## St. Joseph Women's Society Mary & Martha News

January 201*7* 

Columbia, SC

#### **Spiritual Growth Opportunity Lenten Retreat**

Saint Joseph Women's Society will offer a morning retreat for women of the parish on Saturday, March 11 from 8:30 AM until 12:30. The event will include Mass, breakfast and retreat sessions led by Elena Ziegler, Director of Religious Education at St. Anne's in Rock Hill.

Mark your calendars! This will be an excellent opportunity for women to participate in a Lenten devotion. Feel free to invite someone to share this experience with you.

#### >>>>>>> St. Joseph Women's Society **Annual Meeting**

The 2017 General meeting will be held on Sunday, January 15. Please plan to attend the 12:15 PM Mass. Pews will be reserved on Mary's side of the sanctuary for the Women's Society.

The lunch will follow the Mass in Donor Hall of the Ministries Building (at approximately 1:30 for those who attend a different mass.). Doc's Barbecue will cater the meal for a cost of \$15. The menu will include appetizers, pulled pork barbecue, fried cat fish, hash and rice, macaroni and cheese, squash casserole, green beans and dessert.

Reservations should be returned to the church office by January 10. Be sure to bring a friend to introduce to the work and friendship of the women of St. Joseph Women's Society. A short business meeting will be held following the lunch.

#### **2017 State Convention**



This year the annual SCCCW state convention .will be held at the Columbia Marriott Hotel (on Hampton Street) from March 24 through the 26<sup>th</sup>. Our Deanery has the responsibility for planning the event and Chris Segars is serving as Convention Co-Chair. There will be opportunities for our members to play a number of roles to make the convention a success.

Our members will also be able to attend the convention without traveling very far. Of course if you would like a local vacation, the Marriott Downtown will be a nice place to stay.

The theme for this year's convention is "Voice of Hope, Blessings, Mercy and Love." You can be present at Mass with Bishop Guglielmone, hear fantastic speakers including the Diocesan Youth Missionary team, attend Art Uncorked at Columbia Museum of Art, enjoy great food prepared by the Marriott chef, and meet Catholic women from around the state.

Convention registration begins early February. You can make room reservation now- Columbia Marriott Hotel, 1200 Hampton St. Call 800-593-6565 or 803-771-7000. Reference: South Carolina Council of Catholic Women or SCW. To get the Convention Room rate of \$129.00 per night.

The Saint Joseph Women's Society are friends in faith who share the Gospel; serve the parish, community, and world; and mold strong Catholic women leaders.

## **Message from President**Gwen Skipper

This is the last article I will write with the byline of president. I am not going far--from the table at the front of the room to a table in the back of the room--I will still be among you.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president for these last four years and the special honor of being the 2017 St. Joseph's Catholic Woman of the Year. Especially thank you for all of the effort you have provided in support of the many ministries that have been part of our mission and outreach in recent years.

I would like to share the following with you for your reflection.

## .<u>Statement from Jedediah Morse, 1799-reprinted from the Patriotic Rosary</u>

To the kindly influence of Christianity we owe that degree of civil freedom, and political and social happiness which mankind now enjoys. In proportion as the genuine effects of Christianity are diminished in any nation, either through unbelief, or the corruption of its doctrines, or the neglect of its institutions; in the same proportion will the people of that nation recede from the blessings of genuine freedom. and approximate the miseries of complete despotism

All efforts to destroy the foundations of our holy religion, ultimately tend to the subversion also of our political freedom and happiness."

"Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government, and all of the blessings which flow from them, must fall with them.

#### **Our November Sale**

The November 2016 sale, "From the Devine Kitchens...A Festival of Foods, Baskets and Gifts for the Entire Family" took place in the Parish Hall/Gym. Casseroles and baked goods were, as always, a great attraction to the sale. In addition, ornaments, cookbooks, and crafts items were also sold.

This year the craft section was divided into "corners"; From the Backyard, Second Chances, Sew 'N Stitch, The Children's Christmas Shoppe, Christmas Wonderland, and The Kitchen Nook. SJWS Members served as chairs for each corner. Pictures from the event on page 4 of the newsletter show some of our members "in action" at the Festival.

We want to thank everyone who put so much time and effort into the sale. Both Women's Society members and other women of the parish generously contributed to make this year's sale very successful. A very special thank you to the men who made signs, painted them, helped with setup and with packing up after the sale. This truly was a "team effort".

The total amount raised through this year's sale was \$5,771.45. Funds raised during this annual event each year are used by the Women's Society to purchase special items for the parish, and to support Women's Society events and special outreach projects.

We wish each of you and your families all of God's blessings throughout the New Year.

Maria Carrero and Julie Rotureau

#### 2017 Dues Reminder

Membership Dues for our organization (\$20) are collected at the beginning of each calendar year. Please make checks payable to **Saint Joseph Women's Society** and include a message telling your e-mail address or if you prefer that information be sent to you by US Mail. A form on page 5 of this newsletter can be used fot registration as a member. You can drop your dues in the Sunday Collection or at the church office in an envelope labeled "Women's Society."

#### **History / Scrapbook Work Sessions**

The History/Scrapbook committee is working to complete the scrapbook before the March SCCCW Convention. Don't forget to send pictures of you at your various volunteer activities. E-mail those pictures to rspell909@gmail.com.

#### **Scheduled Work-sessions**

We will be meeting January 9 at 1:30 pm January 23 at 1:30 pm February 6 at 1:30 pm February 28 at 1:00 pm

We will work each Monday in March. until the convention. We will schedule an evening meeting if needed or interest. Please contact Regina Spell,rspell909@gmail.com or 803-776-9575, if you can help anytime but the scheduled times will not work for you.

## >>>>>>>>> Church Care Committee

In this ministry of the St. Joseph Women's Society members volunteer time to look after the general appearance of our church in preparation for each weekend. Each week two different volunteers spend about an hour on Friday morning to complete a list of tasks such as putting fresh holy water in fonts, light dusting, straightening books in pews, and such.

Volunteers are needed for Church care on Fridays in January and February. New volunteers can be paired with an experienced one if they wish. There will be an opportunity to volunteer at the January Meeting or if you can serve on one of the Fridays please contact the committee chair, Lois Barnett by phone at 776-5581.

#### Calendar

#### January 15

Annual General Meeting of SJWS, Luncheon—after 12:15 Mass Reservations required.

#### January 22

Midlands Deanery Meeting: 1:00 PM Corpus Christi Parish, Lexington

#### February 5

SJWS leads Rosary for the Unborn after the 8:15 A. M. Mass in the school breezeway

#### February 19

SJWS Monthly Meeting after the 12:15 Mass Ursuline Hall, Ministries and Admin Building.

#### March 3

After the Friday evening Mass SJWS to host parish Lenten Soup Supper

#### March 11

A Morning Lenten Retreat for women led by Elena Zeigler 8:30 AM to12:30

#### March 24-26

SCCCW Convention, Columbia Mariott (Hampton Street)

# From the Devine Kitchens...A Festival of Foods, Baskets and Gifts



### **2017 Membership Registration Form**

Saint Joseph Catholic Church-Women's Society

| Please Print  |  |     |
|---|--|-----|
| Name  |  |     |
| Address   |  |     |
| Phone   | Cell   |     |
| Email Address :   |  |     |
| Check if you do not use e-n   | ail and want M& M to be mailed to you.             |     |
| Dues \$20.00 for year   |  |     |
| Please make checks to Saint Josep<br>Parish Office.<br>If you prefer you can mail it to the C | h Women's Society and drop in the collection or at | the |
| St. Joseph Church Women's Society<br>3512 Devine Street<br>Columbia, SC 29205                 |  |     |