



Summer Issue DeMarillac News June 2017

58th ANNUAL LADIES OF CHARITY INVESTITURE

- 170 new members invested—God is so good to our association!
- Holy Sepulcher New Lady of Charity Group invested this day.
- Bishop Winter Celebrant—Always a blessing to have him.
- Thanks to all the priests and deacons who joined our celebration.
- Father Ed Litavec—Good to have him back with us.
- New Time for Mass—Sunday afternoon everybody loved it!
- Recommitment LOC Present—An awesome experience each year!
- Honor LOC with twenty-five years or more of service—Thank You.
- Special Guest—Suzanne Johnson, LCUSA President
- New Venue for Banquet—444 attended. Couldn't have been better.
- Thanks to Mary Skyzinski and the family of Helen Lewandowski for donating the 25 year award medals in Helen's name.
- Special Recognition to President, Judy Weismann, 1st Vice President Andrea Joubert, Spiritual Moderator Sister Mary Victor Powers SC, Spiritual Chairman, Pat Kanavich, Membership Chairman, Kathy Laudano and all the other board members who made this such a special day.
- This is the most profound day of the entire year for the Diocese of Pittsburgh Ladies of Charity Association.

Welcome Back Father Ed



Fr Kris Stuba; Bishop Winter; Fr. Ed Litavec



Old Friends



LCUSA President Suzanne Johnson Sr. Judith Seman



New Investees

LOC Always Working Even At Investiture Banquet



Kathy Laudano Gerry Fialkovich

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DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH LADIES OF CHARITY SERVICE

An additional ceremony has been added to our annual Investiture. At this year's investiture dinner 240 women were acknowledged for their 25 or more years of service as Ladies of Charity. They were recognized as the first recipients of the Diocese of Pittsburgh Ladies of Charity Service Award. Medals with the images of our patron saints, Vincent de Paul, Louise de Marillac and Elizabeth Ann Seton were presented to all those women with 25 or more years of service attending the dinner. Before the medal presentation Father Ed Litavec blessed the medals and gave a special blessing to this year's awardees. In the following years medals will be awarded to those women who have reached the 25 years status of serving as Ladies of Charity. The Diocesan Board has seen that all medals were delivered to recipients not present at the Investiture. This award has been made possible by the family of Helen Lewandowski, our former president who passed away in December, 2013 shortly after beginning her presidency. We thank Mary, Leonard and Richard Skyzinski for their generosity in donating the funds in Helen's memory for this award. A wonderful tradition has been established with a humble idea brought to fruition by an act of kindness destined to let the legacy of Helen Lewandowski's virtues live on through the Ladies of Charity Service Award Medal.

Helen Lewandowski



Mary Skyzinski



ST. LOUISE DEMARILLAC LOC AWARDEES

25
+
Years
of
Service



MADONNAWORD OF GOD LOC AWARDEES

2017 LCUSA HAGER GRANT AWARDS

Eight parish LOC groups from the Diocese of Pittsburgh received Hager Grant Awards. Ladies of Charity associations submitted awards requesting assistance for various projects that they perform during their ministries.

An overview of the projects: A total of \$3,325.00 in grant money was given to Pittsburgh associations.

St. Joseph's Natrona Heights – Bereavement Baskets for families of deceased parishioners.

All Saints Etna – funding for a dinner at Ronald McDonald House Pittsburgh, PA –for a home-cooked dinner to serve the families of Ronald McDonald House of seriously ill children that will remain in the hospital for an extended period of time.

St. Damien of Molokai – funding for Food Bank that serves 60 families.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Carnegie – fleece blanket project which is a collaborative effort of SEAS LOC and students in Carlynton High School. The blankets are part of an effort of a local church's "The Family Promise Program" helping families who are displaced from their homes because of fire, loss of employment, etc.

Holy Martyrs Tarentum – Outreach to Parish Shut Ins with gift bags and blankets.

St. Patrick's McKeesport – After School Snack and Toiletry Program at the Carnegie Library of McKeesport.

St. Sebastian's – Reading to Inner City Pre-schoolers

St. Therese of Lisieux – Stocking the Shelves Project in collaboration with "Military Connections" an outreach ministry to troops overseas.

ST MAURICE LADIES OF CHARITY—DREAM BIG

Father Kenneth Marlovits, administrator at St. Maurice Parish instructed his Ladies of Charity to “Dream Big” when ministering to their friends residing at Juniper Village Senior Living and Wellspring Memory facility. Inspired by the words of Father Ken the women have expanded their weekly Friday visits for distribution of the Eucharist and praying the rosary to include a Monday non-denominational prayer, song and dance group and attending Mass with the residents on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. In addition to these regularly scheduled activities, the Ladies of Charity bless throats on the feast of St. Blaise. During Lent they distribute ashes on Ash Wednesday, take palm branches on Palm Sunday and say the Stations of the Cross during Holy Week. A May Crowning is held to honor Mary in the month of May. Greeting cards are sent for Thanksgiving, Valentine’s Day and Easter and a special Mass prayer card is sent to the residents at Christmas time from the LOC of St. Maurice. Some of the residents were able to attend the Patriotic Rosary that the Ladies of Charity hold at St. Maurice Church to commemorate the anniversary of 9/11. Juniper Village has obtained a new transport van and the residents are looking forward to being able to attend additional services and activities with their friends at St. Maurice. The Ladies of Charity from St. Maurice are grateful for the inspiration given to them by both Father Marlovits and also Father Daniel Adjei who is in residence at the parish.



ST. DAMIAN OF MOLOKAI GIFTS FOR FIRST COMMUNICANTS

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The second grade First Holy Communion class at St. Damian of Molokai parish were each given rosary beads from the Ladies of Charity as a remembrance of this special day in their lives. The beads were blessed by their pastor Rev. William Terza, who is also spiritual advisor to the Ladies of Charity. Each child was also given a hand made case for their rosary beads, white for the girls and black for the boys. The cases were made by a Lady of Charity, Theresa Lewis. Dorothy Weldon also a Lady of Charity of St. Damian’s is the Catechist for the second grade Faith Formation Class.



MEAGER MEAL WITH ST. ALPHONSUS LOC



P. Wise; H. Olearchick, C. Strawoet; C. Ansani; D. Bosman;
C. Finley; S. DePoli

A tasty meal along with great socialization was found this past Lenten season at St. Alphonsus Parish in Springdale. A meager meal was sponsored by the Ladies of Charity on three Fridays. Soups were made by LOC members as well as parishioners. The soups were accompanied with bread and butter. Coffee and water were also served. Everyone attending the meal were then invited to participate in the Stations of the Cross in the church.



ST. RAPHAEL'S HELPS LOCAL SCHOOL & PARENTS OF SICK CHILDREN

Every month St. Raphael Ladies of Charity from Morningside choose different projects. Recently they were involved with the Pittsburgh Backpack Feeding Program at a local elementary school. They packed bags of healthy food for 80 children. One of their members, who is a teacher at the school, reported back to the group that the children were very excited with their packages.

In July they will be making lunch at the Ronald McDonald House for the parents whose children are very ill, primarily at Children's Hospital.



MADONNA/WORD OF GOD; FIRST SERVICE AND THEN A TEA PARTY



In April a Prom Dress and Accessories giveaway was held through a collaborative effort between the Madonna/Word of God Ladies of Charity and the Woodland Hills Junior-Senior High School School Nurses and Social Workers. The Ladies of Charity took the lead of collecting new and nearly new contemporary stunning gowns and delivering them to the school. Students were invited to peruse the gowns and could accessorize their outfits with an array of elegant shoes, evening bags and sparkling jewelry. Girls came to the Health Office during their lunch hour to try on their choices. This project also helped the students to recognize the importance of reusing and upcycling new and seldom worn clothing. The Madonna/Word of God ladies look forward to helping other children in the Woodland Hills district with other projects.

Madonna/Word of God also helped KB's Chemo Kit Team collecting items to be used for making kits for the use of children and adult patients undergoing chemotherapy. Numerous items were collected and the group was able to assemble 84 kits to help these patients.

Along with their service work to help others outside of their own parishes, the Madonna/Word of God Ladies of charity hosted a tea party on the Saturday before Mother's Day for members of their parish. Tables were set with china plates, tea cups and teapots. They enjoyed a variety of teas, savory sandwiches and scones. Mothers, daughters, granddaughters, aunts, cousins and friends all joined together for a wonderful event. It was good seeing parishioners who had moved away coming together again with their families. Many women even wore hats to celebrate the occasion. So keep those hats ladies! The group is planning on making this an annual event.



84 Kits Complete
Thanks you so much for your generosity
and support!
The KB's Chemo Care Kit Team
Bob and Keeley





ST. MARY OF THE MOUNT—SHARING GOD’S LOVE THROUGH HEARTS & HANDS

St. Mary of the Mount LOC were so pleased and proud to have three members of the Deaf Community attend their June meeting. They are hoping to see more at the July meeting. To make them feel especially welcomed, Diana Saunders came as the guest interpreter for the meeting and has gleefully volunteered to return for the July 18th meeting which will be held in Sullivan Hall at 6:30 pm.

The insert above demonstrates the manual letters of the alphabet that correspond to **A**merican **S**ign **L**anguage, the “official” language of the deaf. The members of our Deaf Community are all so friendly and enthusiastic ... and really enjoy showing us their method of communication! Most of the Deaf Community not only sign, but they also employ lip reading as well. This makes communication between the hearing population and deaf community great! With the hopeful addition of the new deaf ladies, the ladies pray for fortitude to perhaps become a “model” for other Ladies of Charity chapters everywhere. Wouldn’t that be wonderful!

If you’d like to join these ladies or just attend one of their meetings the ladies of St. Mary of the Mount would love to have you come be a part of the many facets of their mission as Ladies of Charity. The meetings are announced in the bulletins of St. Mary of the Mount under **LADIES OF CHARITY NEWS**. Come learn something new ... we’re hoping to introduce a few ‘signs’ at our future meetings to help everyone share in God’s love ... through heart and hands! For more information contact the Ladies of Charity Office 412-456-6924. If no one is in the office at the time of your call, leave a message and someone will return your call in a timely manner.



ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX’S HAGER GRANT

In collaboration with a local organization, Military Connections and the help from the money received from their Hager Grant award St. Therese of Lisieux LOC was able to continue and expand their project entitled “Stocking the Shelves” and was again able to send boxes of various items, tuna, gum, crackers etc. to our troops overseas. The Students of Service group of the parish assisted the Ladies of Charity.

The ladies also worked with the students for Christmas stockings and a Easter egg hunt in a bag project for our troops. The students placed handwritten notes in the stockings and bags thanking the troops for their service.



Military Connections Corporation

LET US PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED MEMBERS



- Joan Abbenante—Madonna /Word of God
- Janice Demblowski—Madonna/Word of God
- Margaret Dolinar—St. Columbkille
- Rita Duffy—St. Louise De Marillac
- Rita Gearing—St. Mark
- Gertrude Goetz—Prince of Peace
- Kathy Haver—St. Bernadette
- Mary Ann Kernan—Risen Lord
- Claire Lauderbach—St. Mary of The Mount
- Mary Lescroart—St. Thomas More
- Irene Kula—Queen Of The Rosary
- Marianne Matelan—St. Angela Merici
- Helen Moretti—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- Carole McElwain—Holy Trinity
- Elinor Midgley—Holy Trinity
- Sylvia Mueller—St. Athanasius
- Mary Ann Namiotka—St. Thomas A Becket
- Margaret Pajak—St. Mary of the Mount
- Bernie Plantes—St. Thomas More
- Ann Scanlon—Our Lady of Grace
- Fran Schlomburger—St. Bartholomew
- Ruth Shaffer—Madonna/Word of God
- Roberta Stackawitz—Prince of Peace
- Frances Stiltz—All Saints
- Betty Szmkowiak—St. Joseph, Natrona
- Nancy Tedesco—St. Oliver Plunkett

‘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



A BIG THANKS TO YOU FROM NATIVITY LOC

Money received last year from the LCUSA Hager Grant will help Nativity Ladies of Charity with the purchase and mailing expenses for the books distributed through their “Bundles of Baby” project. Each new mom at Jefferson Hospital receives a bib, a book and a bookmark from this project. With permission from their mothers each of the newborns is sent another new book from the Nativity Ladies when they reach six months of age.

Thanks to your tremendous response, 172 new books were collected at last year’s workshop.



J R L O C **ST. BERNADETTE START JR. LADIES OF CHARITY**

October will mark the first investiture of Jr. Ladies of Charity in a local parish setting. St. Bernadette parish in Monroeville who formed a new group of Jr. LOC will be investing their first members. Young women from other Jr. Ladies of Charity groups throughout the diocese will join in this venerable ceremony also to invest their new members in the association. From year to year the Jr. LOC will move their investiture to other parishes who have a Jr. LOC group. The Investiture will take place during Sunday Mass. A gathering and social will be held following Mass. We applaud these young ladies for their dedication and service. They are our future!



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CELEBRATE LADIES OF CHARITY 400TH ANNIVERSARY

The 400th Anniversary of the founding of the Ladies of Charity by St. Vincent de Paul was remembered in a special way by the ladies at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. During the celebration of the Mass, the ladies re-confirmed their commitment as Ladies of Charity and once again they "said yes" to the call of St. Vincent. At this special time they also honored their ladies who have served for 25 or more years and were awardees of the Diocese of Pittsburgh Ladies of Charity Service Award Medal which was presented at this year's investiture. In the picture from left to right are Thelma Burgansky, Rosemarie Trombetta, Genevieve Chiado, Betty McCarthy and Laverne Cusick. Awardees missing from the picture are Helen Keihart, Marie Sgro and Mary Warner. The ladies from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton LOC feel very blessed to have had these women in their lives to lead the way for all who are following in their footsteps.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Awardees

2017 DIOCESAN WORKSHOP

- Where: St. Bonaventure Parish Hall
2001 Mt. Royal Blvd.; Glenshaw Pa. 15116
- When: Saturday, August 19, 2017
- Registration Begins: 8:30 AM
- Keynote Speaker: Father Richard Gielow, CM
- Topic: "I could have done more"
- Mass: 11:15 AM
- Cost: \$15.00
- Continental Breakfast & Lunch will be served
- All groups are asked to bring a tri-fold display board showing your group activities.
- Registration forms available on our website



We're going to Kansas City, whose coming with us? It's not too late. Make that plane reservation, book your room, join the Pittsburgh ladies who have already booked their trip for the 2017 LCUSA National Assembly. Let us all go together to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Ladies of Charity worldwide. The theme of this year's assembly is 400 years of yes, to the call of St. Vincent de Paul.

Sister Joyce Rupp, Bishop Howard J. Hubbard, Sister Kathleen Appler, DC, Sister Paule Freeburg, DC and AIC International President Alicia Duhne are the plenary speakers. Very Rev. G. Gregory Gay, CM will be the concluding liturgy presider and homilist.

If you have any questions concerning traveling to the assembly, call the office 412-456-6924, leave a message and you will be contacted by one of the Pittsburgh National Board Representatives. If you need a roommate let us know and we will try and help you find one.



Father Richard Gielow, CM

**2018 LCUSA 38TH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY—PITTSBURGH PA.
14 Months and Counting—Meeting Dates Sept. 21 & Sept 22**

Ladies of Charity, Remember the Past, Embrace the Future
“Do Not Believe That Things Will Always Be As They Are Now”
~ St. Louise de Marillac



First Row Left Suzanne Johnson LCUSA President with Diocesan Board Members

LCUSA President, Suzanne Johnson came to Pittsburgh for our Investiture this April. Earlier in the day before the Investiture Mass, members of the Diocesan Board had brunch with Suzanne at the Sheraton at Station Square. They wanted to take this opportunity to show Suzanne the venue for the upcoming 2018 LCUSA National Assembly to be held here in Pittsburgh. Peggy Keene and Judy Weismann, co-chairs of the assembly have started meetings with their committee chairs and plans are starting to be developed on many levels. Fundraising is underway to help support some “special events” that are in the planning stages. Please help us make these fundraisers a success. This is a diocesan event and it belongs to each and every LOC group in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

The committees are looking forward to being able to bring a little bit of fun and enjoyment along with the spiritual, inspirational and educational aspects that you look for when you attend an assembly. There will be tours scheduled on Thursday, Sept 20 and Sunday, Sept 23. Committees are beginning their work in stages, it depends on which committee you have volunteered for as to when you will be called upon for assistance. If you still want to volunteer, call the office 412-456-6524 and leave a message. Your call will be routed to the proper person and they will get in touch with you.

We will be using our website locpittsburgh.org to keep you informed as more information becomes available. This is a way we can keep you updated as we go along. You may also contact us through the website e-mail address—ContactUs@LOCPgh.org.

Not very much specific information right now, but mark your calendars and “save the dates”. Make this a very memorable experience for yourself. Consider staying at the Sheraton Station Square for the entire Assembly to truly enjoy all of the events and activities offered. Hotel rooms will be available for single, double, triple or quad occupancy at a very reasonable rate. Daily Attendance Rates will also be available for commuters.

THIS IS FOR SURE, WE WILL NEED COOKIES. WE HAVE A REPUTATION TO UPHOLD FROM 2009!

*If you give a
Lady of Charity
a cookie*



To the left and below are writings from a scrapbook we received as a Thank You from a Lady of Charity from DC who attended the Assembly in 2009.

Thank you Pittsburgh Ladies of Charity, not only for the cookies but for a wonderful week of spirituality and friendship

Your hospitality meant so much to everyone, especially as it all began with giving a Lady of Charity a homemade cookie

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

BOARD MEETINGS

Saturday, August 12, 2017
St. Paul's Seminary
Saturday, September 2, 2017
9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
Venue to be announced
9:30 a.m.—12:00 a.m.
Saturday, October 14, 2017
St. Paul Seminary
9:30 a.m.—12:00 a.m.
Saturday, November 11, 2017
8:30 a.m.—9:30 a.m.
St. Columbkille, Imperial, Pa

PRESIDENT'S MEETING

Saturday, November 11, 2017
St. Columbkille, Imperial Pa
9:30 a.m.—12:00 a.m.

2017 ANNUAL WORKSHOP

Saturday, August 19, 2017—8:30 a.m.
St. Bonaventure, Glenshaw Pa

2017 Annual NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Sept. 7 — Sept. 9 Kansas City, Mo

2018 Annual NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Sept. 21— Sept. 22, Pittsburgh Pa.

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, OCTOBER 27, 2017

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

