

St. Katharine Drexel Parish Committee Report

Human Concerns Committee (HCC)

Date of Meeting: 10/12/2020

Committee Chairperson: Ed Cody

Members Excused: Nancy Paul, Andi Larson, Matt Lanser, Dottie Thompson, Pat Burchardt

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members attending: Jim Hankes, Tom Kalinosky, Lynn Zick, Diana Schneider, and Ed Cody.

Minutes of 9/14/2020 meeting: Minutes reviewed and accepted.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Report on Pregnancy Support Center (PSCDC) fundraiser:** Tom gave an overview of the event. Thanks to supporters of the PSCDC, including some KCs, who made phone calls to promote the event, the benefit was a success and raised \$10,000 for the PSCDC.
- 2. Faithful Citizenship:** A bulletin notice has been placed to direct parishioners to the USCCB web site to access the information about forming a conscience that takes into account our Catholic teachings in exercising our rights as citizens. The entire document "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship" can be found there, as well as other resources for voting.
- 3. Report on October 10, 2020 Rosary:** Andi Larson had forwarded a report that the weather was ideal and that approximately 90 people prayed together for our nation in the prayer garden. Andi had feedback that there is a desire to pray the rosary in community and she will be exploring ways of doing that. Andi and Brenda Murphy will be discussing possible ideas and options. If anyone has any thoughts for praying the rosary as a group, let Andi know.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. St. Vincent de Paul Conference:** Lynn presented a request from the conference to consider having a collection to support the conference in their care of the poor. In the church renovation, a drop slot for contributions to the poor is found at the end of the ramp in the narthex. We discussed having the weekend of November 21-22, 2020 as the time for a special collection for the SVDP Conference and as an opportunity to point out the location and availability of the location of the drop location to help the poor.
- 2. Annual Food Pantry "Essentials" collection:** Each November, the HCC committee sponsors a collection of non-food, personal care items to be distributed at the local food pantries. This is our part in an ecumenical effort to support the food pantries in their service to the poor. The collection will be the first two weekends of November.
- 3. Prayer for life:** Dottie Thompson had sent a prayer guide published by the USCCB for a monthly effort to pray for life. The prayer guide for October highlighted that October is Respect Life Month and that this year's theme to respect life is "Live the Gospel of Life." The committee reviewed the annual packet for the Respect Life Program. We will discuss if there are opportunities in our parish to have further reflection on Pope St. John Paul II's encyclical *Evangelium vitae* (The Gospel of Life). There are materials available to study and pray over this document on the 25th anniversary of its writing.

Closing Prayer. We closed the meeting with prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

**Next Meeting Date/Time/Location:
November 9, 2020, 6:00 p.m. at the Parish Center.**

Decisions:

1. Support St. Katharine SVDP conference with special collection November 21-22, 2020.
2. Hold collection of non-food items for the food pantries: "Essentials Collection."

Next Meeting Agenda Items:

1. Discuss living the Gospel of Life.
2. Discuss parish participation in the Red Kettle effort of the Salvation Army.

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