

St. Joseph Women's Society
Mary & Martha News

September 2014

Columbia, SC

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

There are a number of wonderful opportunities for spiritual growth in the next two months.

Thursday, September 25 OR Saturday, September 27, 2014: POPE FRANCIS: THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL presentation by Father Paul Maier (registration \$40-lunch included) The Oratory in Rock Hill. See <http://www.rockhilloratory.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/2014-2015-Brochure.pdf>

On Saturday, October 4 SJWS will sponsor a retreat for Women led by Sister Nancy Hendershot. From 8:00 to Noon at the Blossom Street House.

Over 20 women are participating in the preparation for Marian Consecration that will occur on Tuesday, October 7.

This year's annual Bernardin Lecture will be held on October 28 at 6pm in the USC School of Law Auditorium. Sister Joan Chittister OSB, with involvement in peace efforts and women's issues internationally will present the lecture, *Uncommon Search for Common Ground*.

Details at
<http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/relg/news/specialvents/bernard.html>

Membership Directory

The 2014 Women's Society Membership Directory was distributed at the May meeting. Remaining copies are available in the Church office.

International Student Luncheon

We again have been asked to host one of the International students lunches at the University of South Carolina. We chose Friday, September 26th as the date for our luncheon.

We will have information about the menu and number of student participants for our September meeting and will be asking for your help. Please give it some thought and be prepared to volunteer to serve or to prepare some of the needed food. This is a wonderful community outreach activity for the Women's Society.

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Planning for December Luncheon

It's never too early to plan for Christmas! Our Christmas luncheon is currently scheduled for Friday, December 5th. In the past this has been a lunch eaten out, a covered dish or a cross between catered and covered dish. The officers would like to hear about your preferences for this year.

1. Should we have the event on Friday Dec 5 or Saturday Dec 6?
2. Should we eat out? Do covered dish? Do combo catered/covered dish?
3. Do you have a suggestion for location or want to offer to host the event?
4. Do you have other suggestions?

Please contact gwenskip@bellsouth.net or call her 345-2250 to express your views.

The Saint Joseph Women's Society are friends in faith who share the Gospel; serve the parish, community, and world; and mold strong Catholic woman leaders.

Message from President

Gwen Skipper

What a busy summer. I hope that you were busy and well. The Birthright Tea Room lunch in July was again a great success. Thanks again to Libit Woodington and her team of volunteers for making this such a special day for all who attended.

A nice group of women attended the Rosary, Mass and breakfast on August 2nd. We enjoyed a morning of good prayer, food and fellowship. If you haven't joined the group think about it. Your next opportunity will be November 1st.

Oh the cool fall breezes. I can't wait. Fall also brings many activities to the Women's Society. September will be especially busy with leading the Rosary for the Unborn on the 7th, hosting the parish Community Sunday on the 14th, the monthly meeting on the 21st, the USC International Students Lunch on the 26th and the South Carolina Council of Women Columbia-Midlands Deanery Meeting on the 28th.

I am very excited about the Marian Retreat-
“33 Days to Morning Glory” that the
Women’s Society is hosting. Twenty-three
signed up for the retreat. I am sure that all
will be greatly blessed through the
intercession of the Blessed Mother.

The Women's Society will again offer the women of the parish a morning retreat on October 4th. The retreat will be led by Sister Nancy Hendershot offering a time of spirituality, rest, and refreshment. Later in the fall there will be many other opportunities for ministry and fellowship. My hope is that there is something planned to nourish you.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions or suggestions about the Women's Society or the activities we sponsor. Phone 345-2250 or e-mail: qwenskip@bellsouth.net)

Calendar

All women of the parish are invited to join the following events.

Sept 14

Community Sunday – Recipes from “Devine Kitchens” served, cookbooks and ornaments sold after all morning Masses.

Sept 21

Women's Society monthly meeting after the 12:15 mass in the Lower Level of the Parish Life Center. Speaker, Caroline Weisberg speaking about the Social Ministries in South Carolina.

Sept 26

USC International Students Lunch – 10AM- 2PM

Sept.28

Columbia-Midlands Deanery Meeting, 1 to 3 PM
Corpus Christi Church, Lexington, SC

Oct 4

8am-12pm- Morning retreat with Sister Nancy
Hendershot- Blossom St. House

Oct 7

Conclusion of "33 Days to Morning Glory"
retreat and Marian consecration, 5:30pm Mass

Oct 21

Women's Society monthly meeting after the 12:15 mass in the Lower Level of the Parish Life Center.

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2015 SCCW Convention

Next Spring the SCCCW State Convention will be held at the Embassy Suites Greenville Golf Resort & Conference Center sponsored by the Piedmont Deanery. That is truly one weekend that will exhibit an “air” of Spirituality, Leadership, Service, and of course, Evangelization. Stay tuned for more information!

Speakers at Monthly Meetings

Mary Fitzsimmons and Rebecca Hamby serve on our Program Committee and have done a wonderful job of securing a diverse and interesting set of presenters. This month we will be hearing from Caroline Weisberg, speaking about her work with the various the Social Ministries in South Carolina

They are working to bring other speakers such as Nell Killoy who will tell us about the Palmetto Project and our own Father Grey. If you have any suggestions for programs at our meeting, or if you might be willing to speak yourself, contact Rebecca or Mary.

becca_hamby@bellsouth.net

mltfitz@hotmail.com

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Our Parish Website

It you haven't already checked out the new St. Joseph's web site you need to have a look. www.stjosephcolumbia.org

Enjoy the beautiful pictures that change and scroll to the bottom to find a place to click for the monthly calendar of Parish activities.

Click on **Capital Campaign** and see the photos and videos of various stages of the building. There is also “live video” that shows cars driving by the site and during the day the “work in progress”, as well as the architects’ sketches and floor plans.

The **Ministries** click will allow you to choose SJWS (or one of the other ministries) and see our calendar of activities, past newsletters, lists of officers or committees, and other information.

It is wonderful to have such resources, only a "click" away.

A Note from Janet

Each year we Catholics renew our baptismal vow to “renounce the Devil and all his works.” But just what does belief in the Devil mean? In the skeptical age in which we live, the question sometimes troubles us. An answer is provided by a Cistercian monk who wrote this: *The demonic seed inoculates our entire being, both intellectual and affective, with an aversion to truth.* The Devil’s works are most apparent when we fail to adhere to the truth provided by God, the Creator. We are all weak and sometimes troubled, but only God Himself enables us to find the answers.

Janet O' Keefe

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Church Care Committee

In this ministry of the St. Joseph Women's Society members volunteer time to look after the general appearance of our church in preparation for each weekend. Tasks they complete include changing the Holy Water in fonts at each door, arranging the books in pews, and doing light dusting.

Each week 2 different volunteers spend about an hour on Friday morning to complete this work. We will be asking for volunteers to sign up for September and October at our Monthly meeting.

If you will not be at the meeting but can serve on one of the Fridays please contact the committee chair, Samia Feghali.

If you have never done this before Samia will schedule you with someone who has experience. Contact Information:

by phone 783-3643

Or e-mail samia_feghali@yahoo.com