

St. Mary's Council of Catholic Women September 8, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Kelly Haeska, who opened with a new prayer seeking the intercession of Our Lady, on the feast of her Nativity.

Members in attendance: Kelly Haeska, Denise Drew Doyle, Anne Beckman, Emmee Grism Lopez, Ann Lewis, Kim Solheid, Phyllis Sheridan, Jackie Lyons, Ann Braun, Eileen Glander, Lavada Reckman, Dorothy Arendt, Barb Schmidt, Kerry Goihl.

Minutes of the August 11, 2025 meeting were read by Anne Beckman, a motion made, seconded and the minutes were approved with no corrections.

The only change to the Treasurer's report from August 11, is a check from the KCs for \$174.75 for half of the expenses from the Baccalaureate Mass in May.

Old Business

Fall Festival

Thank you to all of the CCW members who helped out in so many roles, contributing to a very successful day. 461 meals were served. The end of the day wrap-up identified that the correct amount of food was prepared, as nothing ran out. Eight long tables will be purchased for the Dining Hall in anticipation of next year's needs, preventing borrowing from St. Patrick's. There will be a formal Fall Festival wrap-up meeting next week.

A suggestion was made from the Take Out gals for Fall Festival T-shirts. Judy had aprons to identify the pie cutters. Discussion around CCW shirts which could be used by members at all events and if any members had ideas for a design and colors.

Ann Lewis reported on financial returns from the Bucket Raffle (\$908.00) and Silent Auction (\$7,541.00), both being the second highest totals in the past 12 years. Shotgun shell raffle total was \$358.00, Farmers Market \$1,012.00 and Bake Sale \$792.00. Grand total nearing \$11,000.00. Comments from the Festival included parishioners expressing how welcome they feel coming to St. Mary's, and members expressing gratitude for being part of such a great group of women, seeing so many CCW members come forth for a fantastic job well done.

Matrix

Emmee Grism Lopez thanked the CCW for equipment contributions, and answered questions. Three hours is the usual length of time young people are present, 5-17 is range so far, usually about 6 are there. Saturday the 20th and Wednesday the 24th are the dates for the rest of September. The Pizza maker is quite popular. There was discussion regarding the best way for the CCW to provide a stock of at least 6 pizzas in the freezer, as well as drinks, utilizing sales in support of the local businesses. Ongoing financial needs are unknown at this time. A motion was made for a \$300.00 Fresh Market gift card, which was seconded and approved, with the amendment of tracking of receipts and a report back at the October 13th meeting.

Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion during the Jubilee

Travel time is about 4 hours one way, Mass is 1100 am daily, with additions of 8:30 am on Tuesday and Saturday, and Wednesday at 5:45 pm. The ladies from St. Patrick attend in May, travelling from Thursday to Sunday, and will be going again in 2026. The website for the Shrine includes lodging suggestions for east of Green Bay, and all the information needed to plan an overnight visit. Anyone interested in a trip in 2025 please contact Anne Beckman.

Update on Crucifix and Plaque

Kelly is looking into options for a crucifix and plaque honoring those who have helped in the Kitchen, from previous religious item vendors, and a Winona diocesan warehouse with repurposed items from closed Parishes. There is also an upcoming Assisi Heights sponsored estate sale for the Poverello Fund.

Donut Sunday

September 28th after the 1000 am Mass Lavada Reckman will be honored at Donut Sunday, sponsored by Kelly and Emmee. There will be an additional recognition in the Spring.

Christmas Market

Saturday December 6th from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

St. Nicholas was present from 9-11 last year, which needs to be added to the flyers and in the bulletin. Kelly will check with Rachel, who has the costume that her Dad wore. An invitation will be made to the youth, 5-6th grade and up, to be "elves" at the St. Nicholas location, as well as to assist shoppers carrying purchases, etc. Clear signage is also needed.

Cookie Baking at the Church

A variety of recipes were discussed from members as suggestions for baking done at the Church Kitchen. Sugar and butter are already on hand. It was agreed to order half of the dough for cut out cookies to be baked and decorated at Church. Emmee and Kelly will coordinate with Tracy Oliver, ordering from Heidi's Hug a Mug, Huettl's, or Emmee's supplier. No cookie kits will be assembled or sold this year. December 4th is the Church baking date, with morning, afternoon and evening shifts. Soup and bread lunch provided.

Publicity Chairs are Dorothy Arendt and Karen Wedel.

Four Vendor Letters have been received.

Five Wreaths are on hand.

Donated Christmas mugs can be dropped off in the office for the Cocoa Cups.

Gently used Christmas Items, Eileen Glander will help with this.

Cookie Walk Chairs are Lavada Reckman and Jackie Lyons

Roger Reckman will again weigh the cookies. 200 white boxes with liners will be ordered by Ann Lewis to be added to those left from last year. The price remains the same, \$.93 per box.

Silent Auction Items/Baskets

Nothing remains from the Fall Festival. There are a few items from the last garage sale, and the Christmas items will be sorted. A motion was made for \$200.00 to be allotted toward the purchase of filler materials to complete the baskets. All receipts need to be given to Linda Harvey. The motion was seconded and approved.

New Business

Baby Bottle Campaign

October is Respect Life Month, and CCW gave the Campaign \$500.00 last year. A contribution decision was tabled until the next meeting.

Packing for the Weekend

Last year \$500.00 was donated, serving 36-40 people, with some from our Parish participating. A motion was made for \$500.00 to be contributed this year. The motion was seconded and approved.

Hope Coalition

The theme for this Jubilee Year is Pilgrims of Hope. In October the Hope Coalition is celebrating 35 years in our community. Anne Beckman will look into having a speaker come to share their mission and services to Goodhue and Wabasha County residents.

Family Dinners

Wednesday night Faith Formation Family Dinner dates are September 17th, October 1st and 22nd, November 5th and 19th, and December 10th from 5:30 to 6:15 pm. A motion was made for CCW members to plan a menu, serve and clean up, for 3 dinners during this Faith Formation Year, with October 1st chosen as the first night. Committee of Dorothy Arendt, Barb Schmidt and Kim Solheid volunteered to coordinate. The motion was seconded and approved.

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

On October 4th, following the First Saturday Mass, Father The will have a blessing of the Pets. Coffee and rolls will follow.

Flyers are available for the Diocese CCW Convention on Saturday October 11, 2025 in Adrian, MN if anyone is interested.

Gathering Space church pews need reupholstering. Kelly will inquire about lead on using the fabric that is available.

CCW Thank You cards are being considered.

Next meeting is October 13, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Anne Beckman