St. Joseph Women's Society Mary & Martha News

Columbia, November 2013

Spiritual Growth

Gwen Skipper

Winter Reading (or perhaps Christmas gift ideas.) As the days grow shorter and the nights grow longer perhaps you are looking for something good to read. I recommend a couple of books that I am now reading.

One Great Act of Fidelity-Waiting for Christ in the Eucharist- (authior) Ronald Rolheiser. This book delves into the history and meaning of this sacred tradition, drawing upon the insights of various scripture scholars, theologians and church teachings. I especially love his explanation of the Eucharist as flesh to flesh. God's kiss. His loving embrace.

On Heaven and Earth - Pope Francis on faith, family and the church in the 21st century- (authors) Jorge Mario Bergoglio & Abraham Skorka. A series of conversations between Archbishop Bergoglio of Buenos Aires (now called Pope Francis) and Rabbis where both men talked about Skorka various theological and worldly issues. From these talks comes a firsthand view of the man who would become pope.

Fatima for Today-The Urgent Marian Message of Hope- (author) Fr. Andrew Apostoli, C.F.R. This book was especially interesting to me, having had the opportunity to visit Fatima this past summer. This brief objective presentation of the surrounding the divine revelation not only informs the mind, but also moves the will to embrace and carry out the message of Fatima- prayer and penance- for the salvation of souls and world peace.

Christmas Luncheon

The Annual Women's Society Christmas Luncheon will be held at 11:30AM on December 6 the home of Libit at Woodington. Directions will be handed out at the November meeting. The lunch this year will be covered dish. You can make a donation toward the purchase of the meat or prepare a side dish (salad, vegetable, appetizer, or dessert). A sign-up sheet for those planning to attend will be available at the November meeting. If you need further information or willmiss the November meeting contact Libit (695-0307).

>>>>>>>> ANNUAL FOOD SALE

Remember, the annual Food Sale is November 23 and 24 after each Mass.

Food can be dropped off at the kitchen of the gym Saturday afternoon and before Masses on Sunday. If the recipe for you dish is in From the Devine Kitchens, please, note that and the cookbook page on the dish.

The ornaments and cookbooks will also be It will be a busy on sale that weekend. weekend, so your participation in cooking and selling will be greatly appreciated

(Contact Ellen Williams if you have not already signed up to participate in the weekend's events. Phone: 787-4828 e -mail: elwill99@bellsouth.net

> Our next newsletter will be **published in January 2014**

Message from President

Gwen Skipper

November is another full month. I am hoping that all of you will be able to attend the Memorial Mass on November 12th. What a wonderful opportunity to remember those that have gone before us and give thanks for what their lives have meant to our life and the life of the community! In addition we will enjoy a delicious reception. Thanks in advance to all who have volunteered to help with food or serving. We take great pride in offering a wonderful event for the parish.

At the November meeting we will vote for <u>Catholic Woman of the Year</u> for 2014. We have four wonderful nominations: Regina Spell, Ruth Lee Lam, Millie McQuitty and Libit Woodington. I hope you will be there to cast your vote. It will be difficult to select just one woman from this group of nominees.

I received several ideas for the <u>elevator</u> <u>statement</u>. (Remember, an elevator statement is a brief explanation about an organization.) You will see this statement on most of our publications. I hope that you feel the following statement fits you as a member of the society.

The Women's Society of St. Joseph Catholic Church are friends in faith who share the Gospel, serve the parish, community, and world, and mold strong Catholic women leaders.

Last but certainly not least, the Annual Food Sale November 23 and 24. This is our largest fund raiser, so please support us by baking, cooking, helping or purchasing- or maybe all three.

(contact Gwen at gwenskip@bellsouth.net or call 345-2250)

Our November Meeting

Sr. Nancy Hendershot, CSA, former Vice President of Ministry at Providence Hospitals will speak at the Women's Society meeting on November 17. In retirement she is the Sister-representative of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine and various other ministries South Carolina. These include: in Providence Hospital, the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina, the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families. and five programs to support Healthy Learners. Sister will speak to us about her work at our meeting after the 12:15 mass in the Lower Level of our Pastoral Life Center



Calendar

November 12

Annual Mass of Remembrance Reception following the Mass 6 PM St. Joseph Church

November 17

SJWS Monthly Meeting -

After 12:15PM Mass -- Pastoral Life Center--

Lower Level

Speaker: Sr. Nancy Hendershot,

November 23-24

Annual Food Sale – After all Masses

December 6

Christmas Luncheon - 11:30AM (See details in article on page 1)

January 19

SJWS Meeting – After 12:15PM Mass

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Church Care Committee

Volunteers are needed for Church care on Fridays in November, December, & January

Nov. 15	Lois Barnett	Colleen Golden
Nov. 22	Teri Kuhs	Sylvia Knight
Nov. 29	Reginna Spell	
Dec. 6	Jo Killoy	
Dec. 13	Sylvia Knight	
Dec. 20		
Jan. 10		

If you would like to volunteer, please call 783-3643 or e-mail Samia at samia_feghali@yahoo.com

>>>>>>>>>> Awareness Week

The events listed below have been planned to support development of community awareness of needs and services in the Columbia area. . Mary Trivisanno, Director of Catholic Charities in the Midlands, provided this schedule of activities.

Friday, November 15 -- 7:00 P. M. to 7:00 AM Homeless Awareness Night Out Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church, Lexington

Sunday, November 17—3:00 to 4:00 Youth Homelessness in Columbia Richland Library, 1431 Assembly Street

Monday, November 18 – 3:00 to 6:00 Tour and Open House Harvest Hope Food Bank (2220 Shop Road)

Tuesday, November 19 – 5:30 to 8:30 Art Show to benefit "Transitions" Tapp's Arts Center 1644 Main Street http://transitionssc.org/

Thursday, November 21 -- 12:15 to 12:45
Interfaith Prayer service to End Homelessness
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 900 Calhoun Street
Thursday, November 21 5:30 to 7:30
Women's Shelter Annual Thanksgiving "Souper"
Eastminster Presbyterian Church 3200 Trenholm Rd

Friday, November 22 – 7:00 P.M. to 7:00 AM Homeless Awareness Night Out Transitions, 2025 Main Street

A Note from Janet

Catholic Women sometimes ponder the role of women in the Church. In 2012 Pope Benedict XV! declared Hildegard of Bingen (an 11th Century Benedictine Nun), to be the fourth woman "Doctor of the Church". Such a designation identifies the person named as having significantly contributed to the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church.

The other three female Doctors of the Church are Catherine of Sienna (a 14th Century Dominican), and two Carmelites, Teresa of Avila (16th Century) and Thérèse of Liseux (19th Century). Each of these women were recognized as a Doctor of the Church because of the influence their writings had.

St. Hildegard wrote theological, botanical and medicinal texts, as well as letters, liturgical songs, and poems. St. Catherine's "...spiritual writings, and political boldness were seen to "speak truth to power" It was exceptional for a woman, in her time period, to have had such influence in politics and on world history.

St.Teresa's writings, which include her autobiography and her seminal work, *The Interior Castle*, provide an important basis for reflection on the nature of prayer and meditation. St. Thérèse lived a hidden life and "wanted to be unknown," yet became popular after her death through her spiritual autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*.

All of these women had significant influence on the Church of which we are part of today. Their accomplishments demonstrate that there are many roles for women to assume in the life of our Church.

Janet O' Keeffe

(Editor's note: Future editions of this newsletter will provide further information about each of these women Doctors of the Church and their work.)