

St. Brigid Ladies Guild

News

March 2019

St. Gianna Parish

St. Brigid Church St. Mark Church

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Penny Hickey, Camilla Hynes

March – The month of St. Patrick, St. Joseph, Ash Wednesday, and the first day of spring, when nature turns everything to “green, green, green.” We can only hope though, considering Connecticut weather. a gentle suggestion to all: Don’t put your winter woolies away just yet. I remember many slam dunks from Mother Nature during my tenure of living in CT.

A special thank you to the ladies who helped us decorate for our February meeting, to our wonderful Hospitality committee, and to the ladies who brought goodies to the meeting. *Bev Scharper* shared her craft expertise by kindly providing materials for a Valentine’s Project. I have never seen so many pink and red bags being embellished with stickers, ribbons, markers, pens, cards, coloring, and glue. What a talented group of women. I declined the very gracious offers to help me make a craft considering my lack of talent in the area. Thank God everyone else was too busy to notice my ineptitude.

During the March meeting we will be having a White Elephant Bingo. *Penny* asked those in attendance for new items for this event. The players and winners of the Bingo Game will not know what the prizes are, since they will all be wrapped. This should be a lot of fun.

Thank you again to all the wonderful ladies who make the Ladies Guild a continuing success. It amazes me to see so many women sharing ideas, their energy, and friendship during the year. May God bless you.

Camilla Hynes

March Blessing by Penny

Lord of all, blessed are You as we begin the season of spring, the season of life awakening. You gladden our hearts with opening buds and returning leaves as You put on Your spring robe of splendor. As spring exchanges place with winter, You invite us to sing songs and become Your partner in a new dance.

Lord, you are the God of peace and joy. As we celebrate this Lenten season which is upon us, may each day lead us closer to You, and may we reflect Your joy in all we do. Help us to embrace what comes in this season of spring, and finally, help us to rest in You. Amen

Penny Hickey

PROGRAM

Bev Scharper 860-313-1498

The program for the Monday, March 4 meeting of the St. Brigid Ladies Guild is a White Elephant Bingo. For the first time in our history the participants are providing the prizes!

We are asking that everyone bring one wrapped item—you can get as fancy as you wish.

The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m., in McMahon Hall at St. Brigid Church and will be followed by desserts and the bingo.

Call *Beverly* at 860-313-1498 if there are any questions.

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.

HOUSE OF BREAD

Gina Giacalone 860-521-8342

For the month of February with all the snow and cold weather, we delivered 13 meat loaves, toiletries, and some canned goods.

A big thank you to Nick and *Pat Vendetta* for picking up and delivering all our collected items to the House of Bread.

The next delivery dates to 130 Overbrook Rd., will be Tuesday and Wednesday, March 5th and 6th.

Thank you for your continued support.

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.

OUR LADY OF CALVARY RETREAT (Cont'd.)

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.

SUPPER CLUB

Edie Parizo 860-561-0238

March 19

Maureen McClay 860-521-0820

Our March Supper Club will be Tuesday, March 19 at 6:15 p.m., at the Fernwood restaurant on New Britain Ave., in the heart of Elmwood. Join us for fun, good food, and good friends. Call *Sheila* (860-232-6915) to be included in the reservation. And if you need a ride, just let us know.

COMMUNION BREAKFAST *Sharraine Reid* 860-841-1711

The 2019 Communion Breakfast is Sunday, May 6, at Rockledge Grill, 289 South Main St., following the 8:30 Mass honoring Guild members past and present. The tickets are priced at \$25, and can be purchased at the March and April meetings, from Marie at the rectory, or by calling *Sharraine* at the above number.

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,

TRIPS (Cont'd.)

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.

Virginia Beach, Norfolk, and Williamsburg – October 14-19, 2019

All are invited to join us on a 6-day, 5-night bus trip to Virginia Beach, Colonial Williamsburg, and Norfolk from Monday, October 14 (Columbus Day) to Saturday, October 19. Per person costs are \$645 double occupancy. Included: Round-trip motorcoach transportation, one overnight lodging to and from Virginia and three nights lodging in the Virginia Beach area, 5 breakfasts and 3 dinners. Also included: Guided tour of Colonial Williamsburg; visit to Nauticus Science Center with the Hampton Roads Naval Museum, battleship Wisconsin, and cruise on "Spirit of Norfolk" with dining, dancing and sightseeing in Norfolk; and a visit to the Virginia Beach Aquarium and Marine Science Center in Virginia Beach. Fliers will be available in the St. Brigid and St. Mark vestibules. For more information or reservations, call Sheila (860-232-6915) or Betty (860-233-3422). A \$75 deposit is required at sign-up with the balance due in August. Thank you.

A NIGHT OF MUSIC, May 18

Maureen McClay 860-521-0820

SAVE THE DATE

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Saturday, May 18, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

- A NIGHT OF MUSIC -

featuring renowned tenor, **Patrick Buckley**

accompanied by **Natasha Ulyanovsky**

[watch for details next month]

CHEER

Barbara Welch 860-521-0732

Sympathy and Prayers are sent to the families of the following Guild members who recently died:

Joan Godlewski

January 16

Maureen Maloy

February 1

Catherine (Kit) Henneberry,
Guild President 1956-57

February 10

Birthday greetings are sent to our March birthday gals: *Helene Hebert* and (*Claire McNamara* (1), *Mary Kilian* (3), *Ellen O'Connor* (10), *Flora Rovella* (14), *Alice Weibel* (15), *Mary Sanko* and *Pat Vendetta* (16), *Joyce Montanari* and *Marianne Stieglitz* (19), *Rosa Peluso* and *Emma Raymond* (21), *Louise Burke* (23), *Wanda Coiro* (24), and *Rosemary Larkum* (28).

If you know of any member who is ill, entering rehab or a convalescent home, housebound, suffering bereavement, celebrating a special event, or could just use a little “cheer,” please give me a call. And remember, YOU are the best source for this information.

PRAYER CHAIN

Laurie Ann Templeton 860 953-4063

Prayer Chain – Many “thanks” again to all who continue to participate in our prayer chain. The recipients are most appreciative. Feel free to join; just call me at the above number.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sheila Donahue 860-232-6915

March 4	Meeting and White Elephant Bingo
March 5-6	House of Bread Deliveries, 130 Overbrook Rd.
March 8-10	Our Lady of Calvary Retreat
March 19	Supper Club at The Fernwood, 6:15 p.m.
March 25	April Newsletter deadline
April 1	Meeting followed by program on Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame
April 2-3	House of Bread deliveries, 130 Overbrook Rd.
April 16-17	Bake Sale
April 21	Monte Carlo Whist Card Party

That's a wrap for March. The deadline for the April newsletter is *Friday, March 25*. If you have any news that's fit to print, please call me at 860-232-6915, e-mail to msja62@comcast.net, or drop it off at the rectory, in the U.S. mail, in my mail slot, or in the collection basket by *March 25*. Thank you, and celebrate *St. Patrick's Day* and *St. Joseph's Day* like no one is watching!

Sheila

An Irish Prayer

*May God give you...
For every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise,
And a blessing in each trial,
For every problem life sends,
A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, a sweet song,
And an answer, for each prayer*

Hymn for St. Joseph

*Dear St. Joseph, pure and gentle,
Guardian of the Saviour Child
Treading with the virgin mother,
Egypt's deserts rough and wild.*

*Hail, St. Joseph, spouse of Mary,
Blessed above all saints on high,
When the death-shades round us
Gather,
Teach, oh, teach us how to die.*

*He who rested on thy bosom
Is by countless saints adored;
Prostrate angels in His presence
Sing hosannas to their lord.*

*Now to thee no gift refusing,
Jesus stoops to hear thy prayer;
Then, dear saint from thy fair
dwelling,
Give to us a father's care.*

An Irish Blessing

*May good Saint Patrick bless you
And keep you in his care.
And may Our Lord be near you
To answer every prayer*