



The Messenger

Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Women's Club

Est. 1986

Pawleys Island, South Carolina

Our Mission Statement is to promote and participate in religious, social and community activities and to sponsor fund raising events.

MARCH, 2017 TWENTIETH ISSUE

"FAITHFUL WOMEN IN ACTION"

Soon my first year as president of the Women's Club will be complete. My goal this year was to have the club become more spiritual in keeping with our new motto, "Faithful Women in Action." Now just ask yourselves, are you spiritually healthy? We as a club have just experienced our annual Day of Prayer with about 85 women in attendance. Sister Kathleen Adamski was our speaker and facilitator taking us through an examination of ourselves and also how we felt about being vulnerable. In November we were blessed with a retreat entitled, "Sitting at the feet of Jesus "; in January, a communion prayer breakfast in celebration of Elizabeth Ann Seton, our Patron; and since the beginning of our operating year, monthly adorations with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 p.m. But there is still more to come, and we are certainly on our way of becoming healthier in our faith. My board of officers has been magnificent, amazing, incredible, etc. What else can I say? The year would not have gone as smoothly without them. I am proud to be their leader and am humbled at the same time to have such a group of dedicated and spiritual women.

Coming up next is our second biggest fundraiser of the year, "April in Paris" fashion show. So many women have put much time and energy in getting everything organized and

ready for this fabulous event. It's one not to miss, that's for sure. Monies raised from this go into a fund and are distributed to many local charities. Requests are now being processed through the Grant committee and in June grants will be presented.

So how do I feel at this point of my service? Relieved, satisfied, and more spiritually healthy

Your president, Nancy Szarowicz

Welcoming Our New Pastor



Father Paul MacNeil

Wise words from Father Paul's father:

"Forget the good that you do, but always remember the good that others do to you."

A Word From Our Spiritual Side



The Women's Club Spiritual Facilitators have been busy this year! We started the year off with a retreat on November 4th with Sister Margie Hosch, OSF, and Mary Catherine Harris, M.Ed. The theme of the half day retreat was "Sitting at the Feet of Jesus".

On January 5th we hosted a Prayer Breakfast that focused on our patroness, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Our Annual Day of Prayer was held on March 7th with Sister Kathleen Adamski, OSF, Formation Director for the Diocese of Charleston presenting on "Lent: The Power of Vulnerability."

We have several events upcoming including Mary's Way of the Cross and Simple Supper on April 7th as well as a Spiritual Coffee Talk on Indulgences with Jack Seibert presenting, scheduled for April 2nd.

Throughout the year, the Spiritual Facilitators have provided spiritual direction through prayer at the Board meetings and general meetings; encouragement for Women's Club members to participate in First Friday adoration and recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet; and providing an awareness of special events in the parish. It is our sincere hope that this has been a rewarding spiritual journey for members of the Precious Blood of Christ Women's Club. This has been extremely rewarding for us as we've come to realize the depth of faith in our members—you truly are "faithful women in action."

Spiritual Facilitators: Mary Sacavage & Susan Walker

FUN TRIP PLANNED

The trip to the **Bigelow Tea Plantation** with a special tour by the owner/operator is scheduled for May 10. The group will have a box lunch of their choice at the plantation. Deep Water Winery is expecting our group at 2 PM for a wine tasting. We can take self-guided walking tours of the vineyard. The bus from MBF Tours will return to PBOC around 6 PM. The cost is \$85. Just under \$40 is the cost of the transportation and the cost is based on at least 30 individuals participating. Please come and join us! Contact Kathie Monnich 314-0597

CHURCH QUILT



Books and Quilts share a lot in common. They both tell stories.

In the fall of 2017, an idea was conceived among a few members of the Women's Club "Wouldn't it be nice to tell the story of Precious Blood of Christ Catholic Church's history through making a quilt" and present it to the church as a gift from the Women's Club? The idea was met with enthusiasm. The project of a Church Quilt was presented to Father Pat for approval and it was decided the finish quilt would hang in the Narthex of the church. A committee was formed, chaired by Eileen Birchenough, Donna Owens and Wilma Ervin. Although the

Women's Club would sponsor the makings of the quilt (materials, patterns) a welcome call was put out to all the women quilters of the parish to join in the project.

Step one was to gather information on the history of the church, from its humble beginnings to the present, its pastors who have served over the years, and the many ministries, which play a vital role in the continuing growth of the parish. Once this information was assembled, the next step was to decide on an overall design of the quilt. Many quilt pattern books were pored over to choose patterns that would best depict each subject (history, sacraments, ministries etc.). If a suitable pattern was not found, a pattern was created i.e.: the Old White building and the New Church.

The designs (patterns) that the committee chose to best depict the ministries of the church were based upon Traditional Christian Hymns of Faith patterns. Each block measures 8x8 (finished). There are 12 blocks. The quilt measures approximately 70x70. These designs were then presented to the participating group of quilters. Each quilter chose a design they wished to sew. After the blocks were sewn, any blocks that required hand or machine embroidery had to be completed. Once this was accomplished, the quilt was ready for assembly. The sashing and borders were added, incorporating the blocks. The last step was the overall quilting of the quilt. At long last the idea of our Church Quilt has become a reality.

Now for the last and very important step, the framing and hanging of our beautiful gift to the church. The committee is now in the process of finding a person who will construct a frame with a shield (glass) to protect the hanging quilt from the elements (dust). Once the frame is completed, the quilt will hang in the Narthex.

The accomplished quilters who participated in this wonderful project are: Mary Sacavage, Sandi Goulet, Mary Harrigan, Luciann Slomkowski, Joan Brown, Nori Thompson, Ann Carline, Lorraine Keryc, Janet McGinty, Marilyn Oberembt, Eileen Birchenough, Donna Owens, Wilma Ervin

Irish Soda Bread Sale

Thank you to all the members who baked the Irish Soda Bread. The sale was a great success. We sold 144 loaves. In addition to being a good way to fund our club's expenses, it is also a way for our club to be an active part of our parish. People love our bread. They rushed out after mass to buy it. I'm sorry to say that we ran out of bread at both the 5:00 and 10:30 masses. We could have sold another 100 loaves. This year we had only 43 bakers. If you didn't bake this year, please plan to help next year.

Jan Frieden - Ways and Means

2017 CRAFT FAIR

Mark your calendars! Our 29th Arts & Crafts Festival will be held October 27 from 9-5, and October 28 from 9-4. We're excited and looking forward to another successful event! All proceeds from this event go to our Parish Outreach programs and Community Grants. Committees are being formed and the vendor mailing is in progress. Watch for signups at the upcoming meetings - Craft Table will need help through the summer. If you know of a new vendor that may be interested, please let us know.



Co-Chairs:

Sandi Goulet, 314-0798, Kathy Morris, 545-6551 & Debbie O'Brien, 357-1615

SIP AND CHAT



Get in the Picture

Our social gathering known as Sip and Chat has taken on a new look in the past few months. We

have started meeting at members' homes for a casual get-together with beverages and snacks. Meeting in our homes provides an opportunity to mingle a little bit more than in a restaurant. Many of our members chip in and bring a snack or a beverage, but that is not necessary. Please consider joining us -- it is an easy way to get to catch up with old friends as well as make new ones. Everyone is welcome to attend and no one needs to feel pressured to host a Sip and Chat in their home. We will try this format for a while but don't be surprised if some month we are back at a restaurant! Contact Pat Farkas 750-0125 or Marsha Olenchock 314-9333 for more information.

Annual Day of Prayer

The Annual Day of Prayer seemed to be well received. The theme was "Lent: the Power of Vulnerability" and it seemed to peak the women's interest. Our presenter, Sister Kathleen Adamski, was perfect for us. The topic made our devout Catholic women think about their religion in a very different way. By sitting at assigned tables, attendees interacted with women that they may not have had the opportunity to meet before. The small table discussions were rewarding as was large group sharing. The presentation was interactive and included a film, music, dialogue, reflection, and a painting for inspiration. Sister Kathy recommended a book, "Divine Renovation," that we all should consider reading. This may even serve as a great topic for another Day of Prayer.

All in all the day was a great success... primarily because of the great women who shared their time and talents to make it happen.

Special thanks to Ellen Theonnes and those who served at the Mass; Jo Timpano and those who led us in the Rosary; Jean Mudd and those who assisted with the beverages; Ellen Vignone, Teresa Vercellotti and those who served breakfast; Betty Seibert and those who served desserts; Jessica Dezendorf and Eileen Birchenough for photography; Suzanne Harris

and those who assisted with room preparation; all of the table hostesses; the registrars who greeted everyone in the PLC; and finally, Kathy Frank and her kitchen crew volunteers who provided an excellent lunch. We had 76 volunteers for the day!

Are You Interested in Playing Golf?

Women's Club Member, Jane Dolan was kind enough to start-up our golf group two years ago. We would love you to join us for good exercise and a fun day. **We play 9 holes every Wednesday at Litchfield Country Club. Our tee times are around 12 noon.** If you're unable to make it every single week, that isn't a problem and don't be shy if you're a beginner - many of us are still working at it. Sign-up sheets will be out at all our General Meetings. If you have any questions, please call: Carole Kaczynski. Thank you!

The Office of First Vice President

The office of First Vice President was intimidating, as I was taking the reins from Marianne Anderson, who filled it so well. No sooner did I get elected than I had to start planning for the Welcome Tea. Thankfully, so many of you with expertise or just plain enthusiasm joined me in that endeavor, which I think went very well! Then we hardly got to breathe before I had to secure a place and plan for our Christmas party! Many of you who worked with me on the Welcome Tea signed up to work with me again, and I think we did an awesome job! Just the venue alone made it a great day! Afraid to take a breather because so many affairs happen in June, I jumped right in to secure a venue for our Grants Luncheon, which I am eagerly looking forward to! I hope all of you join me, as that event is truly the culmination of all YOUR hard work during the year. All the tasks you performed to help raise money at our major events will pay off once again, and all of you will reap the benefits. Just being a part of helping so many non-profits

help the needy people in our community is a special reward, and being a part of starting a young person on his/her college journey with our scholarship fund is heartwarming. Along the way and in between, I assisted Nancy wherever she needed me, including getting speakers if needed. There was no anniversary celebration this year, thankfully, because I was plenty busy wearing other hats in the church! Blessedly, the Golf Group and Chit Chat have such capable leaders, that even though they fall under my umbrella, they have not needed me. I hope they know they can call on me if they do! Serving this women's club is truly an honor, and I have been very proud to serve you this year.

Sharon Roberts – First Vice President

The Office of the Secretary

The duty of the secretary is to take and keep the minutes and all correspondence. I was responsible this year for creating the EAS stationery, and I have helped print invitations for different committees. A new responsibility is to download all flash drives from any given year onto one CD for the year that serves as a back-up file. Being the Secretary is a good way to meet many members and stay connected with all events.

Sandi Goulet – Secretary

LIFESTYLE MANAGEMENT

Unfortunately, this program did not generate enough interest, and has been cancelled. **Questions Call:** Barbara Dymond 979-1317 or Jessica Dezendorf 235-3797

VISIT WOMEN'S CLUB WEBSITE:

www.wcpboc.com to see all the updates

IMPORTANT DATES:

April 1 - Fashion Show

April 7 - Mary's Way of the Cross and Simple Supper

April 20 - Cabana Café for Sip & Chat

May 10 - Bigelow Tea Plantation

June 1 - Grants Luncheon

June 3 - Installation Mass

Oct. 27 & 28 - Arts & Crafts Festival

The following pages contain:

Listing of the Board and Committee Heads

Just Ask - by Sharon Roberts

The 2016/2017 Officers



Nancy Szarowicz
President



Sharon Roberts
1st Vice Pres.



Kathie Monnich
2nd Vice Pres.



Kathy Morris
Treasurer



Sandi Goulet
Secretary

PBOC CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD AND CHAIRPERSONS FOR 2016-2017

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President Nancy Szarowicz
First Vice President Sharon Roberts
Second Vice President Kathie Monnich
Secretary Sandi Goulet
Treasurer Kathy Morris

BROAD MEMBERS

Membership Ann Carline, Theresa Furfaro
Spiritual Facilitator Mary Sacavage, Susan W. Walker
Way and Means Yvonne Chadwick, Jan Freiden
Publicity Joan Baker
Parliamentarian Regina Wichrowski
Past President Advisor Joan Brown

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership Ann Carline, Theresa Furfaro
Refreshments: Pat Farkas, Carole Kaczynski, Debbie O'Brien
Volunteer List Coordinator Mary Kinzie, Marion Dozzi
Historian/Archives Donna Martin
Bereavement Gloria L. Davitt, Karen G Lilly
Photography Eileen Birchenough, Linda Cimadon
Sunshine Kathy Knittel, Rose Lanci
Pennies From Heaven Judy Modica
Newsletter Jessica Dezendorf
Bulletin Patty Guazzo
Sister to Sister Mary Jane Barnet
Special Projects Support Group Cathy Bergeron, Denise Lee
Nominating Committee Suzanne Harris
Grants Committee Luciann Slomkowski
Scholarship Committee Carol Fabrey
Website Jessica Dezendorf

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Arts & Crafts Festival Debbie Clatterbuck, Sabina Kowalski
Auction Joyce Robertson
Fashion Show Pilar Carboni, Debbie Clatterbuck

CHAIRPERSONS FOR SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Birthing Baby Shower Veronica Bucello, Paula Gromults
Simple Supper Mary Sacavage
Joy School Claire Turner
Hope Ball Kathy Morris, Jessica Dezendorf, Barbara Dymond
Sip n' Chat Pat Farkas, Marcia Olenchock
Golf Jane Dolan
Movie & Lunch Bunch Judy Zachar

Just Ask by Sharon Roberts

Sometimes I forget that I have a loving Father who wants to give me what I need, and all I have to do is ask. (Matthew 7: 7-8)

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

So, there I was in the dental surgeon's chair. Novacaine, or whatever they give you in those big syringes with those really l-o-n-g needles, had already been shot all through the upper areas of the left side of my mouth. As I waited for the numbing to begin, I thought back to what led me here. It started about 8 months ago. A terrible, throbbing pain in the upper areas of my mouth that I couldn't successfully blame on any specific tooth. Sometimes it seemed to be the last

one. No, the one right next to it. Or maybe the one next to that? My inability to successfully identify the culprit led to a few frustrated discussions with my dentist and a growing dental bill. Each time I left his office, I would take an antibiotic for a week to soothe the inflammation, rinse with warm salt water, and eat very gently on that side. The pain would eventually dissipate, and I would be good to go...for a while. Then, like an annoying mosquito, it would return, quickly escalating from “pesky” to a real pain in the upper region of my mouth! However, each time the pain returned, I was convinced I was now able to identify the nuisance tooth and would run to my dentist, only to find out when he did his tap, tapping on each tooth in the area, they all hurt! I made one final trip right after the last bout of pain, and we did decide, thank God, upon a culprit. My dentist advised me to have it taken out. We made the appointment with the surgeon, this surgeon in whose chair I was now sitting, but by that weekend, the pain had gone away. I cancelled the appointment.

Having a tooth pulled is a big deal to me, especially when the area right above this tooth houses a very quiet, very invisible extra wisdom tooth that could be dislodged as a result of this surgery. Nah. Leave it. I can deal.

8 months is a long time to try to save a tooth. Too long, so here I sit, prepared to admit defeat, but the anxiety over this surgery is mounting. Every numbed nerve brings me closer to surgery time. My palms are sweating. My breathing is quick and shallow. Fear is alive and well inside every cell, even the numb ones! And then I remember. JUST ASK. I have a loving Father who wants to give me what I need. “Are you serious?” I ask myself. “God has wars, hunger, abortions, violence, disease, and a new president to deal with, and you want me to ask that all goes well removing this tooth?” That seems frivolous and selfish to me, but I’m really, really scared. Ok. Here goes. I cross myself. “Dear Father, I know you have important things to do today, and I am just a humble servant, but I am a scared one. Could you please, Father, let this surgery go quickly and well?” I cross myself just as the door opens purposefully, and the surgeon strides in.

“How’s it feeling up there, Sharon?” I nod. “Okay, now you remember there’s an extra wisdom tooth up there. We’re hoping we don’t have to go too far up into your gums to get this rascal. There’s gonna be some pressure, then I’m going to push all around the tooth. Then you’ll likely hear some cracking as I’m pulling. It’s not unusual for piece of the tooth to break off from the pressure. Just try to relax, and we’ll see how this goes. Ready?” A simple nod from me. He began...and... then he was done! No, really, even he was surprised. “Wow,” he said, “I sure didn’t expect that! I hardly had to tug, and here it is!” The dental assistant was quick to grab

gauze pads to stuff the hole where the tooth had been, but she said, “Gee, Sharon, it’s hardly even bleeding. I’m going out front to tell the receptionist to reduce your rate, because this certainly was an easy extraction and not at all what we expected!”

I didn’t even ask God for the bill reduction! What a loving Father we have! But I left that office with one certainty filling my heart. God loves me. God really loves me, and He is listening to me even in this very simple but heartfelt request.

Whenever you have a need, no matter how small, just ask. He is listening, and He wants to give His children what they need.