

# **SAINT JOSEPH COLUMBIETTES #12788**



**MECHANICSBURG, PA**  
**OVERVIEW PACKET**

## **Saint Joseph Columbiettes Mission Statement:**

***The Columbiettes is a group of faith-based women who have chosen to join together with a commitment to serve our Parish needs. We work closely with our Columbian family, the Knights, with whom we share the intent to join forces and give back to our Parish of Saint Joseph's, its needs, and the needs of our local community.***

## **COLUMBIETTES ACTIVITIES / EVENTS**

- **Christmas Fest - November** - *The Columbiettes' largest fundraiser. Christmas Fest is an annual parish and community event that is always held the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The event includes vendors, children's crafts, food, a silent auction, raffle, and a visit from Saint Nicholas. Christmas Fest includes a bake sale and a special 'Pies for a Purpose' sale. Money raised from the last Christmas Fest bake sale was donated to Lourdeshouse and Shalom House. Money raised from the 'Pies for a Purpose' is donated to Saint Joseph Church and goes to a specific project at the suggestion of Father Rozman. The most recent 'Pies for a Purpose' sale helped regild the tabernacle used on Holy Thursday.*
- **Thanksgiving Donations** – *The Columbiettes, both as an organization and individuals, provide grocery gift cards for Thanksgiving to the Parish for distribution to Parish families determined by the Parish to be in need.*
- **Backpack Ministry** – *Individual Columbiettes donate school supplies prior to the start of school. These supplies are donated to various schools within the Diocese that are in need and to New Hope Ministries, which distributes the supplies to its guests.*
- **Shoe Box Ministry** – *Individual Columbiettes donate toiletries, towels, hats, socks, razors, and gloves that were donated to Bethesda Mission Men's Shelter and Bethesda Mission Women's shelter, a Christian organization that provides a place to sleep, a warm meal and peace from life's storms.*

- **Community Penance Service** – *The Columbiettes assist with setup and serve as ushers for the Community Penance Services that are held at Saint Joseph’s in December for Advent and during the Lenten season.*
- **Scholarships for Seminarians** – *The Columbiettes established an annual \$500.00 scholarship in honor of our first chaplain Father Dominic DiBiccaro at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, MA. We also provide an annual \$500 scholarship to any seminarian who is a parishioner.*
- **Rosary with our Knights of Columbus** – *October and May we pray the Rosary with the Knights of Columbus prior to our auxiliary meeting.*
- **Prayer Chain** - *This chain contains intentions and prayers of gratitude from the parishioners. The Columbiettes supply the strips of paper, time to assemble the chain, and prayers.*
- **Parish Picnic** – *The Columbiettes provide and serve desserts for the annual Parish Picnic.*
- **Knight’s Yard Sale** – *Held the Saturday after Labor Day in September. We obtain a space and sell items donated by the Columbiettes and other members of the Parish.*
- **Lourdes House Luncheon** – *A few Columbiettes, along with their husbands who are Knights of Columbus, do a pro-life service by taking lunch to the ladies at Lourdes House, one of Catholic Charities “Homes for Healing” residential homes in the diocese that serve single mothers and their babies in need.*
- **Silence of Mary Collection** – *The Columbiettes collect items for Silence of Mary Home, a Christian organization that provides a*

*family environment to those who are the most disadvantaged and at high risk level.*

- **Parish RCIA Banquet** - *The Columbiettes helped to set up and serve at the 2022 Parish RCIA gathering and also will be doing so in 2023.*
- **Miscellaneous** – *The Columbiettes serve the Parish in many other ways, usually at the request of the Parish. We have provided a reception upon the ordination of a seminarian or Deacon who served at the Parish and a reception for priests who have been transferred to another Parish. We also contribute funds to other Parish ministries, such as the Lenten Supper and Speaker series, Vacation Bible School, and for the purchase of the annual book given to parishioners at Christmas.*