

Immaculate Conception Council of Catholic Women
Monthly Members Meeting
January 3, 2019
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

We began the meeting by reciting the Salute to the Cross and the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Opening Prayer:

Prayer to Mary Immaculate

2. Roll Call:

Four (4) officers and twelve (12) members were in attendance.

3. Special Events:

- a. Birthday-Joan Johns celebrates her birthday on January 27, 2019.
- b. Anniversaries-Joyce Dressler celebrates 57 years of marriage to Steve on January 27, 2019.

4. Members in Need of Prayers and Get Well Cards for January:

- a. Prayers for Joan Fields
- b. Prayers for Angie Krupp

5. Memories of Our Sisters in Christ:

There were no funerals for our Sisters in Christ during the month of December; however, we recited the Memorare in memory for all of our past deceased members.

6. Approval of December Minutes:

There were no revisions to the December minutes; therefore, the minutes for December were approved as written. A copy of the December minutes will be sent to Hope Wienhoff to post to the ICCCW web page.

7. Treasurer's Report: 12/5/18 to 01/3/19

Beginning Balance:	\$ 5,021.93
Deposits: (See Details under Communications/Bills)	\$ 200.00
Less Expenses: (See Details under Communications/Bills)	(\$ 709.30)
Ending Balance:	\$ 4,512.63
Funeral Luncheon Balance	\$ 3,000.00
ICCCW Available Cash Balance	\$ 1,512.63

The Treasurer's Report was approved by Helen Csik and seconded by Joyce Dressler.

8. Communications/Bills:

- a. We received a thank you note from Father Leo J. Hayes, Father Dennis Voss and one from the remaining retired priests, in appreciation for our Christmas visit to the Hincke-Sense Home for Aging Priests in Belleville, IL. Nine members of the ICCCW visited the retired priests for the Christmas holiday. The day started with the celebration of mass, followed by lunch with the priests. After lunch, we presented the priests with gift cards, candy, and other small gifts, in addition to steaks, shrimp and wine to celebrate the holiday season with a special meal. (Many of the gifts were donated by anonymous donors.) Lastly, we sang Christmas carols with them. It was a wonderful afternoon had by all.
- b. We received a thank you note from Maggie Burns, Metro-East Vicariate President, expressing her gratitude for all of the volunteers who contributed to the success of the 2018 BDCCW Convention, held in October at Immaculate Conception Church; and for all who took the time to celebrate our faith.
- c. We received a thank you from Father Carl for our Christmas gift to him and for our monetary gift to the Parish.
- d. We received \$200.00 in funeral luncheon donations. There was a \$10.00 expense for the attendance prize winner, Terry Hart, we had net expenses of \$172.50 for the Christmas party at Aunt Maggie's, we had expenses of \$325.00 for the gift cards for the retired priests (an anonymous donation was made in the prior month to cover this expense). We had expenses of \$171.80 for the purchase of hosts from Contemplative Sisters of Good Shepherd and dues of \$30.00 for the BDCCW.
- e. Donations:
 - i. Gibault Prolife trip...Motioned by Stephanie Burns to sponsor a student in the amount of \$300.00 and Terry Hart seconded the motion.
 - ii. NCCW donation...no donation at this time
 - iii. NCCW dues...Helen Csik motioned that we pay the \$100.00 dues and it was seconded by Stephanie Burns.
 - iv. Newman Center...We elected to purchase \$25.00 in raffle tickets.

9. Committees and Other Reports:

- a. **Funeral Meals**
 - i. There were no funeral meals served in the month of December.
- b. **KCKC**
 - i. There are no required mailings in the month January.
- c. **Rosary Committee**
 - i. Ginna mentioned that we added one new member to the rosary list.

d. **Vocations Traveling Chalice Program**

We received updates from Joanne Schilling...see below.

- i. We need volunteers for the 11:00 am mass for the weekend of January 20, 2019. Judy Bates volunteered to receive the chalice that weekend.
- ii. Also, the Vocations Traveling Chalice Program is off to a challenging start. Joanne has had difficulties getting volunteers for this first quarter of the program. Perhaps we need to contact the Vocations Committee to bring awareness to this issue and have them revisit the program for solutions. How many groups are participating in the program? Is that contributing to Joanne having difficulty getting volunteers? Do the PSR children participate in the Chalice Program?

e. **MEV/BDCCW/NCCW:**

- i. **MEV:** 2019 Spring Day of Prayer will be held at St. Michael's Church in Paderborn, IL.
- ii. **MEV:** 2019 Fall Day of Prayer will be held at St. Henry's in Belleville, IL.
- iii. **BDCCW:** The next meeting for the BDCCW is February 20, 2019, in Nashville, IL.

10. Unfinished Business:

- i. We have no unfinished business at this time.

11. Spiritual/Service Segment:

- a. Judy Bates has reached out to Laura Whelan for assistance in having someone from the Youth Group who attended the trip to Cairo, IL, attend our February 7th meeting and speak to us about their experiences from the trip. Judy sent an email to Laura on 12-28-18. As of today, she has not heard back from Laura. Further, Judy mentioned that several members of the ICCCW are also part of the Parish Success Group. Part of their discussions encompassed working together and lending support to other ministries. Judy stressed the importance of reaching out to those ministries and that in the future, the ICCCW, should start to discuss ways to help and support those ministries grow; and in turn, will help grow the mission of the Church. By getting a personal view from one of the kids, will give us a better understanding of the goals and purpose of the Cairo trip. Could the ICCCW take that information and help in some way for their next trip to Cairo, IL? Where can we begin looking for opportunities to interact with other ministries and draw on the relationships with other people? We will discuss this topic more at a future meeting.
- b. In the meantime, Judy Bates volunteered for the February Spiritual Segment if we do not have the opportunity to make arrangements to have a speaker from the Cairo trip. Judy will discuss Growing in Holiness...Seven daily habits to grow in holiness...closer to Jesus. She got her idea from Father Jim Dieters, pastor of St. Clare of Assisi Church, who was a guest speaker at the BDCCW Convention.

- c. Tonight, after our meeting, we had a guest speaker. Catie Evans, who was the interpreter for the Guatemala trip, came to share her experiences with us. She talked about her decision to make this journey of faith to St. Raymond's with 11 other parishioners; especially, going as the interpreter for the entire group. Catie teaches Spanish at Immaculate Conception School. She's a wife and mother of two, including a newborn at the time of the trip. Immediately, you could tell that Catie spoke about her experiences with such joy, compassion, and love that this trip was one she would never forget.

The poverty rate in Guatemala is very high primarily in the rural areas or countryside, such as where they visited. Agriculture dominates the Guatemalan economy. Guatemala has many social and economic challenges. Many of the citizens are in a constant struggle to survive and make a living. The Guatemalan people are a people of dignity and hope and great faith. They understand education to be an extremely important contributor to the development of their families and their community; although, most do not have the opportunity to acquire a higher education. Catie talked about Father Abdias, the pastor at St. Raymond's and Fr. Uber and their love and compassion for the people of Guatemala. Their life's work of teaching the gospel and supporting the Church community of thousands of people, with limited resources, in challenging conditions takes great effort from these extraordinary, holy men. Also, Catie talked about the transportation challenges, how remote the area was, and how many of the people that they met were welcoming. Catie talked about their housing, education, and some of their economic problems. She described a typical day from her accommodations, including bathroom challenges, meals, meeting the people and community leaders, going to mass, just to mention a few. Spanish is the official language of Guatemala; so you can only imagine how difficult it was for Catie having to interpret for the entire group and all of the people that they encountered who did not speak English. Oftentimes, there were multiple conversations going on at the same time. There were times her head was spinning!!!

Lastly, Catie brought some handmade items from the local crafters from her trip for us to see. It sounded like it was truly a whirlwind visit; as there was so much to accomplish in such a short time. Afterwards, we invited Catie to join us for refreshments and continue the conversation. We are all so grateful that Catie took time out of her busy schedule to speak to us and share the details of such an incredible trip.

- d. Catie mentioned that on January 17, 2019, the Sister Parish committee will host a meeting to present highlights from their June, 2018 Guatemala trip and to lay the groundwork for a potential visit with Fr. Abdias and Fr. Uber. Further, she mentioned that the committee will be asking that each ministry send one representative so they can learn how our ministry can help prepare for and participate in this event. If you would like to learn more about the trip to Guatemala and help in the planning process of bringing Fr. Abdias and Fr. Uber to Immaculate Conception, please attend the meeting On January 17th.

12. Other:

- a. Judy Bates and Brenda Zipfel volunteered to bring a healthy, sweet, and salty snack to our February meeting.

13. New Business:

- a. The Sunday Funday event is April 28, 2019. It's not too early to prepare for this event.
- b. Joyce Dressler is going to check with her husband, Steve, who is a member of the Knights, to see if they are having the fish fries this coming Lenten season. If the Knights are sponsoring this event, Ginna will contact Jonathan Gilbreth, Grand Knight, to ask if we can sell our quilt raffle tickets at each fish fry. Also, Ginna will check with Fr. Carl about selling raffle tickets before and after the masses on specific weekends during Lent.
- c. Ginna mentioned that Pearl Mueller was our anonymous donor for our quilt raffle for years and we were so grateful for her generosity. Sadly, Pearl past away in November. The cost to purchase a quilt for our Sunday Funday events is \$150.00. Ginna will bring a quilt to the next meeting that we will raffle off for our spring event.
- d. Mary Wilson mentioned that St. Michael's in Paderborn has a Fall Pumpkin event. She suggested that perhaps we could talk to the ICCCW members at St. Michael's to get the details of their fall event and perhaps it could be presented and discussed as a possibility for a new event in lieu of our Fall Sunday Funday at a future meeting.
- e. Also, Ginna mentioned that it has been suggested that we possibly host an event where individuals provide a luncheon or a tea for a group of ladies, where someone would volunteer to set and decorate a table with their own personal china, centerpieces, etc. and invite a group of ladies to fill their table for the event. At this time all of the details were not clear as to how we could incorporate this type of even; however, it should be discussed further if it sounds like an event that we may be interested in. This kind of event has also been done as a Christmas party event.
- f. The above items were new ideas as fund raisers for the ICCCW that may still include the Sunday Fundays or they could be considered as events in lieu of the current Sunday Fundays. These talks were tabled at this time and will be discussed at a later meeting.
- g. Susie Colbert-Curtis mentioned that currently, the majority of our funds raised come from the Sunday Funday quilt raffles; although, we could always have a raffle for a quilt, afghan, etc. if we elect to make a change to our fund raisers.

14. Next Meeting:

Our next meeting is Thursday, February 7, 2019, @ 6:00 pm, In the Garden Level in the church.

15. Closing Prayer:

Hail Mary

The winner of the \$10.00 attendance prize was Faith Clark.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully, submitted by Judith M. Bates, secretary.