

**JANUARY 2025 CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 16, 2025**

Present: Denise Brady, Connie Fletcher, Marsha Goode, Maria Potter, Sandy Rogala, Toni Sheffield, Terri Field
Absent: Ray Busuttill

The meeting opened with prayer at 1:00. The meeting was delayed by a week because of illness of a few committee members, including Toni. We will be back to the second Thursday of the month in March.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Blood Drive

Maria joined us for the first time and filled us in on everything it takes to organize a blood drive! Our next drive will be held on Sunday, February 9th after all Masses through 2PM. Sign up to donate will be held after all Masses the weekend of February 1 & 2.

Digital Support

Connie Fletcher attended our meeting to help us brainstorm new/different ways to highlight Christian Service on the website, the bulletin, or anywhere else we may want to be highlighted. Each committee is and has been providing information to her for the website, and she will highlight different committees in different ways as we go along. She and Toni are currently working on information for the Lenten Post Card. Many good ideas came from the brainstorming and information is being gathered for many of those ideas. Connie was a wealth of information and help!

Funeral Lunch

Terri reports that now that she has divided Funeral Lunch volunteers into two days (the night before to set up and prep tables, the day of the FL to help prep and serve) things are going much more smoothly. The only time we cannot make it a “two day prep” is if there is something going on the Parish Hall the night before a Funeral Lunch)

Knights of Columbus

No report – Ray out ill.

St Vincent DePaul

Marsha Goode attended for the first time. She reports that the main office of St Vincent DePaul provided her and other chapters with a link to plug in the address of someone in need of help to see if it falls into their chapter’s boundaries. If not, it will tell them exactly who should be handling a particular call. This is quite useful. She reports that she’s still very new at this (just the Chapter President since November 2024) but people have been quite helpful.

Gospel of Life

Approximately \$8300 has been donated so far for the AAA Pregnancy Resource Center Baby Bottle Campaign 2024 with \$400 more to be donated by Knights of Columbus ASAP program. There are still about 30 bottles still not turned in out of 350 given out in October, 2024. Final donation amount to be reported when Sandy receives it.

2025 Rose Ceremony: A Mass for the Pre-Born will be on January 22, 2025 at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Plymouth at 6pm. It commemorates 52 years of legal abortion in Michigan and 65+ million preborn lives lost due to abortion in the USA.

Right to Life—Lifespan will have a Restaurant Fundraiser on January 23, 11 am-9pm at Buddy's Pizza, 33605 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 20% of the proceeds will go to educate the community on human dignity from conception to natural death.

The 36th Annual Right to Life—Lifespan Baby Shower will be the weekend of March 8-9, 2025. Unwrapped baby gifts to be dropped off in the church Gathering Area.

Parish Council

Christmas Masses were well attended. The Parish Hall was used for the overflow at 4:30 Mass on Christmas Eve.

Our Family of Parishes will hold a Mission this coming Lent. The topic will be how technology has affected our relationship with God.

Newer brighter lighting in the church parking lot has been installed and has greatly improved visibility at night. Light poles in the back lot belong to Villa Marie therefore we cannot make any changes to them. Investigating ways the parish can better light this area.

Christmas Outreach

Due to our generous parishioners we were able to help more people through specific charities/groups than in recent years with gift cards, gifts, and monetary donations. The charities/groups involved were: Loaves & Fishes of SW Detroit, Vista Maria, Villa Marie and Franciscan Ministries. Parishioners also donated grocery and gas gift cards that will be used by Christian Service as calls are received from individual local families. All gifts came in by the deadline of December 15th and Sort & Pack and Delivery took place on December 17th.

The meeting ended with prayer at 2:10PM.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 1:00

Submitted by: Toni Sheffield