

Human Concerns Report

APRIL 2023

Recent highlights:

- **Bereavement Ministry**—The next session will be starting in June.
- **Funeral Luncheons**— There have been 3 funeral luncheons since starting up again and all have been very successful with several compliments on the food and service received. Gail Gaffney, Carol Fitzpatrick, Kathy Farvour, Jan Verona and Debbie Esser have been instrumental in getting this off the ground. They are the reason it's been running so smoothly.
- **Prayer Shawl**—Liz White has retired now. Phyllis Zabinski reported that they received new request from Elmbrook Hospital for blankets. They have a need for donations now—not material—just money or gift cards. They will have an announcement about that in the bulletin soon. A 3rd grade class did a yarn drive as a service project for them. (More of these would be great.) Also noted that there are banners, some made by Dorothy Newman, that haven't been used due to issue with how they were hung? Need to connect with Prayer and Worship Committee to discuss.
- **Mercy Mats**—The Mercy Mat group continues to meet once per month and just delivered more mats to those in need.
- **Home Outreach**—Gerry Parenteau and Bunny Nogalski continue to go to Arbor View every Tuesday. It is noted that others from parish visit the homebound.
- **Christian Women**—30 Easter Baskets were sold and \$800 was raised for the School Sisters of St. Francis. Hosted the Meet and Eat March 25/26.
- **Respect-Life**—Debbie met with two staff members from Pro-Life WI to discuss additional ideas to support life. They will be sending information about their Walk for Life in Madison that we can include in our bulletin. We are doing a Holy Hour for Life on the third Monday of every month. Hoping to increase participation.
- **The Band**— Recently did a singalong at Brookfield Highlands. Had a lively group and well-known singer, Ben Tajnai, performed with them. (Check it out on YouTube! [Ben Tajnai Singing "Bring Him Home" From Les Misérables](#))
- **St. Dismas Jail Ministry**—Tom, John and Mike continue to provide this ministry. Jennifer Mataya helps when a woman is needed to be present due to working with a female client.
- **St. Vincent de Paul Society**—Recently 5 families have been helped through this ministry. They continue to work with a man who has 6 young children. SVDP helped with the repair cost for his van. They have also assisted with medical/dental bills for those in need.
- **St. Vincent de Paul – Bingo**—Bingo continues every third Monday. They may start to move outside soon—when weather cooperates. So far this year \$2,012 has been raised.

Over the past two years \$17,043 has been raised. Cindy has a core group of workers who continue to work each Bingo event.

- **St. Vincent de Paul Meal Program**—At the March 16 meal the numbers were down. They served approximately 70 people. There are a limited number of meals provided to-go and people are encouraged to dine-in. The next meal is scheduled for May 18th.
- **Pewaukee Food Pantry Ministry—Inviting this Ministry to Human Concerns**—Food, toiletries, cleaning supplies and other donations are collected in the basket near the church entrance. Volunteers from parish take the items to the food pantry 1-2x/week. Parishioner Mary Weinlein is the contact as she has been doing this and also volunteers at the pantry.

Last LFFC meeting April 4, 2023, next meeting May 2, 2023

Faith Formation Intern – Ellie Shaw has expressed an interest in returning for the 2023-2024 school year. If Liz's treatments continue to go well, she also plans on returning for the 2023-2024 school year.

Summer- St. James in Menomonee Falls, Child Minister Kristin Kebis, will offer Vacation Bible Study to Queen of Apostles students at St James. There has been no interest in Mission Trips from QOA students.

Registration for 2023-2024 – 6 families have shown an interest in registering their children for the 2023-2024 Faith Formation school year. Liz Kuhn is responding to them. Two of the families have children behind on their sacraments and Liz will work with those students to get them caught up on their sacraments. Then they will be able to start regular Faith Formation in Fall. Bills were mailed to families with outstanding balances for 2022-2023 school year.

Elementary School – Grade K4-5th/First Reconciliation and Eucharist

Elementary - March 26/27 families created Resurrection Eggs after studying the Sorrowful Mysteries. In April they will finish the Glorious Mysteries. Parishioners Traci and Pat Bero will be helping the students make stepping stones for the Rosary Path at the last class on April 30/May 1. There are 50 students. Bero's also made the concrete base for the Fatima statues in the Rosary Path last year. The Bero's have taken on the task of maintaining the Rosary Path going forward. The original creator of the path, Anna Grzeszczak has completed her part with regards to the Rosary Path. The 4th and final in-person meal/instruction for the Monday Elementary families is May 1.

First Communion – Parent/Child Retreat on March 11 went well. Practice is May 6th, celebration of the Sacrament is May 6/7.

Middle School and High School – Grade 6-11/Confirmation

Youth Mass- The fifth (of five) Youth Masses was held on Sunday April 16 at the 10:30 mass. Students were involved in the Mass. The LFFC Commission served a pancake/sausage/fruit breakfast to the MS/HS students and their families after the mass. Both MS and HS students are learning about the Mass in class. Requiring Mass at the second-to-last class will allow the youth to apply the teachings and allow for discussion of the experience at the last class. Plus, it was a good way to get students and families to come to Mass. About 70 guests were served. Great response.

Retreats – 11 Middle School and 5 High School students participated in the retreat on April 7th, Good Friday at QOA. One Middle School student attended the WI Catholic Youth Rally on March 18 with his mother, who is a HS small group leader. Liz is hosting another NET Retreat next year with St James in the Falls, Good Shepherd, and the Catholic Community of Waukesha.

Confirmation – The second and last Candidate/Sponsor evening with the Rite of Acceptance was on March 11 at the 5pm mass. Dinner and activities afterwards. Confirmation is on May 4th.

Adult Ministry – Ages 18 and Up

Adult Bible Study – Wednesday morning and Thursday evening series on Mary, April 12/13 thru May 17/18. The new book ordering process for the Mary study worked much better.

Debbie Bisswurm's book study on "The Marian Option" was so well received that Debbie is exploring a Marian group at QOA with the first meeting on May 10 at 6:30pm. Debbie is also open to leading another book study on "Saint John Paul the Great: His Five Loves" by Jason Evert.

Envisioning Committee is hosting a Small Group Interest Night on May 22 at 6:30 pm.

QOA will host My Parish Matters for the Archdiocese on September 16 from 9:00am – 1 pm.

Eucharist Revival – Archdiocese is focusing on Eucharistic Revival this year. Archdiocesan Eucharistic Congress on June 10. Launch of the parish year of revival on June 11. School of Discipleship will have a program that focuses on this led by Heather Druley.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Klopp

Prayer and Worship report

Prayer and Worship postpones their meeting until next week.
Here are the attendance numbers for Holy Week:

Palm Sunday - 5pm -223, 8:00 am - 195. 10:30 am - 245. Total 663
(Total in 2022 - 713)

Holy Thursday - 7 pm - 181
(Total in 2022 - 176)

Good Friday - 3pm - 272
(Total in 2022 - 229)

Easter Vigil - 8:00 pm - 181

Easter Sunday - 8:00 am - 412, 10:30 - 575, total - 1168
(Total in 2022 - 1193)

A big thanks to Brian, Mary Tannis and Bob Meyer for all the hard work they put into making Holy Week a wonderful time for us to gather as a parish and pray.