

There's a point in every true friendship where you stop being friends and become sisters.



*The Black Madonna;
altar of The Shrine of
Our Lady of
Czestochowa*



The legend of Our Lady of Czestochowa, the Black Madonna, tells of a Byzantine icon with an unknown origin that was brought to Poland in 1382 and is now housed at the Jasna Góra Monastery. Though the image's precise history is debated, it is famously known for the two gashes on Mary's face and Jesus's face, inflicted by Hussite robbers in 1430, which reappeared after repeated attempts to repaint them. The "Black Madonna" moniker comes from the soot that discolored the painting over centuries of burning candles and votive lights in front of it. The icon became a symbol of Polish national identity and resistance, particularly during the Swedish invasion of 1655, a period that led to it being declared Queen of Poland.

Your editor and former BSCCW member, Rosaleen Willis, attended the festival on 8/31, feasted on kielbasa and stuffed cabbage and visited the beautiful, very impressionable, Shrine.



A Letter from President, Linda Lauletta ...

A new CCW year is about to begin. Our August Membership Drive was successful with welcoming 6 new members. As we gather in September let's welcome back returning members and new members with a smile and enjoy a day full of laughter and friendship. In Catholic Woman (vol.51, No.2/2025) the L.T.D. (leadership training development) commission shared thoughts on Bringing Joy to your Council. A couple lines from the Bible were listed, "Being cheerful keeps you healthy..." (PV 17:) "So I am convinced that a man should enjoy himself, because the only pleasure he has in this life is eating and drinking and enjoying himself. He can at least do this as he labors during the life that God has given him in this world."

Early reports from our board members appear that this year will be as active as last if not more. Some of the coming events will be Christian Bingo sponsored by the Spirituality Commission in September. In October the Leadership/Legislative Commission will present a speaker on Domestic Violence Awareness. December is time for our Bake Sale and More event. In January we will host JMJ Baby Shower and our annual Fashion Show. During Lent our Spirituality Commission will sponsor Mary's Way of the Cross. The Service Commission through Mary's Handmaidens Circle continues to support Head Start, Lake Hills School, and Children's Advocacy Center. Monthly meeting minutes will be mailed to members to keep everyone informed. Also check the parish website for BSCCW Messenger, our monthly newsletter.

May Our Lady of Good Counsel be with us through the coming year and "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." (2 Cor 13:14)



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**Service - Tillie Granucci,
Nancy Pittman**



Fr Ponce visiting CCW membership drive

Sunday after the Masses Fr. Ponce was delighted to receive Kathy Miller's suitcase full of dresses, plus other dresses and swaddling blankets for the Mission children. Father said the children keep Blessed Sacrament CCW dresses as something special. They only wear them on Christmas, Easter, or other festive events, never as an everyday dress. Members wishing to help Fr. Ponce with the cost of shipping clothing to Uganda may make a donation to Fr. Ponce directly or to the Kambaala Medical Mission (mail your check to his address here in Clermont: 614 Highway 50, Box 284, Clermont, FL 34711).



Leadership - Loretta Terrana



New members, Barbara Weiss and Arlene Rand with VP Loretta Terrana at August Membership Drive

Welcome new members:
Deb DuCharme, Marcia Martin (returning member), Arlene Rand, Barbara Wiess, Janet Mazzaferri, Janet Murawski, and Kathy Rawls.

Gavin Foreman, the seminarian BSCCW is supporting with financial assistance and prayer.





***Spirituality - Connie
Brewer, Donna Butwell***



Legislative - Loretta Terrana

EMBRACING OUR NEIGHBORS, A PEOPLE OF FAITH PERSPECTIVE

The Impact of Food Insecurity

Wednesday, September 24th

10:00 AM | Social Hall

Doors Open at 9:30 AM



SPEAKER PANEL

Michael Hopewell

Director of Well of Hope/Thrift Store + Food Bank

Their mission is to tackle food insecurity and empower individuals and families to achieve their goals & dreams through assistance to those in need.

Trish Kry

Director of the Neighborhood Center of South Lake

The Neighborhood Center of South Lake is more than a food pantry; We are a family, stability center through education and services, we work holistically with clients and partners to help families become self sufficient.

Dallis Wehr

Director of Food Services at Living Hope Church

The food ministry is one of the larger ministries at Living Hope Church. Our members have placed a high level of importance on serving our community. In 2023 we served more than 21,000 meals in our Meals On Wheels Program.

Women In Mission is hosting a presentation on how Lake County is currently addressing our neighbors experiencing food insecurity. Information tables will be available and a Q&A session will follow with a discussion from our panel.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares"
Hebrews 13:2

**A light lunch will be provided.
Please RSVP by Sept. 15,
WIM@LH.Today**

Living Hope Church
950 7th Street, Clermont, FL 34711



Happy Birthday

9/4 Phyllis Capece

9/7 Carole Breza

9/9 Carol Topp

**9/18 AnneMarie
Tertrault**

**9/29 Mary Ellen
Pollock**

9/29 MaryAlice

October is a very busy month, it's Respect Life Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It's also Breast Cancer Awareness month.

What is Respect Life Month?

Since 1973 the Catholic Church in the United States has celebrated Respect Life Month and every first Sunday in October is designated Respect Life Sunday. Catholics are called to treasure, defend and protect the most vulnerable from the beginning to the end of life and every stage in between. During October the Church calls on us to be focused on this, to reflect and take special time to cherish and respect human life and the dignity of all human life. This Jubilee year of 2025 is the year of HOPE and so this year's Respect Life theme is *Life Our Sign of Hope*. The late Pope Francis asked us all to be signs of hope. The Respect Life Novena is October 22-30.

2025 Respect Life A PRAYER FOR HOPE

Heavenly Father, in the sacrament of Baptism, you have given us the gift of new life. Through your son our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, you have made us your own.

Help us to recognize the gift of human life as a sign of hope in our world.

Reveal to us the places where your precious gift of life is most in need of protection and strengthen us to defend life in all stages and circumstances, from the child in the womb to the elderly and dying.

Guided by your Holy Spirit, guard us from discouragement and give us the grace to be messengers of hope, filled with confidence that nothing can separate us from your love.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray for all our sisters and their families.



Heavenly Father, We lift up all those who are facing various illnesses and losses. Give them the hope and courage they need today and every day. Comfort their pain, calm their fears, and surround them with Your peace. Amen

For lost loved ones: Shirley Velasco's mother-in-law
For those who have health issues: Geri Monatesti
And for all those who need prayer.

Upcoming Events

Have a blessed summer!

Mary's Handmaidens - 1-3pm
Sept 2 - Social Hall

Board Meeting - 1-3pm
Sept 9 - Adult Ministry Bldg

General Meeting - 11am
Sept 16 - Social Hall

CCW Mass 8:30am second Thursday of month (9/11)
- Blessed Sacrament Church

People of Faith
Sept 24 - Living Hope Church

Important Dates to Remember:

National Day of Remembrance for the Unborn Child
- 9/13/25

Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Respect Life Month - October - wear purple

National Human Trafficking Awareness Day - wear blue - 1/11/26

Slavery & Human Trafficking Awareness Month - January

Capital Days at the Capital - 2/10-11/26

Annual Project Recognition Report due - 2/28/26

**What archaeologists
will find in 500 years**



There's a knock at Dave's door and a policeman outside says "there's a flood coming and you must immediately leave and go to higher ground".

Dave shrugs and says "I have faith in the Lord and he will save me."

The water starts to rise and Dave moves upstairs when a boat with some of his neighbors comes by and they shout "get on board Dave, the water's still rising."

Dave again shrugs and says "I have faith in the Lord and he will save me."

The water keeps rising and Dave climbs up into the roof and a helicopter swoops down, drops a ladder and the operator shouts "climb up quickly, we're here to rescue you!"

Dave yet again shrugs and says "I have faith in the Lord and he will save me."

The water keeps rising, Dave drowns and is met at the pearly gates by St. Peter. Dave is outraged and says, "What happened? I had faith in the Lord!"

St. Peter says, "He sent a cop, a boat and a helicopter ... What more did you want?"

*We welcome your
ideas and input for
the next newsletter!*



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