gwen Skipper, Maria Carrero, and former Editor, Teri Kuhs to work on this.

Service Commission – We have three Commissions, each headed by a Chairwoman. Our Service Commission has gone without a Chair until now. Teresa Sowers has agreed to serve as Commission Chair for the remainder of Julie's term as President. She is already heavily involved with Committees of service, including the Ways and Means Committee. Thank you Teresa! Our other two Commissions are Spirituality, chaired by Beverly Stricklin, and Leadership, chaired by Maria Carrero (frequently chaired by the Past President).

Upcoming Important Dates for Your Calendar:

- Sunday, April 23 SJWS Monthly Meeting
 - Starts promptly at 1:30 PM, Donor Hall, with a light lunch; advance thanks to Regina Spell's Hospitality Group
- Sunday, May 7 SJWS Monthly Meeting (May Crowning after 12:15 Mass)
 - Starts promptly at 1:30 PM, Donor Hall, with a light lunch; advance thanks to Irene Lightsey's Hospitality Group, and to Gwen Skipper who will showcase some of the recipes for the upcoming Birthright Tea Room Luncheon (in July)
- Saturday, May 20 Deanery Meeting and Retreat, Saluda Shoals Park (\$ 15)
- Wednesday, July 19 Tea Room Luncheon, to support Birthright

Shared with you, from Teresa Sowers

Daily Living

A master gardener shared the following with me, and I want to share it with you, only in the new year.

For the garden of your daily living, plant three rows of peas: peace of mind, peace of heart and peace of soul.

Plant four rows of squash, squash gossip, squash indifference, squash grumbling and squash selfishness.

Plant four rows of lettuce: let us be faithful, let us be kind, let us be patient, and let us really love one another.

No garden is without turnips: turn up for meetings, turn up for service, and turn up to help one another.



WE ARE STILL BOASTING!

Martha Faller Becht
was named the SCCCW Catholic Woman of the Year!

Congratulations Martha!

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

Patroness of the National Council of Catholic Women

Feast Day – April 26th

Contributed by Mary Bettin

Since we have Our Lady of Good Council, I was curious to know about her. In my research I found her legacy all began back in April of 1467 in Genazzano, a city about 30 miles SE of Rome. The church there named “Our Mother of Good Counsel” was being renovated, and on April 25th, as a side wall was being repaired, a marble figure of the Madonna was removed. Suddenly they heard beautiful music, saw a mysterious cloud descend and as the cloud dissipated a beautiful fresco of the Virgin Mary and Child appeared where the Madonna had been removed. It was on a thin layer of porcelain, no thicker than an egg shell, and approximately 16x18”. They immediately named the image after their church. A vast number of miracles are said to have been performed at the site of this portrait. It is believed this fresco was miraculously transported from a church in Albania. The church in Albania was being threatened by Ottoman Turkish invaders at that time. The amazing fact is, this picture was so thin and delicate, it could not have been transported intact by any normal means.

Many Popes have made pilgrimages to this site. In November, Pope Innocent XI had the picture solemnly crowned. In 1939, Venerable Pope Pius XII placed his pontificate under the maternal care of Our Lady of Good Counsel and composed a prayer to her.

“Most Glorious Virgin, chosen by the Eternal Counsel to be the Mother of the Eternal Word made flesh, thou who art the treasurer of Divine graces, and the advocate of sinners, I, thy most unworthy servant, have recourse to thee; be thou pleased to be my guide and counselor in this vale of tears. Obtain for me through the Most Precious Blood of the Divine Son, the forgiveness of my sins, the salvation of my soul, and the means necessary to obtain it. In like manner, obtain for Holy Mother the Church victory over her enemies, and the spread of the kingdom of Jesus Christ upon the whole earth.” Amen.

The fresco is still there, having survived earthquakes over the centuries and bombardment in World War II, which destroyed much of the church.

Remember, Our Blessed Mother is ready, willing and more than able to help us in the midst of this world’s strife. We need to approach her for assistance in drawing closer to Jesus with fervent, humble prayer and devotion. Pope Pius V credited Our Lady of Good Counsel with helping the Holy League of forces from Catholic maritime states defeat the Muslim Ottoman Empire in the Battle of Lepanto in 1571.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Pray for us.



Notes taken from

<https://stlucycommunity.com/news/feast-of-our-lady-of-good-council/>

Tea Time

By Gwen Skipper



It is time to begin planning for the Birthright *Tea Room Lunch* hosted by St. Joseph Women's Society in July each year. Like most events, lots of input makes for a great outcome.

One thing to consider is to change up the lunch entree offerings. I plan to provide a couple of entrees for sampling at the meeting on Sunday, May 7. If you have an idea for an entree to be tested at the meeting, let me know. All attendees will have the opportunity to vote if a particular entree would be "tea room worthy".

Next very important item is to save the date. Please put July 19 , 2023 on your calendar.

Many hands are needed for planning, preparing, and serving.

Consider where you can help.

1. Planning Committee: menus, decorations, advertisement . 6 people.
2. Dining room set up. Need approximately 6 people.
3. Prepare dishes: entres, bread, desserts, beverages. About 15 people.
Donations are helpful for items to be purchased.
4. Greet guests-collect donation, seat in dining room. 2-3 people.
5. Kitchen plate preparation. Need 6-8 people.
6. Plate bread and desserts. Need 2 people.
7. Dining room manager and beverages. 2 people
8. Serve tables during Tea: Need 8-10 people
9. Clean up- 6 people.

Everyone can help in some way. Be a part of the team and invite a friend. We will sign up at the May meeting. Contact me if you would like to offer a suggestion. Gwen Skipper 803-603-8419

Your Deanery Sisters would love to see you!



COLUMBIA DEANERY SPRING MEETING And RETREAT

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, May 20, 2023

9:15 am- 3:00 pm

SALUDA SHOALS PARK (Environmental Building)

Old Bush River Road

Columbia, SC

E-Mail: yvonne.pygatt@aol.com

20 Registrants needed to hold this Event.

A Day of Planning, Fellowship and Prayer

More details to follow.

***Did you know** that our Affiliate took third place in the Leadership Category at Convention!!*

St Joseph Women's Society
Interest Form and Membership Form

For more information, please visit our website at www.stjosephcolumbia.org

To contact us, please send email to
womensociety@stjosephcolumbia.org

Or, simply fill out this information, drop it in the collection plate during Mass,
or mail it to the parish office at *3512 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205*.

Name: _____

Address: _____

How may we contact you?

Phone (cell no.): _____ Is receiving a text message OK? _____

Phone (home no.): _____

Email Address: _____
(we send info directly to you and/or to the SJWS Email Group on Flocknote)

Or:

Mail: "Yes, I'd prefer receiving correspondence at the above address"

 YES, I am ready to join the Women's Society now. I am including the 2023 DUES of \$25 (annually).

I'm already a member, renewing my membership for 2023. I am including the 2023 DUES of \$ 25 (annually).

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