



Fall Issue **DeMarillac News** January 2017

LADIES OF CHARITY—SEE WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Articles Inside



Installation of New Officers - page 5



Workshop Display—Page 7



Newly Installed Jr. Ladies of Charity and Newly ordained Father Adam Potter—Page 7



Workshop Guests From D.C.—



Joanne Paradise
Workshop Speaker—Page 7



New York Assembly Tour—Page 8



Assembly Opening Mass—Page 8



Installation of LCUSA Officers Page 8



November President's Meeting—Page 9



Cemetery Sunday—Page 7



Diocesan Banner— Page 7



Ladies of Charity Recommitment—Page 7

UPCOMING SEPT 2018!!!!!!!
Page 10

St. Mary of the Mount Octoberfest Fun;

October was a busy month for the ladies of St. Mary of the Mount LOC. Their month began at the parish first Friday dinner which suitably for the month of October was an "Oktoberfest". The Ladies of Charity's display focused on their ministries that they participate in as Ladies of Charity which include making sandwiches for the homeless once a month and visiting their parishioners in nursing homes just to name a few. They had handouts prepared for those interested in joining their LOC group and also invitations for a breakfast social being held on October 15th. Having some fun, the ladies had their picture taken at the Moxie Photo Booth which is displayed with this article. Also shown is their poster board showing acts of mercy made into puzzle pieces which formed the shape of a heart.



Sister of Charity, Sister Susan Jenny, spoke at a morning breakfast on October 15th. She gave a very inspiring talk on the beginnings of the Ladies of Charity and how the lives and of our patron saints, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Louise de Marillac and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton brought us to where we are today.

This LOC group also wants to honor the memory of deceased member Margaret (Marge) Pajak. For 91 years Marge lived a life of faith. As a Lady of Charity she served for the same group experiencing a parish merger and a parish closing. Always active and going the extra mile. Whether serving a fish fry or donut /coffee fellowship, Marge would take time to visit each table, greeting everyone by name and ask how you were doing. She will be greatly missed by her sister Ladies of Charity.



Fun At "Oktoberfest"



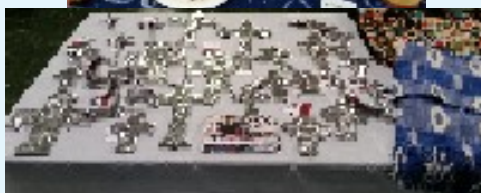
President, Marian Froehlich and Ladies of St. Mary of the Mount have breakfast with Sister Susan Jenny

St. Sylvester LOC Host Third Fair Trade Sale

Partnered with Janet Berna the Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade Ambassador for the Pittsburgh Diocese, St. Sylvester Ladies of Charity hosted it's third Fair Trade Sale at their parish. Items for sale were from around the world and included scarves, baskets, and Christmas ornaments. There were also crosses made from re-purposed car engines and wall hangings from Haiti made of re-purposed oil drums, as well as coffee, chocolate and other food products. Items from Thistle Farms, a Tennessee organization helping with the rescue of women from sex trafficking were included in this sale.

Information on the work of Catholic Relief Services and the Human Thread Campaign was also on hand for distribution. The Human Thread Campaign is petitioning retailers like Macy's and Kohl's to carry fair trade clothing.

Hosting a Fair Trade Sale is not only a fundraiser, but provides a good educational program on Catholic Social Teaching.



HOLY APOSTLES LOC—SOCK DRIVE



The Ladies of Charity from Holy Apostles Parish held a sock drive on Father's Day. 650 pairs of socks were collected. The ladies in turn donated all the socks collected to the Operation Safety Net project organized by St. Louise de Marillac.

This is a very good example of Ladies of Charity working together as one organization.

Kudos to the ladies of Holy Apostles!



MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS/ST. ALOYSIUS MAKE GOOD USE OF HAGER GRANT

PIZZA FOR BREAKFAST - Fresh off the grill was provided for those waiting for their distributions from the Catholic Community Food Bank of Troy Hill. While people ate their pizza and waited for their food, Kathy Croft and the Ladies of Charity of Most Holy Name of Jesus and St. Aloysius demonstrated creative and nutritious meals that could be made using the items and fresh produce from the Farmer's Market that was in their food bank bags. The ladies also shared home canning tips for strawberry jam, spiced apples and tomatoes with basil. The items for the canning were donated by a generous neighbor, a busy mother of five children who grows the vegetables in her home garden "just like her grandmother did". Instead of carving her pumpkins, this creative woman paints the faces on the Jack O'Lantern with markers so it stays fresh. It can then be baked and pureed for use in pies and muffins. This activity was made possible through the Hager Grant that this LOC group applied for last March and awarded from the National Board in April.

The goals of this project are to build relationships with people living in poverty, demonstrate innovative ways to use the food bank items and to make sure they know that their ACCESS card can be used at the Farmer's Market. A trip to the Farmer's Market was organized by Kathy. Transportation was provided. Two gentlemen on the trip discovered that they could purchase tokens using their ACCESS card. They went home with zucchini, tomatoes, lettuce and potatoes and said they would continue shopping at the Farmer's Market until it's closing on the day after Thanksgiving.

The women are planning another demonstration in February, tentatively for Mexican cuisine.



ST. ALEXIS LADIES OF CHARITY
25 YEARS OF SERVICE



Under the guidance of Father Richard Wesoloski in February, 1991 seven ladies joined together to establish the Ladies of Charity in St. Alexis Parish. The original members were Kathy Connell, Anita DeFrancesco, Carolyn Gaus, Ruth Lorensen, Roseanne Sirianni, Marian Stack and Mary Zangrille. The group has now grown to thirty-four members. Sadly, Rose Sirianni passed away last March.

Over the past 25 years St. Alexis LOC has helped many of our neighbors. Because of the generous donations to their Poor Box they have been able to provide emergency rent, utility assistance, and help with prescriptions and food to those who needed a hand up. Since 1993 they have distributed over 25,500 gifts from their annual Sharing Tree. This project has been lead by Anita DeFrancesco. Anita received the Priddy Award from Family Links in recognition of her work with them through the Sharing Tree. Fifty-seven families were helped in 2015 by Thanksgiving and Lenten food drives, and Easter baskets for the children.

Since 2004 the ladies have supported “Jesus in Disguise,” an Aspinwall based ministry to the homeless. There is a continuous collection of blankets, clothing, and canned goods etc. Sandy Cognetti and Ruth Chiappa solicited donations from local merchants, schools, neighbors and parishoners and purchased 200 sleeping bags, blankets, comforters and food gift cards for the “Jesus in Disguise” ministry.

On a lighter note, for a number of years the ladies have been dying eggs and contributing candy filled plastic eggs for the annual North Side Children’s Easter Egg Hunt held in West Park. The St. Alexis members are not sure who enjoys this activity more, the members of the LOC or the children hunting the eggs.

Building on their 25 year foundation, the St. Alexis LOC look forward to many more years of serving in the Vincentian spirit of “To serve rather than be served with humility, simplicity and charity.”



ST. DAMIAN OF MOLOKAI

Home made jellies, Christmas ornaments, cookies, candies and Avon products were shared by the Ladies from St. Damian of Molokai LOC at a Christmas breakfast which was held at Hill’s Restaurant in Monongahela Pa.



R. Venanzi, A. Moffit, D. Weldon, J. Caudill, T. Lewis, J. Falappi,
P. Loversidge, Lillian Conte

ST. BARTHOLOMEW



ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE



GOOD SHEPHERD LADIES OF CHARITY

M I N I S T R I E S

The Ladies of Charity at Good Shepherd Parish, Braddock are busy year round with several ministries servicing the needy, sick, elderly and children of the Parish. Twice each year they visit the residents of the Davis House, a personal care facility in Braddock. to visit and socialize. The residents enjoy refreshments, a fruit basket and winning prizes at the bingo games.

A Prayer Ministry unites several of the Ladies by praying the rosary each month with the residents of the L.G.A.R. Home in Turtle Creek. They also assist at a monthly Mass celebrated for the residents at the Brinton Towers of Braddock Hills. A prayer service for deceased members of Good Shepherd Parish is conducted at the funeral home and the ladies are also available to assist at the Funeral Masses.

The Card Ministry is administered by the Ladies who send a card to shut-in/nursing home residents of the Parish with greetings on their birthdays and holidays throughout the year.

The children are not forgotten and are part of Good Shepherd's Literacy Ministry. A Literacy Luncheon chaired by Kathy Blazina is held each year in May for the children of the East Catholic School Consortium. Kathy develops a theme and arranges the decorations. A free book is provided for each child. The Ladies have lunch with the children who are very pleased by the event and feel very important. Pictures from the Literacy Luncheon are shown below.

Also, a bible is presented to parents by the Literacy Ministry when their baby is baptized.

Along with attending Cemetery Sunday the ladies also attend the All Soul's Day of Remembrance at Braddock Catholic Cemetery.



Literacy Luncheon



Cemetery Service

MADONNA/WORD OF GOD LOC

Pennsylvania Outreach to Women in Early Recovery (P.O.W.E.R) are the recipients of the Power Wrap Project of Madonna/Word of God Ladies of Charity. Cosmetics, Lotions, Shampoos, Tissue, Stationery, and many other donations from both parishes, Delta Kappa Gamma Sorority, and other sources are individually wrapped and approximately 25-30 gift bags are assembled with one of each item for the women who reside at the Power House Home in Swissvale. This may be the only Christmas gift some of these women receive and they love opening the individual presents.

Madonna/Word of God Ladies of LOC also celebrated their own recommitment ceremony on Dec. 8, 2016.

R E C O M M I T M E N T

P O W E R W R A P



Recommitment Ceremony

YOUR DIOCESAN BOARD

The newly elected officers of the Pittsburgh Diocesan Board were installed at the August workshop.

President—Judy Weismann
1st Vice President—Andrea Joubert
2nd Vice President—Karen Tomaszewski
Recording Secretary—Claudia Van
Treasurer—Linda Fry (Missing from Picture)
Financial Secretary—Cindy Smith

Judy and Karen come to the board from All Saints Parish in Etna, Andrea and Claudia from Holy Trinity, Linda Fry from St. Catherine Sweden and Cindy Smith from St. Thomas a' Becket.



C. Smith, C. Van, J. Weismann, A. Joubert, K. Tomaszewski

The committee members of the board are: Spiritual Advisor, Father Edward Litavec, Spiritual Moderator, Sister Mary Victor Powers, SC, Communications, Bonnie Wilson, Elizabeth Ann Seton LOC, Corresponding Secretary, Joan Ells, Nativity LOC, De Marillac News Editor, Peggy Keene, Madonna/Word of God LOC, Emergency Trust Fund, Lynne Trzyna, St. Bartholomew LOC & Kathleen McCartney, Madonna/Word of God LOC, Extension Committee, Karen Radu, St. Louise de Marillac, Jr. Ladies of Charity, Nancy Bianculli & Mary Di-addigo both from Madonna/Word of God LOC, Membership, Kathy Ladauno, St. Louise de Marillac, Nursing Home Network, Claudia Hemphill, St. John of God LOC, Parliamentarian, Linda Farmerie, All Saints LOC, Past President, Stacey Steiner- Chambers, Corpus Christi LOC, Society for the Unclaimed Dead, Joyce Mostowy, Elizabeth Ann Seton LOC, and Spirituality, Pat Kanavich, Our Lady of Grace LOC.

Representatives from the LCUSA National Board include Peggy Keene, National Board Secretary, Karen Radu, Mid-Atlantic Vice President, and Nancy Bianculli Mid-Atlantic Representative.



NEWLY ELECTED LCUSA NATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS FROM PITTSBURGH



Peggy Keene
LCUSA Nat'l Secretary



Karen Radu
Mid Atlantic Vice President



Nancy Bianculli
Mid Atlantic Representative

Congratulations to Peggy, Karen and Nancy for their commitment to the Ladies of Charity across the United States and for representing our Diocesan Association on the national level.

"I will always welcome joyfully any opportunity that comes my way to be of service to you"
St. Vincent de Paul

KICK OFF FOR 400TH ANNIVERSARY NEW BANNER BLESSING & DIOCESAN LOC RECOMMITMENT CEREMONY



December 8, 1617, St. Vincent de Paul established the Ladies of Charity. To kick off this 400th anniversary year, members from Ladies of Charity throughout the diocese gathered together for a recommitting ceremony at St. Paul Cathedral. A social followed in the church hall.

On this special occasion, the new Diocese of Pittsburgh Ladies of Charity banner was also blessed. The banner was donated by Mary Skyzinski, in memory of her sister Helen Lewandowski who passed away Dec. 28, 2013 shortly after her election to president of the Diocesan Board. The Pittsburgh Ladies of Charity thank Mary and her family for their generosity. Helen will be in the thoughts and prayers of many each time they see this banner.



**HELEN
LEWANDOWSKI**



2016 ANNUAL WORKSHOP

“Jesus, the Face of the Father’s Mercy” was the theme of the inspiring talk given by Joanne Paradise at the August Workshop. Mass was celebrated by newly ordained priest Father Adam Potter. During the Mass Father Adam installed the new diocesan officers and the newest members of the Jr. Ladies of Charity. All from St. Angela Merici Parish, the new Jr. LOC are: Julia South, Kate Crossen, and Brianna Jones. Father Adam was ordained in June. He graciously accepted the request to fill in for Father Ed Litavec and this was his first experience saying Mass for 200 women. He is reported saying at his parish Mass that evening he had the “scariest experience of his life that afternoon”. He did a beautiful job and the women loved him.

Nativity LOC hosted this event and groups brought poster boards to display all that they do and all enjoyed their box lunch. Special guests from Washington DC LOC were Viola Johnson and Deborah Self. It was a very inspiring, prayerful and social day.

(Pictures on front page)

CEMETERY SUNDAY

The second Sunday in November found many, many Ladies of Charity standing on the hill in Calvary Cemetery at the St. Vincent de Paul cross monument. Overlooking the burial places of many of the unclaimed dead. It was a beautiful, sunny day. Sister Mary Victor lead us in the prayer service for these unclaimed souls and Janet Berna, president of St. Stephen Ladies of Charity placed the memorial wreath at the foot of the monument. This is a special day for the Ladies of Charity who come together to pray for all unclaimed souls and remember the story of Anna, the first unclaimed soul, who planted the roots of the Ladies of Charity in Pittsburgh.

(Picture on front Page)

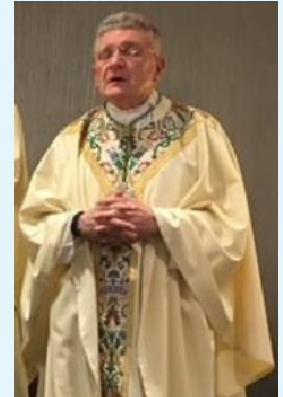
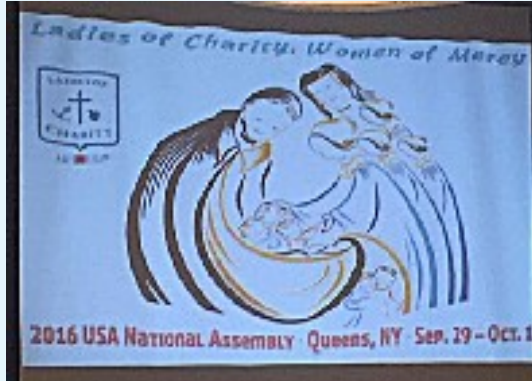
NEW YORK

2016 LCUSA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK



Pittsburgh women In Line For Lunch Buffet



Bishop David Zubik

A bit of an adventurous bus ride on the way to the Assembly (our driver got a little lost) and travel trouble again on some tours (again with a lost bus driver) but other than that the 2016 Assembly experience was very good. It was an excellent couple of days. Bishop Zubik was able to be present for the opening Mass and Father Jim Gretz of All Saints Parish was with us for the entire Assembly. Sister Regina Bechtel SC spoke on Praying with the Spiritual Works of Mercy, a prayer service on Mercy by Father Michael Whalen, CM, Dr. Meghan Clark gave a talk on Solidarity Embraces Justice and Mercy. Other informative sessions included four workshops on Works of Mercy, Panel and Buzz Sessions, a Best Practices Panel and Regional Meetings. The Closing Mass and banquet were held at St. John's University. Thirty women from Pittsburgh made the trip to New York and all agreed that it was a very worthwhile experience. It was topped off by a smooth and enjoyable bus ride back home.

VINCENTIAN SPIRITUAL MODERATORS TRAINING SESSION



Judy Damon



Peggy Keene

Following the National Assembly this past October the LCUSA Spirituality Committee held a training session for the purpose of giving formation and training to ten Ladies of Charity from across the United States. Two of our Pittsburgh ladies were among the trainees. Training programs for the session were given, Sister Claire Debes, DC, Sister Paul Freeburg, DC, Sister Mary Victor Powers, SC, Sister Elyse Staab, DC. Presentations were also given by Mary Ann Dantuono and Mary Nell Williams. The ladies were given insight into the lives of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Louise de Marillac and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. There was also formation training on how the Ladies of Charity were started and other important members of the Vincentian Family who played intricate parts in the development of our organization. Multi-media presentations on apostolic reflection and prayer in groups were also part of the program. With the hope of keeping the Vincentian spirit alive and thriving throughout our organizations, these women will be mentored during this year and return for certification at the 400th anniversary assembly in Kansas City next year. Judy Damen will be the new Vincentian Spiritual Moderator for Transfiguration Ladies of Charity in Russelton, Pa. and Peggy Keene is taking on the role for the newly formed St. Mary of the Mount Ladies of Charity in Pittsburgh.



LET US PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED MEMBERS

- Carol Benedik—St. Mary of The Mount (St. John Vianney)
- Ellen Bronson -St. Stephen
- Mildred Bosilevac—All Saints
- Margaret Campbell—St. Robert Bellarmine
- Geraldine Costello—Risen Lord
- Suzette Cronin—St. Louise de Marillac
- Ruth Egler—Committee of 100
- Anne Favo—St. Irenaeus
- Ruth Geiger—St. Kilian
- Audrey Hurley—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- Suzanne Illiff—St. Francis of Assisi
- Margaret (Marge) Pajak—St. Mary of The Mount (St. John Vianney)
- Ann Petrakovich—St. Bonaventure
- Sara Pocaro—St. Patrick Canonsburg
- Regina Ruffing—St. Angela Merici
- Geraldine Searight—Risen Lord
- Annette Scheid—All Saints
- Mary Schmidt—St. Francis of Assisi
- Lara Spadaro—St. Patrick Canonsburg
- Bertha Towe—St. Bartholomew

‘Those who love the poor in life will have nothing to fear in death, as I have seen on many occasions myself.’
St. Vincent de Paul

NOVEMBER PRESIDENT’S MEETING



St. Bernadette Ladies of Charity were the hosts of the November President’s meeting. Over seventy women turned out for the meeting and plentiful social provided by the ladies of St. Bernadette.



The meeting opened with prayer and various subjects were discussed. Several of the women had recently returned from the National Assembly and shared information and adventures.

Talk about the upcoming Church Alive mergers focused on the Ladies of Charity being leaders of moving forward into the future for those who might become effected by any change.

Karen Radu reported on the latest vicariate meeting that was held in October at Risen Lord Parish.

Nancy Bianculli and Mary Diaddigo encouraged the president’s to consider forming Jr. Ladies of Charity within their groups.



Cindy Smith reported on the status of dues and Peggy Keene explained about the importance of reporting our Lady of Charity hours.

The next President’s meeting will be the second Saturday in April at St. Louise de Marillac parish.

PITTSBURGH TO HOST 2018 LCUSA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ARE YOU READY!!!!!!!!!!

Pittsburgh did such a wonderful job hosting the LCUSA National Assembly in 2009, everyone wants to come back. At the National Board Meeting which was held a day prior to the actual assembly a request was made to the Pittsburgh ladies that in 2018 we host the LCUSA National Assembly once again. The request was brought back to our Pittsburgh board members for discussion. The board agreed that it would be an honor to invite all the friends we made back in 2009 back to our home city and to have the opportunity to meet members who were not able to attend back then and the members who have joined the organization since that time. The Pittsburgh Board is EXCITED about hosting this assembly! They hope that all of you will just as EXCITED as they are.

Our 2009 Assembly has been given the distinction of being the “best assembly ever” from many, many ladies we have met at different gatherings and other assemblies throughout the years. The reason we were such a success is because of all of the Pittsburgh ladies who were involved in the three years of planning and working that event. We had many committees, each with a chair and co-chair. Just to list a few, there was a Program Committee for speakers, a Tours & Transportation Committee for our Pittsburgh adventure the day before the assembly. Remember the cookies? Believe me, every Lady of Charity who attended the 2009 assembly does. Our Hospitality Committee arranged to have a feast of cookies each day for our guests. We had committees for Registration, Publicity, Promotion, Fundraising, and Theme and Decoration. In 2009 we also had a LOC choir who sang at all prayer services and Mass. Would that be of interest to you? Let us know.

At that time we were celebrating our 50th anniversary of having a Ladies of Charity Association in Pittsburgh. This time we will be heading into the future after the celebration of 400 years of the existence as Ladies of Charity throughout the world. We have a reputation to uphold, but this assembly has to have a life of it's own and not be a total replica of 2009. We need all of your help again. We need your ideas. We need you to volunteer your assistance. There is a form at the end of this newsletter for your input. Committees will be listed. You are asked to volunteer or give us recommendations as to who you think would good persons to chair a committee. We need a list of members who are willing to help the committee chairs when they need help, so if you don't want to volunteer has a chairperson, let us know if you would be willing to help on one of the committees. We also need a theme for this assembly and we want your input on that. Since 2018 is the year when we all could possibly be experiencing some changes within our parishes and groups, let's keep in mind a quote from St. Louise de Marillac (“Do not believe that things will always be as they now are”) when thinking of a theme for the assembly. Give us some suggestions. The more involvement we have from you and your groups the better this assembly will be.

LCUSA has signed a contract with the Sheridan Hotel at Station Square as a site for the assembly. The dates for the actual assembly meetings will be Friday, Sept. 21, 2018 and Saturday, Sept 22, 2018. There will be a “Meet and Greet” on Thursday evening Sept. 20, 2018. Peggy Keene and Judy Weismann are our 2018 National Assembly Co-Chairs.

We will keep you posted on information through this newsletter and Judy's President's letter throughout the year. Don't forget to fill the form in the back and return to the office or by e-mail.

2018 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FORM

NAME: _____ PARISH: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL: _____

COMMITTEE:	INTERESTED IN CHAIRMAN	INTERESTED IN HELPING	I RECOMMEND PERSON(S)/ FROM LOC GROUP
Program (Speakers)			
Registration			
Local Publicity			
Tours & Transportation			
Silent or Chinese Auction			
Liturgy			
Program Book Assembly			
Hospitality Room			
Patron & Underwriting			
Fundraising			
Theme & Decoration			
Local Promotion			

INTERESTED IN SINGING IN LOC CHOIR? _____

ASSEMBLY THEME: _____

OTHER SUGGESTIONS OR HOW ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP: _____

QUESTIONS: _____

WOULD YOU CONSIDER STAYING AT THE HOTEL FOR THE TWO DAYS OF THE ASSEMBLY IF ROOM RATES ARE REASONABLE? UP TO 4 PEOPLE COULD STAY IN A ROOM AND SPLIT THE COST. _____

SCAN & E-MAIL FORM TO: locnewsletter@gmail.com or mail to Ladies of Charity, 111 Blvd of Allies, Pgh. Pa. 15222

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

BOARD MEETINGS

Saturday, Feb. 10
Saturday, March 10
9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
St. Paul's Seminary
Saturday, April 14
8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m.
Prior to Presidents Meeting
St. Louise de Marillac

PRESIDENT'S MEETING

Saturday, April 14
St. Louise de Marillac
9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

INVESTITURE

Sunday, April 30
St. Paul Cathedral
3:00 p.m. Mass

17 Annual NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
Sept. 7 — Sept. 9 Kansas City, Kansas

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 THEM COMING. THE NEXT ISSUE SHOULD BE OUT IN MAY DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES AND PICTURES IS FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2017

**REMEMBER TO
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
www.locpgh.org**

