

## **St. Katharine Drexel Parish Committee Report**

**Human Concerns Committee (HCC)**

**Date of Meeting: 5/3/2021**

**Committee Chairperson:** Ed Cody

**Members Excused:** Nancy Paul, Tom Kalinosky, Andi Larson

**Meeting called to order at 5:45 p.m. and opened with prayer.**

**Members attending:** Jim Hankes, Dottie Thompson, Diana Schneider, Pat Burchardt, Lynn Zick, and Ed Cody.

**Minutes of 4/5/2020 meeting:** Minutes reviewed and accepted.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1. Operation Rice Bowl (ORB):** The total collection was \$984.30. 75% goes to Catholic Relief Services and 25% was designated for the Pregnancy Support Center of Dodge County (PSCDC). The collection from Holy Thursday amounted to \$167.00 and that was also given to PSCDC for a total donation of \$413.08. The Good Friday collection of \$541.00 was the annual collection for the Holy Land.
- 2. Wisconsin Catholic Conference:** The committee discussed the HCC role in legislative advocacy in alignment with our Catholic social justice principles. Advocacy broadly involves the changing of unjust policies and practices of social institutions such as government, business, and healthcare. Very specific information about Wisconsin issues and advocacy can be found on the Wisconsin Catholic Conference web site: [www.wisconsincatholic.org](http://www.wisconsincatholic.org)

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. March for Life-Chicago:** Our parish received information from a group sponsoring a pro-life event, The March for Life Chicago, on January 8, 2022. This has been a growing annual event for the past 7 years. More information can be found at [MarchForLifeChicago.org](http://MarchForLifeChicago.org) Andi Larson has offered to be our parish contact person with this organizing group.
- 2. PSCDC upcoming events:** The Center will be having an open house on May 15, 2021, which will include a brat fry, bake sale, and sale of plants for gardening. Donations of bake sale items and seedling plants are being sought. PSCDC will also sponsor a Life Walk on June 5, 2021 at the Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center. The cost is \$30 per adult, \$20 per child (7-17) and free for children under age 7. Paying participants will receive a promotional T-shirt, if they register before May 5, 2021.
- 3. Walking with Moms in Need:** The committee again discussed this initiative of the USCCB. Dottie Thompson had sent committee members a video of how the Archdiocese of Atlanta has been promoting this idea for the parishes of Atlanta. Ideally, our parish could partner with the PSCDC to help individual mothers in the course of their pregnancy and initial starting of their family.
- 4. Sanctuary Ministries--mental health awareness:** Andi Larson had found a program on Formed.org that seeks to raise awareness of mental health problems that are effecting our country. Ed reviewed the program syllabus with the committee. There are eight sessions featuring the stories of Catholics living with mental health challenges, including insights of bishops, theologians and psychologists. Ideally these sessions could be discussed by small faith groups. Other options would be individual viewing or a parish wide education series.  
Here's the link: <http://watch.formed.org/the-sanctuary-course-for-catholics>

**Closing Prayer.** We closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

**Next Meeting Date/Time/Location:**  
**June 7, 2021, 5:45 p.m. at the church narthex.**

**Decisions:**

1. Explore further parish involvement with above ideas.
2. Ed will represent the HCC at the PPC meeting on May 4, 2021 to discuss HCC's activities with the council.

**Next Meeting Agenda Items:**

To be determined.

**To: Parish Council (Check one)**

For your information. No action needed at this time.

Please put us on your next agenda. See attachment.

We need directions and further input. See attachment.

Submitted by

Ed Cody, HCC Chair