

St. Mary's Council of Catholic Women November 10, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Kelly Haeska. Opening prayer to Our Lady was recited together by the 19 members in attendance: Kelly Haeska, Anne Beckman, Lavada Reckman, Barb Kobs, Joann Landers, Dolores Berg, Rachel Rath, Eileen Glander, Nancy Denzer, Ann Lewis, Emmee Lopez, Linda Harvey, Stephanie Durand, Dorothy Arendt, Ann Nibbe, Ann Braun, Kerry Goihl, Robbie Benedict, Karen Wedul.

Minutes from the October, 13th meeting were read silently; a motion to approve was seconded with a request to read them aloud next month, and carried.

A thank you note was shared by Linda Harvey from Deacon David for his gift of \$150 Kwik Trip gift card and \$100 in cash.

The Treasure's report was read and explained by Linda Harvey. Discussion clarified the purchase of checks and our interest earning checking account. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded and carried.

Introductions of the members present followed, with a Welcome to all for coming.

Old Business

The crucifix for the Dining Hall is tabled for now, Kelly continues to look for one.

CCW T-shirts: A quote was obtained from two local T-shirt Vendors with sizes and colors shown to the group, as well as price comparisons. Sign-up sheets to place orders were made available. A motion was made, following a vote, to order light blue long and short sleeve shirts with St. Mary's logo, from the lowest bid, with each member contributing \$5.00 of the cost per shirt. Extra shirts in Medium, Large and X-Large will be ordered for those interested but not present. The motion was seconded and carried.

Christmas Cookies: Baking of cut-out cookies will be done the morning of December 3rd with frosting and decorating from 1-4 in the afternoon. Five cases of dough and one tub of icing have been ordered. Thursday Dec 4th starting at 9 am will be cookie baking, come and go as able until 4:30pm. Ingredients and recipes for Peanut Blossom, Oatmeal Raisin and Monster Cookies with red and green M&M's will be available. Additional varieties of dough are welcome.

The cost of cookies on the Cookie Walk will remain at \$8.00 per pound. The Sportsman's Sale wants to match our price. Donations from parishioners are encouraged, 5 dozen from all the women, with communication to clarify sent out. Request for bake sale item donations, in addition to cookies, such as candy, sweet breads, etc. will also be made.

Christmas Market: Thirteen tables have been reserved by ten Vendors to date, with room for 17 tables maximum in the Gathering Space. Calls can be made to Holly in the office if Vendors are still interested.

The following Chairpersons were announced for the Market areas:

Santa's Coffee Shop: Rachel Rath. Coffee, Cinnamon Rolls and Hot Chocolate will be sold. Sheets for workers will be placed in the Gathering Space November 18th.

Publicity: Dorothy Arendt. Flyers are done, ready to be distributed to local business, area Churches-Red Wing, Plainview, Belchester; notice already in Courier, sent to Graphic, Shopper, and Holly will place in bulletins. Request to be made to Father The to put on Facebook.

Cookie Walk: LaVada Reckman

Sweet Shop (Bake Sale): Joanne Landers

Gently Used Christmas: Eileen Glander. A rack from last year is available, in addition to a new one from Denise Drews Doyle. Sorting of current basement items will begin. Ann Nibbe has volunteered to assist with what's left after the Market. Emmee will recruit 4 students to come help after Mass.

Silent Auction/ Bucket Raffle: Ann Lewis

St. Nicholas: Paul Freid will be asked, Rachel has the costume. A Host and Hostess is needed.

Cashier: Linda Harvey. Discussion of the location of the cashier to reduce loss. All areas will offer a payment location with Cookie Walk line reversed to end at the Cashier. There may be a Venmo option in the future, Father The is working on this.

Decorating of the Gathering Space beginning December 1st to incorporate smaller trees, waiting to put up the large tree in the Dining Hall due to space needed for tables for coffee shop. Using the alcove with the ramp was suggested; will work with John.

Baby Bottle Campaign donation last year was \$1,928.00. This year's total was \$2, 622.00. Thanks to all for the generosity.

New Business

Reception for Sue McElmury and Lisa Wallerich will be Sunday November 23rd after Mass. Planning for 125-150 people. Menu is Egg Bake, Fresh Fruit cups and Breads. Sign-up sheets for help from CCW volunteers to prepare food here at Church, for servers and for a clean-up crew are available.

Mass of Remembrance is Thursday November 20th. A motion was made for CCW to purchase bars from Huettl's for 75 -100 people, to be served with coffee and water. The motion was seconded and approved.

Bethany Church Thanksgiving Dinner sign-up sheet for pies will be placed in the Gathering Space. A motion was made to contribute an additional \$300.00 towards the dinner costs.

A Christmas Concert will be performed in Church on December 21st at 4pm. Sign-up sheets for 2 adults to assist Faith Formation students in serving Cookies and Hot Chocolate, as well as requests for 2 dozen Cookies. Families have been asked to bring treats as well.

The Parish Council is promoting Donut Sundays and Wine/Cheese Saturday nights on the third weekend of each month. The CCW will host on January 17th, sign-up sheets are available. The KC's host in February, Faith Formation in March and Parish Council in April. Parish Council members are Emmee Grisim Lopez, Kelly Haeska, Lucas Grieves, Francisco Garcia, trustee Frank Siebenaler, with an open spot for a female.

There will be a meeting on November 18th for all the Heads of the various groups in the Parish, at 5pm with Father The. A light supper will be served. It was requested to include the 150th Committee, Ann Nibbe; Mission Sewing, Mary Peterson; Choir, Gail Huppert; and Flower Ladies, Jodie Hogan.

Due to the current situation with SNAP benefits, there was discussion on CCW Food Shelf contributions. In the past \$600 was given in the Spring and \$500 in the Fall. The proposed March 2026 donation is \$1000.00. A motion was made for a \$500 donation now to the Lake City Food Shelf, seconded and approved.

A motion was made to give a \$150 gift card to Holly Roe to assist her family experiencing personal health issues, seconded and approved.

This year's Giving Tree Project, in conjunction with Goodhue/Wabasha County, School Social Workers, St. Felix, and High School Hispanic Outreach, will benefit 8 families. Tags will appear on a tree in the Gathering Space the week of Thanksgiving for requests for clothing, footwear, gifts and gift certificates to Fresh Market. A motion was made to include Chamber Bucks in amounts of \$200.00 for two families of 4 or less members, \$250.00 for 5 families of 5 or more, and \$300.00 for one family of 8 members, totaling \$1,950.00. The motion was seconded and approved.

The KC's are asking the CCW for help with a Chili Cook-Off on January 24, 2026, as a fundraiser for the First Choice Clinic. Linda Harvey will speak with Doug Thompson about the possible issues of chili's prepared elsewhere and served here.

The 150th Committee thought the Calendars were a great idea.

One hundred sixty people attended the past Donut Sunday, Holly will be informed of future needs as the food ran out.

Prayers have been requested for Al and Deb Rolbiecki with new health issues. The meeting was closed with a Hail Mary prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Beckman