

St. Brigid Ladies Guild News

February 2019

St. Gianna Parish

St. Brigid Church St. Mark Church

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Penny Hickey, Camilla Hynes

December with the Ladies Guild - It warms my heart to be a part of this dynamic group of women who work so well together and enrich the lives of parishioners of St. Brigid Church. We started the month with our Annual Christmas Party at Rockledge Tavern. Good food, good conversation, and great friends created an inviting atmosphere. Thank you to *Sharraine* for organizing the event. Another job well done!

The Great Cookie Deal was a wonderful success. Our bakers shared their talents by providing us with yummy cookies to select for each order. I will confess, I spotted that plate of broken cookies **real fast**. Don't tell anyone. Special thanks to *Donna Wolcott* for her hard work, to our excellent bakers, and to the ladies who put the goodies together. We completed the orders in 30 minutes (yes, we did it) with all hands on board. Amazing.

Upcoming events include our February 4, 2019 meeting featuring a Valentine Craft creation. Penny and I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting. May God bless you.

Camilla Hynes

February Blessing

February is a time of waiting. The hustle and bustle of the holidays is behind us, but the warmth of spring seems so far away. Lord God, let us take the time to thank you for the beauty of all that February brings. The crystal clear nights when we ponder the beauty of stars flung across the heavens the intricate snowflake designs on our windowpanes and the sparkle of lights in homes reflecting Jesus, the light of the world. February gives us the opportunity to celebrate our love on St. Valentine's Day. Lord, keep us warm and safe this February. Remember that we are Your beloved children, with whom You are well pleased, now and forever. Amen

PROGRAM

Monday's meeting will be followed by a Valentine Craft Night, where an easy craft will be made for Valentine' Day. Come join us to see what is being planned for spring, and for some fun and refreshments.

TRANSPORTATION

Nancy Kunak 860-523-4773

If you would like a ride to Monday night's meeting, please call me at the above number as soon as possible.

SUPPER CLUB

Edie Parizo 860-561-0238

February 19

Maureen McClay 860-521-0820

Our February Supper Club will be Tuesday, Feb. 19 at 6:15 p.m., at the ever-popular Olive Garden at Corbin's Corner. Join us for fun, good food, and good friends. Call Maureen (860-521-0820) to be included in the reservation. And if you would like to carpool or need a ride, just let us know.

HOUSE OF BREAD

Gina Giacalone 860-521-8342

Thank you all who donated meat loaves and other items to the House of Bread in December and January. The Kid's Café and the Day Care Center also need the usual items or any items that you might want to donate. Please remember the request for "parboiled" rice if you are donating rice. Please call me at the above number if you have any questions, and once again, thanks to Nick and *Pat Vendetta* for delivering our donations to the House of Bread.

The next delivery dates to 130 Overbrook Rd. are Tuesday and Wednesday, February 5th and 6th.

OUR LADY OF CALVARY

RETREAT

Laurie-Ann Templeton 860-953-4063

It's coming soon!! Our Annual Women's Retreat is scheduled for March 8 to 10, 2019. This year's theme is ***The World will be Saved by Beauty***. All women of St. Gianna Parish and friends are invited. For those who cannot make a whole weekend, why not try coming for Saturday only? The cost for the weekend is \$265.00 with a \$65.00 nonrefundable deposit due upon registration. The cost for Saturday only is \$130 with a \$65.00 nonrefundable deposit. The rest can be paid upon arrival. Scholarships are available as OLC does not want to turn down anyone who wishes to attend. If you would like more information, please contact me at the number above or call OLC at 860-677-8519 or go to www.ourladyofcalvary.net.

Here are some more events for March:

On Saturday, March 9th from 9am to 1:30pm, Sr. Mary O'Brien, C.P.

will present **Lent: Stir Up the Spirit that is in You!** She'll be presenting Pope Francis' reflections from his apostolic exhortation, **Rejoice and Be Glad**. Offering is \$30, with lunch included.

On Wednesday, March 13th from 12 Noon to 3:00 p.m., Sr. Mary Ann Strain, C.P. facilitates at the **Movie Matinee: Pope Francis: A Man of His Word**. Offering is \$25, with a boxed lunch provided to enjoy during the film.

On Wednesday, March 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Sr. Eileen Fucito, C.P. will present a **Lenten Retreat Day: Forgive As We Have Been Forgiven??** Bishop Peter Rosazza will be there to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass. Offering is \$35, and lunch is included.

On Wednesday, March 27th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sr. Mary Ann Strain, C.P. will present a **Lenten Evening of Reflection: Memory and the Cross**. Offering is \$25. The evening will end with Night Prayer.

On Saturday, March 30th from 9:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., Celeste Calabotta, a Lay Carmelite and Spiritual Director, will present **Lectio Divina and Contemplative Prayer**. Offering is \$30. Seating is limited. Program includes lunch.

Every Friday during Lent, beginning March 8th, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 12 Noon sharp in the OLC Chapel or outdoors, if weather permits.

For any of the programs above, please call OLC at 860-677-8519 to register or go to the website: www.ourladyofcalvary.net.

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OUR LADY OF CALVARY RETREAT (Cont'd.)

There will be a Movie Matinee on **Wednesday, February 6th** from 12 Noon to 3pm. The movie is *Therese: The Story of St. Therese of Lisieux*. Cost is \$25.00. A boxed lunch will be provided.

On **Wednesday, February 13**, from 9am to 1pm, Sr. Joanne Fahey, C.P. will be presenting ***Simplicity: Clearing the Clutter in Our Lives***. Cost is \$30.00. Lunch is included.

On **Wednesday, February 20** from 9am to 1pm, Marie DiBenedetto will present ***Laugh Away Your Winter Blues***. Cost is \$30. Lunch is included.

On **Saturday, February 23** from 9am to 2:30pm, OLC will present ***The Family Disease of Addiction--We Do Recover***. Our presenter, Jass, is the Clinical Director of Hunterdon Drug Abuse Program in New Jersey. Seating is limited. Cost is \$35 and lunch is included.

Please call the retreat house at **860-677-8519** or go to: www.ourladyofcalvary.net for more information or to register for any of the above programs.

The following is an OLC February event that we would like all members and nonmembers of the Guild to know about:

An Evening for Married Couples

Thursday, Feb. 11, 2016

Dinner at 6pm

Program at 7pm

Offering is \$55 couple.

TRIPS *Sheila Donahue* 860-232-6915, *Betty Ferreira* 860-233-3422

Ireland and Iceland Cruise - June 2-14, 2019

St. Brigid Church in Elmwood is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, and we're having a trip to Brigid's Irish homeland as well as to Iceland. We have a number of cabins booked already on a cruise from Dublin, Ireland to Belfast, Ireland; continuing on to Reykjavik and Akureyri, Iceland; and back to Cork, Ireland on Celebrity's "Reflection." The per person rates for this 12-day cruise, based on double occupancy, are \$2,167 (inside cabin) and \$2,817 (balcony cabin). Airfare from Bradley Field to Dublin and return is not included in this price. We'd really like you to come along with us!

If you would like more information on the cruise, please call Rick Synnott at Synnott Travel ASAP at (1-877-237-9666) and mention the Guild. Fliers are available in the vestibule of St. Brigid Church or by calling us.

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CARING HEARTS

Sue Ficaro 860-232-3613

Because of the generosity of so many of our Guild members and parishioners, we had another great holiday season. Thank you to all who contributed in any way. Thank you also to the Knights of Columbus for their cash donation and to *Donna Wolcott* for collecting food and gifts for us through the CCD program. The kindness of this parish is truly amazing and has been a huge help to our families, as shown by their notes of thanks:

"Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness. Thank you for caring for families that caring hearts who donate don't know personally but give unconditionally and generously. Every gift card, every gift, and all the clothes and food and everything else you give us is so much appreciated. As things get more difficult for my family and me, knowing there are kind people like you in the world puts a smile in our hearts and on our faces and gives me and my family hope."

"We want to thank you so much for taking care of us for the holidays. You just don't know how much this means to us. It's greatly needed and appreciated. I hope everyone enjoys their holidays because you have made ours."

"My heartfelt thanks for always being so thoughtful and generous. Our hearts have been deeply touched by your kindness. Thank you for all the food and gifts. Thank you for the generous gift cards. You have brought so much joy this Christmas! I can't ever thank you enough. Warmest thanks and God Bless!"

"I don't know where to start. Thank you for your generous gift

cards. Then also for enough food that filled my cabinets and fridge. Everybody enjoyed our holiday meals. Thank you again for all you do for us."

"Thank you with all our hearts for the abundance you gave us for Christmas! Thanks to all of you for everything!"

"Thank you so much for the generous gifts. It is a huge help and I am quite overwhelmed by your kindness."

CHEER

Barbara Welch 860-521-0732

Sympathy and Prayers are extended to the family of *Adele Pac* who died December 3 and to *Edie Parizo* on the passing of her mother-in-law *Kinue Parizo*, who died December 26.

Happy Birthday wishes are sent to our February birthday gals: *Barbara Barbieri and Sue Ficaro (3), Paulette Jameson and Marion Ryan (4),*

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CHEER (Cont'd.)

Ann Scata (6), Pat Reid (8), Susan Killoran (11), Ginette Kempf (12), Florence Muldoon (16), Gaetane Bolduc (18), Patricia Landers (21), Penny Hickey (27), and Janet Schultz (28).

Due to a very unintentional lapse by our editor, the birthdays of our January gals were omitted from the December Newsletter.

Therefore, let us recognize these birthdays and hope they were very happy for all: *Doris Robidoux (1), Marie Francies (2), Maryann Giovino (4), Teresita Punzalan (6), Dolores Lavriha (9), Lora Broussard (12), Doria DiNino and Sarah Zanetti (17), Jacqueline Rozza (18), Jan Major (22), Elvira Canora (24), Sharraine Reid (25), Lisa Scata-DeWolf (26), and Sheila Donahue, Bertha Grenier, and Fran Griffin (27).* Enjoy your year.

If you know of any member who is ill, entering rehab or a convalescent home, housebound, suffering a bereavement, celebrating a special event, or could just use a little "cheer," please give me a call at the above number. I know we're not getting enough cheer out to our members who could use it. And remember, YOU are the best source of this information. Thank you.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Laurie-Ann Templeton

860-953-4063

Prayer is an important ministry for our Ladies' Guild and for our parish. If anyone would like to join our ministry of prayer, please contact me at the above number. As always, if you know of someone in need of prayer, please call me, and we will add them to our intentions. Thank you.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sheila Donahue 860-232-6915

February 4

Meeting followed by Valentine Craft session
McMahon Hall, 7:00 p.m.

February 5-6 House of Bread Deliveries, 130 Overbrook Rd.
 February 19 Supper Club, Olive Garden 6:15 p.m.
 March 4 Meeting and White Elephant Bingo
 March 5-6 House of Bread Deliveries, 130 Overbrook Rd.
 March 8-10 Annual Retreat with theme "The World will be
 Saved by Beauty" Our Lady of Calvary
 Retreat House

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Sheila Donahue 860-232-6915

April 1 Meeting followed by Program on Women's Hall
 of Fame
 April 2-3 House of Bread Deliveries, 130 Overbrook Rd.
 April 6-7 Caring Hearts Spring Drive
 April 25 Card Party

That's a wrap for February. The deadline for the March newsletter is Friday, February 22. If you have any news that's fit to print, please call me at 860-232-6915; drop it off at the rectory, in the mail, in my mail slot, in the collection basket (marked SBLG Newsletter); or e-mail to msja62@comcast.net by February 22.

Love is patient, love is kind.
 It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.
 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking,
 It is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.
 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.
 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always
 perseveres.
 Love never fails.

Corinthians 13:4-8a



Happy Valentine's Day