

I hope you all had a very blessed Christmas season. Wishing all a New Year filled with prosperity, love, happiness and the best of health. Time seems to be flying by the last several months. I wish it would just go by a little slower. I ask that you keep in your prayers all your sisters in Christ, their family members, the unborn, and those sick or dying who have no one to pray for them.

I wish to share this prayer with you:
Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life. Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering.

Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living.

Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need, and teach us to be merciful to all.

Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of Your mercy.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Thank you for all that you do for your parish and community. Each of you is an angel who touches many lives.

Blessings,
Mary Sue Barnum

2017 Dues Reminder

Membership Dues for our organization (\$20) are collected at the beginning of each calendar year. Please make checks payable to Saint Joseph Women’s Society and include a message providing your e-mail address. You may request that information be sent to you by US Mail, rather than e-mail. You can pay dues at SJWS meetings, or drop your dues in the Sunday Collection or at the church office in an envelope labeled “Women’s Society.”

SCCCW State Convention

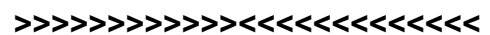
This year the State Convention will be held on March 9-11, 2018 at the North Charleston Marriott – 4770 Goer Drive, North Charleston, SC 29406.

If you are going to attend the 2018 SCCCW Convention – please let Mary Sue know. SJWS has 3 voting delegates and she must let SCCCW know who they are!

Room rates are \$139 plus tax & service charge. Go to WWW.scccw.org/convention and click “Accommodations” for online secure booking site. If you prefer reservations can be made by calling 888-747-1900 and reference “SC Council of Catholic Women.”

The reservation deadline for rooms is Tuesday, February 20th. Convention Registration is \$125 - food choice is chicken, salmon, or veggie - must be postmarked by Feb 23 or a \$25 late fee will be charged.

This year’s Fundraiser – 50/50 tickets - for each day are \$5. There will be a drawing each day. There is a possibility the daily drawing could win up to \$2,500!!



Bed Roll Ministry

The Women’s Society is happy to be providing insulating bed rolls for the homeless through Catholic Charities. We have several devoted women crocheting the mats.

The homeless use these mats to sleep on. They provide an insulating layer between them and the ground. The mats are made from recycled plastic grocery store bags. The plastic bags are cut up and connected to make a plastic yarn called “plarn” which is then crocheted into a bed roll.

If you are interested in crocheting mats for the homeless please contact Mary Reeves at 353-9954 or mreeves1416@yahoo.com.

Mary Reeves
SJWS Fall 2017 Sale
Gwen Skipper-

Chairperson-Ways & Means Committee

You did it again! You exceeded expectations. Over \$4000 was raised for gifts to the parish and outreach ministries. You created 122 casseroles and soups and 87 cakes, pies, jams, dozens of cookies and brownies. You came together and cooked together at the “Make, Take, Donate” sessions.

Funds were also generated from the sale of craft items, cookbooks, keepsake ornaments and “new” this year note cards. It takes a fully involved team effort to be truly successful and you did that.

I would be amiss if I did not recognize the ladies that were key in organizing this sale. Special thanks to Theresa Sowers, Maria Carrero and Julie Rotureu for sharing their special talents.

It’s nice to take a rest from our labors; but not too long. Be thinking: do you have a craft idea we can work on? Will you share your special recipe that we can prepare in a M-T-D session? Will you step up and serve as a committee chair: casseroles, crafts, baked goods, auction, communication, M-T-D sessions?

In 2018 St. Joseph Women’s Society is celebrating 70 years of active service in the parish, community and Diocese. Let’s spend 2018 reflecting on our history and let the Fall Sale be a nostalgic reflection on St. Joseph Women’s Society.

Lenten Retreat

Mark your Calendar. Saturday, February 24. Beginning with morning Mass and led by **Sister Mary Cecile**.

Help Wanted Scrap Book Committee

We invite everyone to contribute to The 2017 SJWS Scrapbook. How can you help? Let the committee know what activities you are participating in at the church and the community. Examples of community service are Catholic Charities Clothes Closet, the International Lunch, Birthright Tea, and Providence Hospital Volunteer.

Pictures and items related to our Society’s Activities are needed. Please send any items or pictures you have to Regina Spell rspell909@gmail.com. or place them in the Women Society’s mailbox in the church office.

The committee will be meeting to begin assembling the scrapbook. Please consider helping put together the book. All are welcome, and **No** previous experience is needed.

Work meetings are scheduled:

January 11, 2018 1pm

January 25, 2018 1 pm

February 1, 2018 1pm.

February 8, 2018 1pm.

All meetings will be held in the Women’s Society Room on the second floor of the Ministries and Administration Building.

The committee members will meet once each week in February, until the conference which is March 9-11. The times are subject to change. And will be adjusted according to the needs of the committee.

Please contact Regina Spell at 803-776-9575 or you may send her an email rspell909@gmail.com

Letters

From Peg Brandon

Hello ladies of Women’s Society

This is to thank you for the very attractive prayer shawl. It's warm around the shoulders and was brought to me in the hospital by Mike Padua. Cheers!!

From Carol Mercer

I can't thank you enough for the brunch you and your group provided on the day of my husband's funeral.. It was truly amazing. I am enclosing a check to the Women's Society. I hope it will be a way to show our appreciation.

From Sister Mary Cecile

Thank you so much for your card and generous gift to me this Christmas. I am very grateful to you for your kindness. Most of all thank you for your selfless service to our Parish especially through the outreach program. Each of you is included In my prayers of thanksgiving.

From Francine – Birthright Volunteer

Thank you dearly for the beautiful handmade crocheted blankets. We were certainly in need of warm blankets for our babies. Your generosity and thoughtfulness is truly appreciated. God's special blessing for each of you and yours.

Christmas Card

From Micaela Ixchel – Project San Pedro

Christmas is a time of love, solidarity that can lift the mood of the poorest and sadden the rich. I want to share with you my best Christmas wishes of love, peace and friendship.

The bereavement group also received a donation from the Greiner Family.

2017 Membership Registration Form
Saint Joseph Catholic Church-Women's Society

Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

Email Address : _____

Check if you do not use e-mail and want M& M to be mailed to you.

Dues \$20.00 for year _____

Please make checks to Saint Joseph Women's Society and drop in the collection or at the Parish Office.

If you prefer you can mail it to the Church Office

St. Joseph Church -- Women's Society
3512 Devine Street
Columbia, SC 29205