

Saint Rose of Lima Women's Club



June Update 2020

Greetings from our President

As I sit here in my makeshift home office (kitchen) since Assumption College closed the offices, the dorms, and other campus buildings on March 9th, it seems as if our world has become smaller. We were told to stay at home as much as possible; to not gather in groups larger than 10 people which meant that even attending Mass was no longer allowed; to wear masks and gloves and to remain at least six feet apart from others. Many of us hunkered down in our houses working remotely, purchasing groceries online for delivery to us, watching the two weekend Masses live streamed with no one sitting in the pews; doing the school lessons with children with SUPPORT from their teachers – instead of the other way around; finding different ways to celebrate important events, such as birthdays and anniversaries; along with delaying other gatherings, such as funerals. Creative ways of acknowledging important milestones that could not be celebrated as usual started happening, such as seeing a school bus coming down my street at 10:00 AM, followed by many decorated cars honking their horns and stopping at the two houses that have seniors who are graduating this year from Algonquin!

The Women's Club was affected by this pandemic, too. Some members of our club and parish contracted the COVID-19 virus. Intense prayers helped their recovery! Hopefully, the worst is behind us. In line with stopping the spread of the virus, the decision was made to cancel the Board meeting for April and the Board held a Zoom meeting for May. Lunches for those months were no longer provided to Abby's House. The annual Communion Breakfast was also cancelled. It seemed as if the abrupt ending of the group's normal spring events and activities heralded the end of the 2019-2020 year for us.

Read on to learn how we remained strong as a club!

Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love.

Mother Teresa

Pandemic Outreach

Soon after the stay-at-home restrictions started, Maureen Scholl and Theresa Foster organized a few members to call other members, especially those that live alone. Then, they followed up with notecards to all of you, our members, to keep up the connections. Many recipients expressed their appreciation for the outreach!

Jan Cappello brought to our attention the free meals **Sir Loin Catering** was providing to people in need in our community. The Club donated \$200.00 to continue this delicious service!

Marie Guyer, Susan Fitzgerald, and Joanne Kennedy asked if, in lieu of our monthly lunches to **Abby's House**, we could donate \$200.00 for grocery gift cards. We also donated another \$215.00 toward their annual fund-raising event.

Maureen Scholl learned the **Northborough Food Pantry** needed specific items; coffee, toilet paper, and paper towels (no surprise there).

We authorized \$200.00 to purchase the necessary items which were brought to the Food Pantry by club members.



In honor of Eve Lindquist, who is retiring as the Director of **Visitation House**, we contributed \$200.00 to their Annual Appeal.

These financial opportunities in which we contribute are a demonstration of the different ways we support the community at large. It is because of the participation of *all* of you, through our membership dues and events, that we are able to do so! Thank you!

Lisa Gillingham and Theresa Foster rallied many club members and non-members to sew face masks for the people serving on the front lines of the pandemic and those in need.

To date, over **1,548** masks have been sent (the list of recipients appears on the next page)! Such an incredible endeavor that was developed, coordinated and continued through such difficult times!

This was an amazing project for our club!

Thanks to all who participated but a special thank you to Lisa and Theresa for leading this effort!



Look at the many places where Saint Rose of Lima Women's Club face masks were delivered!

As far away as Guatemala and Haiti and as close to home as our parish.

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Beaumont Nursing Home | Visitation House | MetroWest Hospital |
| Crescent Manor Nursing Home | Northborough Food Pantry | Northborough School Lunch Program |
| Partners in Development (Guatemala and Haiti) | Family Health Center (Worcester) | Homeless in Worcester |
| UMASS Memorial Hospital - Marlborough | Northborough Police Department | Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center |
| Veterans, Inc. | Catholic Charities Emergency Shelter Program | Catholic Charities Home Care |
| Catholic Charities Women's Recovery Program | The Residence at Orchard Grove | Boys and Girls Club - Worcester |
| Saint Rose of Lima Parish | Children in Foster Care | Pine Street Inn |
| South Middlesex Opportunity Council | | |

Even though, the club members did not gather to provide certain services or participate in usual spring events, these outreach activities have furthered the St. Rose of Lima's Women's Club mission to provide service to our parish, community, and the world!

As we continue to abide by the stay-at-home regulations, our Club is planning for next fall and spring. We hope that the restrictions lessen enough for us to carry on as normal as possible.

Our world became abruptly smaller this spring, yet, through the involvement of many, we ventured out and made a difference. My heartfelt gratitude to all.

God bless all of you! Peace and love!

Susan R. Sabelli, President



Open Chairperson Positions



- Basket Raffle
- 50/50 Raffle
- Bake Sale

Thanks to some amazing ladies!

Two women deserving our HUGE THANKS for years and years of dedicated service are **Julie Zaterka** and **Pat Rickard**, the stalwart Co-Chairpersons for the Annual Basket Raffle. They are a hard act to follow but please consider stepping into this incredibly creative opportunity for our members to make the beautiful baskets that support other activities of the Women's Club.

Many thanks to **Jane Reilly**, the Chairperson for the very successful 50/50 Scholarship Raffle. Jane is also stepping down after many years in this position. This year's winner, Victoria Murray, received a check for \$1,140.00. The other half of the 50/50, combined with the proceeds from our bake sale, made it possible for us to present Fr. Houston with a check for \$2,325.00. That entire sum supports the Saint Rose Scholarship Fund for our high school seniors.

If you are wondering about the Bake Sale opening. . . .

CONGRATULATIONS to **Dana Baldessari** for taking the office of Treasurer for the next two years! We look forward to working with her on the Board. Considering her new responsibilities, Dana has asked that someone else chair the Scholarship Bake Sale. She is very willing to offer her expertise to whomever takes over this very important activity for the Women's Club. This past year's contribution from the Bake Sale to the Saint Rose Scholarship Fund was \$1,185.00.

Let's say THANK YOU and WELL DONE to **Maureen Scholl** who has been the Treasurer for the last two years. Maureen, you have brought an energy and enthusiasm to the Women's Club that I hope will continue for many more years! We have plans for you!!!!

These positions are open to any member of the Women's Club. You *will* have assistance! We are good at that! If you are interested in being a chair for any of the open positions, please check that off on the Membership Application (coming soon) or contact Susan Sabelli or Theresa Foster.

2019-2020
Women's Club
Board Members



This photo was taken before social distancing was 'a thing'!

| Name | Position | Contact Info |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Susan Sabelli | President | ssabelli@assumption.edu |
| Marie Wyman | Immediate Past President | jos.wyman@verizon.net |
| Theresa Foster | Vice-President | fostertrsa@aol.com |
| Dara Howorth | Secretary | dara_howorth@yahoo.com |
| Maureen Scholl | Treasurer | maureendscholl@gmail.com |
| Lisa Gillingham | Membership | stgillygirl@gmail.com |
| Kate Leahy | New Member Liaison | Kleahy82@gmail.com |

2020-2021 Board Meetings – 7PM Family Life Center (first Tuesday of the month)

All club members are welcomed to attend. We love new ideas!

| | | |
|---------|-------|--------|
| Aug 4 | Oct 6 | Nov 10 |
| Jan 5 | Feb 2 | Mar 2 |
| April 6 | May 4 | |

Turn the page for our 2020-2021 tentative schedule of events.



Upcoming Events (Tentative)

**Our health and safety are priority #1.
We will not be holding our annual retreat
or any summer events.**

**We will continue to follow all recommended
precautions during this pandemic.**

**The dates below are tentative based on the condition
of our state at the time.**

Make sure you check the Bulletin often for information on these or any new events.

| Event | Date |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Get Acquainted Social | September 11 |
| Bunco | Sept 18 or Nov 6 |
| Remembrance Breakfast | November 8 |
| Bake Sale/Basket Raffle | November 21 & 22 |
| Christmas Celebration | December 4 |
| 50/50 Scholarship Raffle | February 14 |
| Bunco | March 5 |
| Communion Mass and Breakfast | April 25 |

Membership applications for 2020-2021 will be sent to you soon.

Stay safe and well! Enjoy the summer months!

God Bless!

