

Getting to Know Your CCW

How well do you know your St. Luke Council of Catholic Women? Do you know that every woman in the Parish is a member of CCW? As we open a new year of activities, we would like to acquaint you with the various CCW commissions and committees and recap their work through the past year.

Church Commission supports the spiritual nurturing of our parish. Last year the commission hosted two outdoor rosary events and initiated praying the rosary aloud at 10:15 a.m. on Sundays. They hosted the All Soul's Mass and reception in November. Along with Boosters, they co-hosted the annual Anniversary Mass and reception in February. Sixty parishioners attended the Advent luncheon with Father Snow. This commission helped to enrich spirituality in our parish by purchasing condolence cards to send to parishioners who suffered a loss, making "The Way of the Cross: Path to New Life" by Joan Chittister, available for use during Lent; and enlightening us on "The Year of Mercy."

One of the goals of the Community Commission is bringing the parish together as a church "community." Oktoberfest provided a delicious dinner of brats, sauerkraut, beer and fellowship for 60 people. April found our parish community enjoying "Souper Sunday" complete with homemade soup and ice cream sundaes.

The Family Commission focuses on activities that assist families in need. Those efforts include the Undy Sunday drive that resulted in the collection of nine large garbage bags of items and \$152.00 in gifts cards, checks and cash. All because of your generosity! The annual Toy Drive and gift wrap provided seven 55 gallon bags full of toys and a \$55.00 cash donation for local families.

Promoting global brother/sisterhood through assisting those in need around the world is the goal of the International Commission. The commission hosted Ten Thousand Villages in a fair trade event in the Fall which netted \$975.00 in sales. The entire amount goes directly to the artisans who created the handmade items. In March, 25 parishioners of all ages participated in packing food at "Feed My Starving Children." As in the past 18 years, St. Luke parishioners were invited to participate in our "Lenten Connection" for the Santa Ana Mission in La Libertad, Honduras. Our parish was delighted to send \$2,500 to this very worthy cause.

Hospitality Commission hosted two "Coffee and Donut" events where parishioners learned about upcoming events and had the opportunity to sign up for nearly 200 tasks that help make the programs CCW sponsors run smoothly.

Bunco was held three times. These gatherings always provided plenty of delicious food, fellowship, fun, and even prizes! More than 250 parishioners enjoyed these events.

Blood drives were also held three times through the year with an average of 20 donors at each.

The Christmas Dinner is CCW's major fundraiser. Every program mentioned was offered free of charge. This was only possible through the generosity of those who attended and take part in the raffles and auctions. We cannot thank you enough for your participation. You are literally what keeps us going!

The cash card program was once again most successful with \$31,000 in total cash card sales. The percentage CCW received from cash card sales helped to fund our many programs as well as offer support to other parish programs. Cash cards were donated throughout the year. Hospitality giveaways totaled \$150. St. Vincent DePaul received \$200 for the Holiday Helping Hands program. Two blood drive donors received \$25 gift cards and Bunco door prizes amounted to \$120. It is only because of your outstanding support that this program was so successful. Thank you!

CCW has provided monetary support for the Parish Picnic, Feed My Starving Children, the "Spaghetti Squad's" pasta dinner, the La Libertad Lenten Connection, and Mother's and Father's Day gifts.

Your help is greatly appreciated, whether in small ways or large.

Thank you for ALL of your support.

We would love to tell you more about what we do. Is there an event or tradition you would like to see at St. Luke? Let us know!

*Please stop by our **Fall Hospitality Event** after any of the Masses on **August 27 and 28** and get to know more about CCW.*

Together we are St. Luke Parish.

