ARCADIA DEANERY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

SPRIITUAL ADVISOR, FR GEORGE THAYIKUZHITHOTTU

JULY 2023

Arcadia Deanery’s Spirituality Gathering occurred on Tuesday, April 18, 7 p.m. at St. Bartholomew’s

Parish Hall, Trempealeau. Guest Speaker was Mary Murray Woods with the topic of “The Power of Faith, Hope & Believing in Miracles. She shared her hopes and fears of having pancreatic cancer plus the power of prayer and friendship to present day cure.

Our attendance was amazing....72 ladies enjoyed seeing friends from other parishes plus being inspired by Father George and Mary Woods.

Day of Joy…A bus filled with deanery ladies (Plus one gentleman) proceeded on a Pilgrimage to the Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse on Saturday, April 29. It was a day filled with love and inspiration by our guests at the shrine.

Janet Amundson, Deanery President

Holy Family, Arcadia

Toni Johnson, President

April—We had no meeting in April. Our Low Sunday collection totaled $635. Several ladies enjoyed the

“Day of Joy” at the Shrine. We sent Easter greetings to the 13 diocesan seminarians; it is a joy to receive notes back from them, shared at our meetings, of course. Other than birthdays later in May-July, the Easter card is the 4th and final card to our seminarians for this year.

May- Our May 1st meeting was the time for our member Memorial Mass, followed by a brief meeting, and food and fellowship. Great cooperations from ladies –as designer of our prayer card, leader of the Rosary, lector, cantor, organist, and lunch helpers. Fr. Kyle joined us for this evening’s activities. On May 21st,,our Social Committee hosted a brunch for our high school graduates and their families; we served a full meal to 43 guests. We enlisted the aid of two high school juniors; they were a delight to work with and reminded them that they will be our guests next year. We presented each graduate (10) with a bag of goodies---treats with messages reminding them of God’s love and of their faith-journey moving forward. We re-inventoried the parish kitchen and our larger storage room and purchased two new flower pots for outside and flowers for those pots, the Fatima Shrine, and the grotto on our parish grounds. We are working more closely with the parish Pastoral Council on projects.

June- We held a “Project Milk” collection the first weekend of June; with that weekend and a couple later donations, we collected nearly $1000 for “Project Milk”. We hosted “Farewell” receptions for

Fr. Arturo and presented him with a monetary gift. We purchased a large rack to hold the coffeemakers and a few incidentals for the kitchen. We are sending a gift of $50 to each of our four new priests of the

Diocese in honor of their Ordination.

We have several ongoing, year-round projects: (1) fellowship cards sent to members and/or families---sympathy, get well, special congratulations, (2) serving as Honor Guard at members’ funerals, (3) helping the caterer with serving lunch for funerals, (4) offering to lector to bring up the gifts at a funeral or to lead the Rosary or lector at the funeral home, (5) Social Committee treats, notes, etc as outreach to homebound and others in the community, (6) Provide a $25 gift card as a door prize for each of the six local blood drives.

Durand Deanery - July 2023 

**Durand, St. Mary’s**

Jennifer Whitwam, co-president

In **September 2022** we provided the meal for the Fall Festival. Smoked meats, hotdogs,

beans, chips, and a roll. The PCCW sponsored the books for the **Advent** program that was put on. In **January 2024** we made a donation to Father Bosco to help with his school in India. We held our annual fish fries on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**. Ash Wednesday was drive thru only since a snow storm was moving in. Served over 350 people at each fish fry. In **March** we provided the meal for the Tri Parish Family Faith Night. Walking tacos, fruit, and cookies. More than 100 people attended.

We made a donation to Options for Women for an ultrasound machine. Provided funds

for the Durand Deanery youth rally speaker. We also make a donation towards the

Steubenville Conference. In **June** we helped plan and participated in an appreciation dinner for our outgoing priest, Father Reither. Monthly fellowship after Sunday Mass was held September-May. Rolls and coffee were served.

**Ellsworth, St. Francis Altar and Rosary Society**

Judy Perkins, president

**The St. Francis Altar & Rosary Society is just getting up and going again. The covid situation put us on hold for awhile. June 14thwe had our salad luncheon. Everyone was happy to be back together. Our monthly meetings have started up again. We will be hosting our Autumn Buffet in the Fall. We haven't set a date yet but will do so at our August meeting. St. Francis School is sponsoring a Block Party for National Night out. Altar and Rosary will be helping with refreshments. (From the Durand Deanery president: A special thanks to Barb Leier who kept the St. Francis CCW going for many years. Barb was also a past Deanery president. And thank you to Judy and the other new officers who have stepped forward to serve.**

**Elmwood, Sacred Heart Altar and Rosary Society**

Anna Crownhart, president

In May we voted to sponsor 2 India students for one year from Fr. Anbu's home area.

In June we had our annual Father's Day Pie Sale with 30 delicious looking pies to purchase after Mass. We were very appreciative of our generous pie baking ladies.

We are hosting a Garage Sale fundraiser in Fr. Anbu's garage on July 27, 28, 29 during UFO DAYS. Father's 2 car garage needed some "sprucing up" so three of our ladies painted the whole inside in June. Looks great, so bright.

**St. Henry’s, Eau Galle**

Patty Manor, president

* St Henry’s PCCW meetings held on February 7th, March 7th, and May 2nd 2023.
* Served 4 funerals during this time period.
* February 11th Watermark Mission hosted a pancake/bake sale breakfast fundraiser.
* March 16 th hosted a soup luncheon for Father Jerry Hoeser’s 86th birthday, approximately 70 attended.
* First Communion gifts were purchased for three communicates from the parish who celebrated on April 2nd.
* April 25th Patty Manor attended the Spring Deanery meeting at Lima, Holy Rosary.
* On Sunday April 30th our parish held Saint Henry’s Annual Spring Fest.
* Leftover bars from Spring Fest went to the Youth Rally held at Saint Henry’s on May 7th.
* Donated $300.00 to Options for Women in Menomonie,
* Purchased 12 white banquet tables for the Parish Center.
* May 14th, Mother’s Day weekend, roses were sold after mass.
* May 28th was our Baccalaureate Mass. Rolls, fruit, juice, coffee, milk were served for families of the 4 graduates.
* June 4th hosted a 60th Celebration of Ordination for Father Jerry Hoeser in the Parish Center.

**Menomonie, St. Joseph’s**

Karen Brunner, president

Our PCCW has been busy the past couple of months, and many thanks go to so many ladies that volunteered their time and talents to make our events successful. Our Spring Thrift Sale was a huge success.

Our “Dad's Day Cinnamon Rolls” on Father's Day was a hit, and we are grateful that so many parishioners took the time to stop by and enjoy the cinnamon rolls and share fellowship with many of our fathers.

Our Honorary Dinner and gathering held on June 22 was an enjoyable evening. Approximately 40 ladies attended and enjoyed a light meal, along with speaker Shawn Phillips. We were very much enlightened to his inspirational talk on "Where do you find the face of Christ.

**Mondovi, Sacred Heart**

Angie Michlig, president

The Sacred Heart of Jesus PCCW was active during the second quarter of 2023. In May, the Council had an installation ceremony for Officers and Commission Chairs. New officers included Angie Michlig, President and Becky Wright, Vice-President. Kathy Herfel is the Immediate Past-President.

Activities of the Council included:

* Increase Parishioner awareness of PCCW with ongoing Facebook posts on the Parish
* Facebook page and regular postings in the weekly bulletin
* Created and distributed a tri-fold informational brochure for the Council
* Provided gifts for 1st communion recipients
* Hosted two Fellowship gatherings
* Hosted baccalaureate lunch for graduating senior parishioners and their families
* Served funeral lunches
* Served a meal to our local Lions Club
* Members participated in the April Deanery meeting
* Presented a scholarship to a graduating high school senior
* Joint planning and participation in appreciation dinner for our outgoing priest, Father Timothy Reither
* Prayer Shawl Ministry
* Partnered with our priests to have our current stock of Prayer Shawls blessed

and set a schedule for ongoing blessing of incoming shawls

* Campaigned to increase awareness of our ministry with Face Book and bulletin

postings which resulted in engaging new crafters and an increase in Prayer

* Shawls requests and gifting.
* Partnered with our Parish youth ministers and had religious education students
* decorate gift bags that we are using to when distributing our prayer shawls. We added stickers inside of the gift bags to credit the students for their work:
* Artwork provided by Sacred Heart Religious Education students.
* Looking ahead for the remainder of 2023, the Council will continue working to increase awareness and participation. Our first action was creating and sending all PCCW members a personal invitation to attend our next three meetings. Other action items to be discussed include:
* The Presidents from each PCCW in our Tri-Parish will be meeting to share ideas and discuss way to increase engagement.
* Hosting a Welcome Grill Out and Fellowship Potluck to welcome our new priest, Father John Zweber
* Host Fellowship Sunday events once/month
* Host a Summer Family Fun Night including an outdoor family movie
* Host an Open House with some sort of activity to bring members together outside of a “meeting” to connect and engage in the Council
* Partner with Youth Ministers on a service project to benefit the community
* Host a Mother-Daughter event
* Building a PCCW page on the Parish website to publish our works
* Fund-raising to continue to provide services to the Parish
* Conducted a 50/50 raffle to aid our local Catholic cemetery.
* Our biggest goal is to increase engagement in the Council. We have a small group of very active members. It’s critical that we engage our Gen X and Millennial members to ensure the future of our Council.

Richland Center Deanery Report

July 2023

By Joyce Humfeld, Deanery President

St. Anthony – Cazenovia –Patti Braun

We held a bake sale in June when the Knights of Columbus sponsored the dairy breakfast. The parish/school halls rented out for events to help profits for the PCCW. We in turn buy the cleaning supplies and paper products for the parish hall.

St. Aloysius – Hillsboro – Karen Urban

In May treats were provided for all the mothers at St. Aloysius and St. Jerome’s parishes. A chicken-que was held in June along with St. Jerome's to raise money for HOPE and Feed My Starving Children. Enough was netted to donate $4193.88 to each organization. This was the eighth fundraiser for these groups. A bake sale is planned for August for the firemen.

St. Mary’s – Keysville – Debbie Lord

In April the las t of the Souper Lunch was held after the 9:45 mass. The plan is to repeat this again next year during the winter months. It is great for socialization and the free will offering provides funds for the donations. May was a busy month as we hosted Church Women United of Richland County. May Friendship Day program was presented by the ladies of St. Mary's Richland Center and the Keyesville ladies provided the brunch. On May 20th we hosted the RCDCCW Spring Assembly. Father Joe Richards provided the program "Martha and Mary---Stepping Back Before Stepping Up." A potluck meal was provided. We continue our monthly after mass socialization of doughnuts, bagels, yogurt, cheese, fruit, juice, and coffee. PCCW meetings are often held at this time. Future plans are for a parish picnic in August and in October, a brunch with games and silent auction.

Sacred Heart – Lone Rock – Marilyn Olson

Our parish PCCW has not been active as there are not enough available to help with activities.

St. Mary of the Assumption – Richland Center – Judy Barnicle

The PCCW continues to provide funeral meals for the families that request the. Many of the members of the PCCW helped with the Sportsman's Extravaganza in April. We prepared and served food, helped set up and clean up, and worked the raffle tables. The PCCW had a jewelry raffle table and raised a good sum of money. We voted to donate money to St. Mary's School for supplies and student planners for the upcoming year. Our principal, Stacia Kohlstedt, attended the meeting and gave an update on how the past school year went. The school had a record enrollment this year. In May we awarded three scholarships to high school students. Our parish hosted the Deanery Confirmation in May. A reception was held for the families and was well attended. Our June meeting was held in Krouskop Park. New officers were elected. President is Alisa Weiss, vice president is Marissa Ewing, Candace McGrath continues as secretary and Patty Pulvermacher as treasure. The parish festival will be held in September and the PCCW will be in charge of the bake sale and silent auction.

St. Mary Annunciation – Viroqua – Joyce Humfeld

Our PCCW continues to support two seminarians. One of our seminarians, Jarad Clements, was ordained and we gave him a monetary gift. We selected John Francis as a second seminarian to support. He is with us for two months this summer, so we held a potluck supper to welcome him to the parish. The PCCW gifted the confirmands Bibles and the graduating seniors a daily prayer book. Along with the parish, we were able to gift three seniors a $500 scholarship. We held a celebration reception for the installation of Father Joe Richards along with the PCCW of Coon Valley. It was wonderful to work along with the ladies of St. Mary's, Coon Valley. We continue this summer with a Bible Study led by John Francis for both parishes together. Our quilters are meeting weekly making quilts for donations, one of which will be Sleep in Heavenly Peace. We are planning a parish picnic the end of August and our Annual fall turkey dinner in October.

St. Jerome's - Wonewoc-Sondra Gorius

Our Altar Society, at the suggestion of Judi Pesz, held a thanksgiving meal for all who help with music, lectures, servers and any who help out in any way at St. Jerome's. This is almost everyone as we are very small now. We host donuts on the first Sunday of the month. We also continue to cover adoration times at St.Theresa's PEA Chapel in Union Center every other Sunday. We keep up the gardens around the church. We will be hosting breakfast on the first Sunday in August.

La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

Quarterly Meeting - July 15, 2023

KC Building - Tomah, WI

St. Catherine's of Holy Name of Jesus - Wausau, Wi has served dinner for approximately 100 guests at the Jubilee House. We also served a brat luncheon following the Procession on Corpus Christi. We worked in many and various area for our annual summer fun fundraiser.

St. John the Baptist - Edgar, Wi helped with the hamburger stand for Father's Day and will do the same type of work in late August for the local Steam Show Days. We continue with funeral uncheons. Our monthly connect with our shut-ins and homebound is always worthwhile.

Holy Family in Poniatowski. Wi keeps busy with funeral luncheons, but we also have great gatherings such as the Mother and Child Banquet, the yearend CCD party, and the Church picnic. We mail bulletins weekly with message to individuals and couples not able to attend Church. We also have the gal in our group that sends the Ordination Anniversary and Birthday cards to our Priests and Deacons.

St. Therese of the Child Jesus - Rothschild/Schofield, Wi has a new Associate Pastor (Fr. Eric Mashak) and he's a great singer and connects very good with us already. A gathering was done in his honor this weekend whereas last weekend we bid farewell to our longtime Deacon Michael Lambrecht. We did our best as our cafeteria floor is not quite completed We also are going strong with our Senior Potluck and then bingo and will continue through the summer. The Confirmation Retreat had light snacks and refreshments from us. We helped the Breakfast Committee to put on a Graduation Breakfast. With monies earned throughout the year, we gave some to supply planters for the Grotto area; repair of the school kitchen; funds to the Warming Center for food when no one volunteers; added to the budget for Church flowers; and lastly gave the Parish money to put into the general funds needed.