**ARCADIA DEANERY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN**

**Activity Reports January – April 2022**

**Very Rev. Dean Sebastian Kolodziejczyk, Holy Family & Sacred Heart**

**Janet Amundson, President:**

**Arcadia DCCW announced after two long years to finally get together with all eleven parish ladies at SS Peter & Paul Parish, Independence on April 19, 7 p.m. Our deanery calls this event “Spirituality Gathering” rather than a deanery meeting. Clare Ruff, director of events and outreach with Hosea Initiative, spoke how back in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s NARAL Pro-Choice America, a political action organization, goal was to spread its pro-abortion mentality across America. She talked about how American public and the courts accepted legalized abortion. Hosea Initiative’s goal is to continue teaching the strategy of how Dr. Bernard Nathanson deceived America. We must assist in proclaiming the dignity of every human life.**

**Installation of Officers was conducted by Very Rev. Dean Sebastian for the term 2022-2024. Janet Amundson, President; Sherry Reck-Haines, Vice-President; Cindy Lyga, Secretary; Mary Benusa, Treasurer; Commissions: Darlene Matchey, Spirituality; Mary Sobotta, Service; and Deb Kujak, Leadership.**

**Janet shared her DREAM of conducting her first board meeting and passing out potatoes to each member. In reflecting days later, she thought what might potatoes mean and changing the word potatoes to SPUDS. AHA... SPUDS --Spirit Propels Us Deanery Sisters!! Take Root and Grow in God and His Church! Janet gifted a small bag of SPUDS to Father Sebastian, Father George (SS. Peter & Paul pastor) the officers, commission chairs, Clare Ruff, Melanie Frei, Ethel Ouellette ,outgoing hospitality chair: Darlene Auer, service chair; Marlene James, treasurer, and Janell Halama, SS Peter & Paul PCCW President.**

**Attached to the gift bags was the Spiritual Message of the Potatoes: by Anthony William Have you ever felt like you had so much to offer only you remained unseen by those around you? The potato is the ultimate underdog—full of potential, yet perpetually overlooked and trampled on. Potatoes remind us of all our hidden gifts, our life purposes and talents that get trapped inside, held back, stifled by the earthly traffic known as everyday life.**

**Potatoes’ humble strength is due in part to how they grow: in clusters, surrounded by other potatoes, like a large extended family. Potatoes come in numbers for a reason: so that, like an army of loved ones, they can fight for you.**

**When you feel like you’re living by an arbitrary belief system that dictates what you’re supposed to do and who you’re supposed to be, connect with the wisdom and grounding of the potato. Remind yourself that so much of who you are is beneath the surface, that you are supported and witnessed, and that you deserve to unearth your true nature and share it with the world.**

**St. Mary’s PCCW Galesville, Rebecca Harris, President:**

**In January, our PCCW members delivered 190 snack items and $332 from our Advent collection for the needs of our local elementary school. Some students are not able to bring snacks for milk break and students are sometimes in need of emergency clothing. The school will use the cash to purchase the items needed. There are many students who benefit from this collection immediately.**

**In February, we gathered as a group to make homemade valentines for our shut-ins, elderly or sick members. All of the Eden House residents and Marinuka Manor nursing home residents; 68 cards were mailed or delivered from our efforts.**

**In March and April, our PCCW members served a weekly soup supper after 6:00 mass on Tuesdays during Lent. Each of our 3 sets is assigned to do two.**

**St. John the Apostle, Whitehall, Rita Sobotta, President:**

**We put Hugs candy in cute baggies and put them out for the parishioners to take in February. The message in each bag said, "Enjoy a hug from St. John's PCCW" The bags were in a basket on the edge of the altar for people to pick up on the way out of church. Father announced that people were welcome to pick them up on the way out of church.**

**Last week we made "Happy Spring" baskets and delivered them to the shut-ins and nursing home people from our parish. (Our baskets included hand sanitizer, a soft bunny, a wind chime, a fake succulent in a vase, a ceramic cardinal and silk flowers)**

**We did a reverse collection for the St. Joseph's table. We passed a basket with items of need written on slips of paper and people could pull out a slip of paper and then bring the item to church. (Our collection was huge. Most people brought much more than what the paper told them to.)**

**We provided snacks and water for parishioners that stayed for bible study each Sunday following mass. We have ordered and are waiting to have installed a new outside window at the entry of the church. Today we made homemade potato soup and sandwiches for a funeral.**

**Holy Family, Arcadia, Sherry Reck-Haines, President:**

**The Holy Family PCCW continues to focus on the Corporal Works of Mercy. Home Bound Communion and the social committee prepares special favors. They either deliver or send to the elderly and more confined of the parish. Special favors have been also prepared and given to the newly married, baptized, and new members of Holy Family Parish. This was started during the pandemic and will continue on a regular basis. Holy Family has now gone to preparation of funeral fellowship with catered service. The former PCCW funeral group of ladies will now serve with the caterer and be responsible for the preparation of the hall and also clean up.**

**Our goal for the future events of Holy Family PCCW is to schedule a prayer service together with the Latino ladies of Holy Family. We are blessed to have Father Auturo Vigueras as the Associate Pastor to assist us with a successful event. We are here to serve our PCCW, Holy Family Parish, Arcadia Deanery, and community of Arcadia.**

**St. Boniface, Waumandee, Mary Hildebrand & Karen Pronschinske Co-Presidents:**

**January, Soup and sandwich social/take outs/ social bake sale February, third annual ladies pot luck and auction March, St. Joeph’s dinner-- Lasagna, salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert/Bake Sale /Take outs available**

**SS. Peter & Paul, Independence, Janell Halama, President: Baptismal baskets, Hosted the Spring Spirituality Gathering for the Arcadia Deanery, Provided a soup and sandwich lunch following noon mass on Thursdays during Lent.**

**St. Bartholomew, Trempealeau, Kay Richtman & Judy Heinz Co-Presidents: Our PCCW has been busy trying to recruit a Vice President. No one has been able to step up to help us out. We keep praying. Installation of officers took place at the April 12th meeting. Over the past several months, we have been very busy raising funds for a new dishwasher for our parish hall. With everyone's hard work our mission was accomplished. The dishwasher was installed and operational in March. This year we gave gifts of candy to the Marinuka Manor residents on Valentine's Day instead of Christmas. They are always appreciative and happy to receive them with smiles on their faces. Darlene Schlesser and Doreen Backler put together 50 Easter baskets filled with toys, fun activities, small stuffed animals and of course Easter candy. Those were distributed to our local food pantry and also Grace Place in Winona. Our PCCW sponsored a Lenten Fish Fry and Bake Sale. Thanks to the generosity and hard work of our parishioners it was a huge success. We also choose a First Communion student for a prayer partner. We support them and pray for them so that they make a good First Reconciliation and Communion. At the first reconciliation, the prayer partners help them make their banner for the church and provide a brunch for the family. It is fun to get to know the families of the young people.**

**RICHLAND CENTER DEANERY REPORT---APRIL2022**

The parishes in our deanery continue to be active. We are planning our spring assembly at St. Aloysius in Hillsboro on June 4. Tony Shay, our soon to be ordained deacon, will be the speaker.

**PARISH ACTIVITIES**

St. Anthony---Cazenovia by Patti Braun

St. Anthony’s Altar Society recently helped the parish Knights of Columbus update and repair the sinks in the school kitchen.

St. Aloysius---Hillsboro by Karen Urban

In March we had an Altar Society meeting which always starts with the rosary in the church, followed by the meeting, and then we went out to eat together. A lot of fun for all! A St. Joseph table was set up where food was placed for those in need. Money was also given. Bread was brought in and blessed along with the food. The table was up for 3 weeks. May we will have another Altar Society meeting. May 1 we will have a reception for our First Communion children and May 7 a reception for our Confirmation class. We are hoping to have our annual chicken-que fundraiser for HOPE/Feed my Starving Children (if we can get chickens at a reasonable price). June 19 we will serve muffins or cookies for Father’s Day.

St. Mary’s---Keysville by Debbie Lord

A holy hour for peace in Ukraine was held and special monetary collections were held also. A meatless meal was served following the Friday Lenten services. We held a bake sale/ pie auction fundraiser for Ben Huebsch, the 15 year old son of Mick and Carley Huebsch. Ben has been fighting cancer since December and has been hospitalized at UW hospital in Madison. Finally, we have started our monthly coffee and donuts in the church hall. Future plans are for a summer picnic and fall festival.

Sacred Heart---Lone Rock by Donna Mulholland

Sacred Heart Altar Society held a soup supper in January which brought in $728.00. We are sponsoring Joshua’s schooling and his family in Kenya through the UNBOUND program. Plans are being made for a rummage sale Saturday, May 21.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish---Richland Center by Judy Barnicle

We don’t meet as a group in January and February. In March, we had six seniors apply for our PCCW scholarship and we select three of them to be presented in May at the high school scholarship ceremony. On Ash Wednesday, we held our first ever soup/sandwich supper after the evening mass. With a free will offering, we made $417.00 for the Richland County Food Pantry. We have provided two funeral dinners so far this year. At the spring book fair, we selected books off the teacher’s wish lists as gifts from the PCCW. A few sets od boots were purchased from our Boots for Kids fund and haircuts were provided at the Pine Valley Nursing Home with our Christmas contribution. The parish office has asked us to purchase two new Mensa cloths. The Sportsman Extravaganza will be held April 30th. Our ladies will be helping with food at the event, circles will be asked to baring cookies/bars and the PCCW will have a jewelry table to raise some money. Our slate LDCCW Sunday collection, we will put envelopes in the pews and have it announced at mass. We are always discussing ways to increase attendance. Next month we will have a door prize!

Annunciation of The Blessed Virgin Mary Parish---Viroqua by Joyce Humfeld

Our PCCW continues to support two seminarians, one of which will be ordained this year. We voted to continue to support two by requesting a name of another one after the ordination. We increased our donation to $125 monthly to each seminarian. Our PCCW donated $250 to the local food pantry. Our quilting group donated six quilts that were sent to Poland to aid in the families hosting Ukrainian refugees. We had Lenten calendars for the youth and will pass out an Easter craft and treats to the children on Easter Sunday. Our prayer chain list has been updated. The PCCW has served several funeral meals. We are selecting a senior for a $500 scholarship. We are planning for the reception for our soon to be deacon, Tony Shay.

St. Jerome’s---Wonewoc by Sondra Gorius

We were quiet during the winter months, but the women were troopers when it comes to covering the adoration time at St. Theresa’s PEA Chapel, in Union Center. We also keep up with our social time donuts and coffee the first Sunday of the month. We enjoy and have a good turnout. We set up our St. Joseph ‘s Table at the beginning of March and parish members were generous filling the table with dry and canned goods along with monetary donations for the Wonewoc Food Pantry. St. Joseph’s Feast Day was March 19th. Father Bauer blessed the table full of goods and breads that were brought in that Sunday and then taken home. On the 20th we held a soup and homemade bread and jam meal after mass. The proceeds and a donation from the PCCW will go to help the people trapped in Ukraine. One of our members is from Poland so she and her husband have been hard at work to gather and get supplies delivered. We will host a First Communion and Confirmation celebration after mass on May 1. The Altar Society purchased Bibles for the Confirmation students and a saint book for First Holy Communion youth. June 1st we will have cake and ice cream plus an assortment of breakfast and lunch items. This will be a “free for all” social where we will ask ladies to bring whatever they please for a meal for all to enjoy.

**WAUSAU DEANERY**

**APRIL 2022 CONVENTION**

**WISCONSIN RAPIDS**

**Holy Family in Poniatowski**

**Bulletins are sent to the elderly and shut-ins each week. A take out only Chili Feed was done with the Youth Group. Funds will help send Youth to Steubenville in Minnesota this summer. We honor all from our Parish 65 and over for their years of service with a Senior Dinner. We have the meal, bingo, and card games. it's a lot of fun. A Mother-Child Banquet Pot Luck Supper is set up with Bingo and lots of prizes.**

**St. John the Baptis in Edgar**

**We visit or wite the shut-ins monthly. Had a silent fish fry/raffle with donations going to Wisconsin Right to Life, Hope Pregnancy, Ronald McDonald House, Women's Community, Catholic Charity Warming Center in Wausau, and The Hannah Center, as well as our Parish. This Lent Season, we are very involved in seven Friday Fish Fries and they are carry out only. Have provided funeral lunches or anything that needs to be done by the school or Church.**

**St. Therese of the Child Jesus in Rothschild/Schofield**

**In January an Epiphany Walk was done. We decided to do "Over the toes, Under the clothes" for the Warming Center and it went very well. Many families are still catering funeral lunches, but we offered to make desserts and that has been well accepted. We continue to make great suppers for the Priests helping with Reconciliation. We contributed money to assist in helping Kentucky tornado victims. We provided little black booklet of Prayers for Lent. "Souper Bowl" and bread sale in February. We chose a date during Lent to do "Mary's Way of the Cross." Palm Sunday Bake Sale was great. We continue to sell dishcloths and make facemasks. We will provide more prizes for the Cherry Tree at the August Fest this summer. We need to make more knitted baby hats and small blankets for the Marshfield Medical Center newborns. Donations of Ramen and Oatmeal were shared with Schofield City Hall and the Warming Center. We provided a dinenr for our Parish Council and Finance Council. We hosted one of the Friday noon Lent Lunches. The Confirmation Retreat had snacks and a meal provided by the Council.**