



DeMarillac News

Winter/Spring /Summer Edition

August 2020

KEEP CALM



GOD HAS A PLAN

JEREMIAH 29:11

LADIES OF CHARITY ARE STILL IN BUSINESS



When was your last LOC meeting? If it wasn't in the beginning of March, it probably didn't happen. Wasn't the Investiture wonderful?Oh, that's right the Investiture was cancelled. Well, the Annual Meeting is scheduled for later this month ... NO, don't tell me that's cancelled too! Yes to all the above, no meetings, no Investiture, no Annual Meeting. It's called a Pandemic and we had to do all of these things to keep everyone safe. So, what happens now? We keep moving forward, even if we are standing still for awhile. Our Ladies of Charity manual asks us to pray for each other every Monday morning at 9:00 AM. We can still do that and that keeps us connected. Prayer is powerful and doesn't have to be limited to only 9:00 AM on Monday mornings. Let us add more prayer to our days asking God to guide us during these times so that we may continue to serve Him through our ministry.

Our ladies are resilient. Some have pulled themselves together and are having computer ZOOM meetings or conference phone calls with their groups. Others who are in the process of merging their groups are continuing to work through this process by the above mentioned meetings and e-mails. There is one group who put chairs in their cars and have small meetings in the church parking lot. St. Maurice ladies, who are now part of the St. Joseph the Worker LOC have made arrangements with the nursing facility where they minister quite often to be allowed to bake and deliver cookies to the home for the residents and staff.

It is also recommended that you keep in touch with your own members through your phone tree just to check up on each other. A personal call and actually talking to someone is much better than just reading an e-mail.

The Diocesan Board is still viable and working don't hesitate to call if you have any concerns or questions — 412-456-6924. Messages are always checked daily and calls will be returned.

I will end this article with two quotes from St. Vincent. In the meantime keep praying that we if it be God's will, we can all be out and about doing what we do best....taking care of God's people.

“He may answer our prayers in three or four months, hence, or perhaps in a year or two. But no matter what happens, let us be resigned to Providence, let us hope for all things from His munificence, let us leave all to Him, and let us always have plenty of courage”.

“Let us allow God to act; He brings things to completion when we least expect it”.

EVENTS FROM 2019



2019 LCUSA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
"BEGIN TO WEAVE AND GOD WILL PROVIDE THE THREAD"



INSTALLATION OF DIOCESAN BOARD OFFICERS



CEMETARY SUNDAY / 2ND SUNDAY IN NOVEMBER
PRAYING FOR THE UNCLAIMED DEAD



NOVEMBER PRESIDENT'S MEETING

**ST. PATRICK, CANONSBURG
LADIES OF CHARITY
REMEMBER THEIR DECEASED
& BRING HOLIDAY CHEER TO
THEIR HOMEBOUND**



Members of the Ladies of Charity of St. Patrick Parish, Canonsburg PA, attended the 2nd Annual Mass for their unclaimed dead and deceased members at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church in Meadowlands, on November 13th. This annual Mass is celebrated in conjunction with the commemoration of All Saints and All Souls day.

The Ladies were busy during Advent selling Christmas flowers to raise funds for their Christmas gift bag. Ornaments were wrapped for local nursing home residents, and Christmas bags with wrapped gifts were delivered to the homebound parishioners of their parish grouping. The grouping consists of Holy Rosary in Muse, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Meadowlands, and St. Patrick in Canonsburg.



Ornaments and gift bags were delivered to the homebound. The ladies look forward to doing the same at Easter. They will fill and deliver Easter baskets to the homebound and Easter flowers will be sold on Palm Sunday to help supplement the cost of the Easter baskets.



PARISHES MERGE

LOC GROUPS JOIN

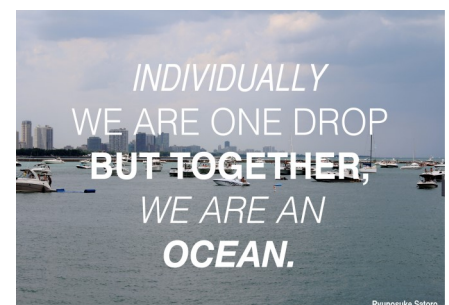
It's not so bad. Takes a while to get used to, but change is inevitable and we must move on. The work hasn't changed or gone away. People are still there who need us, so we mourn our losses, share our memories and then we move on to see what God has planned for us in this new chapter of our lives. We have to remember that God is the center of every part of our lives. He will be there to help us pull together and be who He wants us to be. No matter what building we go to for Mass God is still there. That has not changed and never will. He will always be with us. So let's move forward now.

Some groups have already merged together and have new names. This is going to take us some time to get used to, not being St. Barts, North American Martyrs, St. Bernadette or whoever you were before. There are other groups waiting for their new names and to be merged with the other parishes in their groups this July. There is so much going on with changing. Another change that has happened is that the Ladies of Charity of the Diocese of Pittsburgh has become a 501 C(3) charity. We have obtained our own EIN number, PA Sales Tax Exemption, Articles of Incorporation, as well as Diocesan By-Laws. We are also approved to be listed in the Official Catholic Directory (Kennedy Directory) as a lay Catholic organization. This means that we can be in control of our own monies and operate much like the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Knights of Columbus. Each group will obtain their own checking account which will be independent from your parish's monies. The signing authority of the new banking account using the Diocesan Ladies of Charity EIN number will reside solely with the elected officers representing each individual Ladies of Charity organization in a parish grouping.

So that is all that changes with our groups, we join together with the other Ladies of Charity in our parish groupings to form a new group and we open our own checking accounts once our merging occurs. We still serve our parish grouping as we have in the past. We work together with our pastors, administrators and fellow parishioners as we have in the past. We ask for proper approval if any of our works involve activities within our parishes for example use of buildings, fund raising, etc. Our Spiritual Advisor, Father James Gretz has sent a letter to all pastors and administrators explaining our new 501 C(3) status and assuring them that this transition does not affect the day to day operations of their Ladies of Charity group. They have also been encouraged to continue offering spiritual support to the Ladies of Charity,

There will be a more detailed explanation for obtaining the information needed to open your new checking account on page of this news letter.

Our transition team is ready to help you in any way they can. If you want them to visit or just have questions call the office 412-456-6924 to set up a time for a visit or just get answers to your questions.





LADIES OF CHARITY CAREGIVING, INC.

More than just care

LADIES OF CHARITY CAREGIVING - AN UPDATE

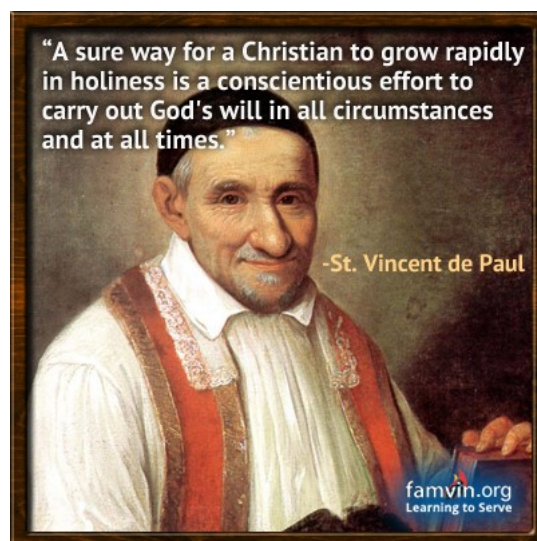
WE ARE IN NEED OF CAREGIVERS!!!!!! Thanks to the efforts of many of our Ladies of Charity groups spreading the word about Ladies of Charity Caregiving. We are getting many calls for clients all over the Pittsburgh area. We should be a booming business. Why aren't we? We cannot find enough caregivers who want to work or who are willing or have the means to travel to many of the communities where the clients live. We need to find caregivers who live or who are willing to travel to communities in the northern and southern regions of Pittsburgh. We have even had calls from clients from Monongahlea, Brackenridge and North Huntingdon areas. If you have any suggestions on how we can reach out to potential caregivers please give our office a call 412-731-4100. Someone usually answers the phone, but if you get the answering message please leave you name and number and we will return your call. Again we feel parish bulletins are a great source for getting our messages out to the public. If your priest/administer is open to the idea a blurb in your parish bulletin is always appreciated. Most interviews have been being done using ZOOM. We do ask our caregivers to come into the office for a two day training session, but other than that there is no other reason that have to come into the office on any regular basis.

Our caregivers are given a very thorough training and are extremely well prepared when they are sent out on an assignment. We feel our mentoring program is also one of our best assets. It helps the caregiver to know they have a friend who is always ready to help and support them with just a phone call.

Our services are available for private pay clients, and also those who qualify for the Waiver program. The clients are initially assessed by our Care Coordinator so that she can find the right fit of a caregiver to fulfill all the client's needs. Ladies of Charity Caregiving goes out of the way to provide quality care for the clients needs and are always willing to see that spiritual support is available if the client requests this additional care.

Our service is in business to help the client, the clients family and our caregivers. As you will see on the following page, our extended service has already helped one of our caregivers.

We feel it is essential to spread the word of our mission given to us by St. Vincent de Paul and pray that he will guide us to get this service up and running so that we can spread the love, caring and spirituality that is at the core and in the heart of all associated with the Ladies of Charity.



A STORY OF SHARING AND CARING



This is a story about “Rosaline” a native from Cameroon, Africa who sought political asylum in the United States in 2018. She found her way into the town of Etna in 2019 and was quickly “adopted” by the parishioners of All Saints Parish. She started attending meetings and activities of their Ladies of Charity (LOC) Organization. In the summer of 2019, she received training as a caregiver with the Ladies of Charity Caregiving Home Care Service.

Unfortunately in October 2019 her Etna residence ended because of time constraints leveled by her sponsoring social agency, and she moved into a Homeless Shelter in East Liberty. She found a job as a food prep cook in a local restaurant and was able to save towards moving into her own apartment, and then the pandemic arrived, her job ended and hope was lost again.

Through the grace of God, plans to move into her own apartment proceeded in early March with help from the All Saints LOC and friends. Shortly after she was settled in her apartment a position opened up at LOC Caregiving and she is working with in the home of a caregiving client. Members of the caregiving staff and the All Saints LOC collected and purchased household items for Rosaline’s new apartment in Swissvale. A Facebook post by Mary, a Madonna/Word of God LOC was noticed by Judy, an All Saints LOC. The posting told of a food bank pick up site in Swissvale. The All Saints LOC went to the Swissvale Food Bank and obtained 4 boxes of food for Rosaline. All Saints LOC reached out to the Madonna/Word of God LOC about other food bank services. Gerry, a member of Madonna/Word of God LOC quickly responded with a wealth of information on food bank resources and additional information on utility and rent assistance in the Swissvale area. She also offered to drive Rosaline to the food bank and said other Madonna/Word of God LOC would be willing to help provide continued support from the Ladies of Charity organization for Rosaline. What a triumph of sharing and caring!!

This started as a story about “Rosaline” but it evolved into a story about the wonderful network of Ladies of Charity we have here in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Without even being asked these women just jump in and do what is needed and also anticipate what will be needed in the future. The Ladies of Charity are truly living up to the following quotes of our

“Charity is the cement which binds communities to God and persons to one another”

St. Vincent de Paul

“I beg you for the love of God to show great tenderness to the poor”

St. Louise de Marillac

I can’t say enough – Thank You Ladies for All You Do!!!

Submitted by Judy Weissman, All Saints LOC.

ST. MARY OF THE MOUNT



PRINCE OF PEACE MERGER

St. Mary of the Mount and Prince of Peace Parishes, another of our merged groupings have been working together for some months. members are pictured above having some fun and to the right the membership posed for a picture with newly elected officers. This was their last meeting before the pandemic stopped everything.



NEW OFFICERS SEATED

However, for the past the ladies have resumed their monthly meetings via ZOOM and have also been able to get together once a month to make sandwiches and goodie bags for "Operation Safety Net". This has always been a favorite project of the group. The project is shared with monetary support from the St. John Capistran Ladies of Charity.

Prince of Peace has always been part of the Ladies of Charity but the group had lately been inactive. They have now rejuvenated themselves and were to have a few new ladies invested into this group this past year. We all will pray that we are able to hold our Investiture in 2021 and those who were ready to be newly invested this past April will be able to have that beautiful experience this upcoming April.

HOLY FAMILY LADIES OF CHARITY

This group is now a combination of the Ladies of Charity from St. John the Baptist, Plum, St. Irenaeus, Oakmont, and St. Joseph Verona. These groups have been putting working closely together to bring this grouping together. Proud of the dedication and love that all of these ladies have in an e-mail conversation with Janet Karmitzski, a member from St. Joseph of Verona she voiced this beautiful sentiment of the spirit of the Ladies of Charity.

"This just re-enforces the belief that the Ladies of Charity is an organization worth preserving. It has its own richness of values and the beautiful spirituality of its members. When we sit as a group, there is a "goodness" that radiates throughout the room. When becoming a sister lady, we don't ask if their purses are lined with gold instead we ask if their hearts are lined with gold. Makes one feel so proud to be carrying out the tasks of our varied ministries beside sister ladies who share compassion for the effort".

This is something we should all remember as we move through the changes we have to make as we deal with some adjustments into our new groupings.

LET US PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED MEMBERS

This list may or may not have the newly merged parish names. It will take us awhile to get everything updated.

Eleanor Anator
Edna Ashton
Mary Baumgart
Elizabeth Bodnar
Mary Lou Borst
Ruth Burgess
Lena Calone
Dorothea Campbell
Delores Centore
Amanda Coban
Eleanor Debski
Margaret Devlin
Frances Ferro
Cynthia Fidago
Beatrice Finki
Joan Freund
Ann Giles
Angela Gogniat
Mary Josephine Grace
Geri Green
Irene Hamerski
Alberta Heimbuecher
Dorothy Herrick
Agnes Hogg
Mary Ihrig
Anna Mae Kapfer
Alice Kebart
Pat Keefer
Jeanne Kociszewki
Kathy Krofcheck
Peg Laird


*St. Angela Merici
Queen of the Rosary
St. Mary of the Mount
Holy Trinity
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
St. Sebastian
St. Patrick McKeesport
St. Thomas a Becket
St. Patrick, Canonsburg
St. Patrick, McKeesport
St. Louise de Marillac
St. Theresa of Kolkata
St. Damian of Molokai
St. John XIII
Our Lady of Grace
St. Mary of the Mount
St. Mary of the Mount
St. Bernadette
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Madonna/Word of God
Corpus Christi
St. Alexis
St. Theresa of Kolkata
St. Theresa of Lisieux
St. Bernadette
Holy Apostles
St. Patrick, Canonsburg
St. John The Baptist
St. Sebastian
St. Louise de Marillac
Madonna/Word of God*

Anna LiParello
Catherine LiParello
Pat Maida
Dorothy Manziak
Billie McCormick
Mary Ann McDermott
LaVerne Mihalik
Jean Opar
Ann Paradise
Margaret Perhats
Lois Petrarca
Patricia Pfindler
Ursula Pofi
Shirley Pruss
Deborah Radu
Olive Riley
Kathleen Robinson
Dorothy Rotto
Anna Rush
Ida Scarpino
Teresa Soffa
Nancy Stabile
Patricia Stevens
Julia Tarabrella
Ellamae Thomas
Dolly Uram
Angeline Varatto
Margaret Veverka
Grace Wills
Mary Zaffino
Angie Zalakar

*St. Damian of Molokai
St. Damian of Molokai
Sts Simon & Jude
Queen of the Rosary
St. Thomas a Becket
St. Joseph, Verona
St. Robert Bellarmine
St. Louise de Marillac
Assumption
St. Mark, Port Vue
Madonna/Word of God
St. Alexis
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
St. Mark, Port Vue
St. Catherine of Sweden
All Saints
St. Joseph, Natrona Hgts
Christ Our Savior
Good Shepherd
St. Thomas a Becket
St. John Fisher
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
St. Damian of Molokai
Madonna/Word of God
St. Mary of the Mount
Holy Redeemer
St. Kilian
St. Louise de Marillac
St. Theresa of Kolkata
St. Thomas a Becket*



Lo "Those who love the poor in life will have nothing to fear in death, as I have seen on many occasions myself."



Association of Ladies of Charity
Diocese of Pittsburgh
111 Boulevard of the Allies
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

BOARD MEETINGS

ZOOM Meetings being held until further notice

ANNUAL

Cancelled

2020 Annual NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Cancelled

SUBMIT ALL ARTICLES & PARISH NEWS TO:

Ladies of Charity
Attention: DeMarillac News Editor
111 Boulevard of the Allies
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222

OR

Send by e-mail to locnewsletter@gmail.com

Please note: THANK YOU, ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED YOUR ARTICLES AND PICTURES. KEEP ANY INFORMATION COMING IN THAT YOU THINK WILL BE OF INTEREST OR PERTINENT. SHARING INFORMATION ON MERGERS WILL HELP OTHERS IN THIS SITUATION.

DATE FOR NEXT PUBLICATION UNKNOWN.

IF ARTICLES COME INTO OFFICE WE WILL PUBLISH AGAIN IN ABOUT FOUR MONTHS.

**REMEMBER TO
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE**

