

## **BEAUTY ALIVE – EVENT NOTES**



### **MARSHALLTOWN – St. Henry (September 14, 2017):**

- [Eucharistic Adoration](#) for [Vocations](#)
- [Mom's Group](#) – 6:00 AM
  - Meet to [pray](#) together
  - [Discuss relevant topics](#)
  - Keep [spirituality](#) in mind
- People don't always want to "join."
- [Study Club](#) – has gone from more social to a [more formal study](#) (women, saints, doctors of the church)
  - Cross
  - Parishes
  - Lives
- [Study Group](#) – starts with [rosary](#), program, [saints](#), food, [service project](#)
- Groups don't always let people know what the groups are doing.
- Talked about having a ministry "[fair](#)" to know what is available.
- [Adventure Bible Study](#) (men and women)
- [Psalms Study](#) (men and women)
- What would draw you to something – Childcare
- [7 Steps to Financial Freedom](#)
- St. Henry's [ACCW](#)
- Think about times for meetings – 6:00 AM/noon lunch hour
- [Sing Chaplet](#) – 5:15 PM – Church
- People don't read bulletin
- [Online Bible Study](#)
- [CEW](#) looking for links & resources
- I never knew things were happening – I was never invited. The importance of an invitation.
- Have an older woman start a [Bible Study](#) for younger women: always host, provide snacks, lead study making it easy for young moms
- Women [gather online](#) for a study every Sunday night at 8:00 p.m. for one hour.

### **CEDAR FALLS – St. Patrick (September 19, 2017):**

- Waverly – 2-3 women who have revitalized Mom's groups
- Can't find appropriate [devotional materials](#)
- [Blessed Is She](#) – along Catechism
- St. Edward – [Teams of Our Lady](#)
- Cedar Falls/Waterloo want to encourage others to join [Teams of Our Lady](#)
- Not too "churchy" for men – Ames, Des Moines
- Used to have MOMs at St. Edward, but not right now  
MOMs – the name can be off-putting
- [CDA](#): Catholic Daughters of America – Campus Court at ISU

- Partnered with [Evangelical Catholic](#) to develop small groups with discipleship training
  - [Given](#) – A Women’s Conference – came back to start something –
  - [Eucharistic Adoration](#) for young adults
  - [Young women](#) considering path in life– [single women discernment](#)
  - UNI – St. Stephen – [Evangelical Catholic](#) – needs help with discernment
  - Jesup – Sr. Donna noticed [high number of widows](#) – meet to go out for lunch/dinner – one Sunday/month – going to Mass alone
  - [Catholic Writers Guild](#)
  - [Live Stream](#) Women’s Conference
  - Tools for helping women [gather online](#)
  - Childcare is important
  - Would love a social group for women 40+ (coffee, wine, movies)
  - Gilbertville – [How do we find out about things?](#)
  - St. Patrick, Tama – [Date Night](#) once/month – meal, share, presentation
  - [WWME](#) – World Wide Marriage Encounter: need to belong to a community after weekend
  - [Christian Family Movement](#)
  - Harlem, IA – UNI – Ladies Guild doesn’t sound exciting
  - Can we help small towns [develop groups?](#)
  - The [Well –Read MOM](#) – a different book each month
  - [Retreat Resources](#) –
  - [Strengths Finder](#) – Could there be a way to do this?
  - Still need people to do the work
  - Having [Joyfully Gifted](#) there
    - Getting women to feel empowered
    - [Bible Study](#) and service
  - T-Shirts for vendors
- (sent by a participant at the Beauty Alive event in Cedar Falls)
- [Women preachers](#) and presiding at [Word and Communion](#)

**MASON CITY – St. Joseph (September 21, 2017):**

- Only 2 [altar servers](#) – [need parents](#)
- Is what we are offering appealing – getting people to do anything?
- Could adults – especially women – serve as [altar servers?](#)
- [Beauty In Christ Conference](#) – looked appealing!
  - Things haven’t always looked appealing – Marketing was well done.
  - They took time to connect and promote so it must be a good conference
  - Had to drive, stay overnight, so had to be appealing to give up
- Not changing the message – say it so they can hear it – takes time
- [Women’s Conference](#) was great – looking forward
- Kids are not coming to church – have to [get parents engaged](#)
- Have you asked [kids](#) if they want to be altar servers?

- Personally invited to a MOMs group – wouldn't have gone if not invited
- Wants to belong to a [Bible study](#) – weekly in summer
  - 9:00 AM doesn't work – at work
- Parish got parishioners subscription to [Magnificat](#)
- Mom wants son more involved – offering to help at parish
  - [Invite young people](#) to help – specific opportunities – personal invitation
- Recent student from [UNI](#) –
  - We decide what we should be doing in our parish
  - Allow opportunities
  - Encourages people to become involved
- Research is showing – [intergenerational](#) experiences are wanted, valuable
- MOMs has been successful – also used with [GrandMOMs](#)
- [Courageous Woman](#) series – about women in the Bible
- 3 hour retreat – [Emptying Your Cup](#)
- [Small group connections](#) – help to support one another – [how do we connect](#) – wants to know people when I go to Church
- Youth programs – Baseball games in summer at 8:00 AM
- [Dynamic Catholic](#) – has been so helpful – emails, books, speakers
- Religion Teacher needs someone to pour into her
  - Young Adult feels left out
- What is there to teach women about [birth control](#)?

**MARION – St. Joseph (October 3, 2017):**

- Social mostly
- MOMs to SOAR – to empty nesters – KITES
- [Young adult ministry](#)
- [Flock note](#) reminders: a way to communicate with parishioners
- [Families w/disabilities](#) or challenging behaviors
- Don't forget women who don't have children
- [Catholic Evangelization Outreach](#) – available in CR Deanery – witness talks – parishes offer team leaders – care team – use different technology to help promote and share
- Offer to apathy – St. Patrick – how they communicate with parishioners – [Flock note](#) parishioners (who sign up) – text reminders
- People are later and later to commit – help parish by committing early
  - Women put themselves last – things get canceled
- St. Pius – Harvest of Hope – women's event
- St. Jude – Fall Women's Brunch – personal invitation (prayer, food, speaker)
- Support your parishes
- Looking for something during the day – [for stay at home mom](#)
  - Can't find sitters
  - Looking for women at same stage of life
  - No MOMs group in area
  - Wants a group to share

- [Familia](#) in KY – respect life group – provided childcare
- Seen lots of [home-school families](#) at daytime Mass
- Moms take turns within the group
- Pius X – MOMs Group for ears – more not St. Pius X people
- [Virtus](#) training opportunities readily available at beginning
- St. Jude – Tuesday mornings – a MOMs group is starting
- Book club for moms – St. Pat’s – [The Friendship Project](#)
- [Pietra Fitness](#) – St. Joseph, St. Patrick – Prayer is part of fitness
- Work part-time – wants to see a group of [Catholic business](#) women
- [Guardian Angel](#) prayer at work when talking about LV shooting
- [Alexander House](#) Program was in a parish – couple time important
- Generations at table
- [ACTs retreat](#) – wish we could get
- [CEWs](#) are here
- Women love to gather in homes – or in a really nice space or in a coffee place
- Java & Jesus – Friday evenings after work – flexible- young adult
  - Prayer, share ideas
  - Talked about things that were on their mind
  - Do service (action)
  - Weekly goals
  - Support for one another
- When I retired – read a book – feels a lot of Church activities are geared to those beginning their walk in faith
  - How do we feed those who are already on their walk?
  - Loved “[My Walk With God](#)” – work within yourself
- If you’re alive, you have a mission
- Just baptized in 2015 – adults just coming into the Church
  - They still want to learn about the [Catholic faith](#)
  - [RCIA](#) should not be the end
- [FORMED](#) has great things that can help parishes.
- Groups meeting Friday morning – intergenerational – [Matthew Kelly books](#)
- Small city – different from city parishes
  - Facing apathy
  - No one is doing anything besides FF
  - Doesn’t know how to battle that
  - People are leaving

**DECORAH – St. Benedict (October 5, 2017):**

- [Leadership](#) night – all leaders of the parish commissions meet monthly
  - Pray together, break into commissions, come back together, share, then pastoral council meeting
- People are doing things, but then so one comes
  - Need to reconsider how we are doing things
  - What time

- Involve families, etc.
- Families don't work the same way as in the 70's (or before)
- Large cities utilize Y's and Boys/Girls Clubs – how can we do something like this?
- Six parish cluster – whole different entity
- Food tends to draw people
- [CEWs](#) have been going on
- Ladies Night Out – annual speaker, salad dinner – well received
  - 150 women
  - Can host a table and decorate it
- 6 parishes – Fr. Kyle
  - [Talked about Last Supper](#): taped and online
  - 1 hour, 6 sessions
  - [7-Sisters Apostolate](#) 1 hour/day/women pray for pastor/priest
- [ACCW](#) Convention/Conference – great day!
- [Mother's Prayers](#) – Dubuque – meet at lunchtime to pray for their children
- Want more stuff online- information – to get the word out
- [Legion of Mary](#) – prayer
- [Bring back to the church](#) adult children
- [NFP resources](#) that are really technologically advanced
  - Communicate with someone to chart (over Skype)
  - Need some more specific “how-to”
- [Technology](#) – online presence by parishes to “dial in” to an event
- Some are scared of technology – keep that in mind – show us how to use it
- There is a [need in nursing homes](#) – they shouldn't be forgotten
  - Need visitors
  - Help parishes keep in touch with people in nursing homes
- Single women feel alone – [widows, divorced](#), single – need something
- [FORMED.org](#) – using Y-Disciple – can use for small group sharing
- [Strong Catholic Families](#) presentation – good, but need reinforcement
- Prayer Chain
- Small Group – [grief support group](#)
- [Layette Ministry](#) – can do something without going to meetings
- [ACCW](#) Conference Booklet – utilized prayer calendar
  - [Nursing home residents praying](#) for priests
- [Team Rosary](#) – 4 or 5 to lead rosary
- Soup Suppers
- Don't hear about rosary/[Fatima](#)
- [Personal retreat](#) so important

#### **DUBUQUE – Resurrection (October 9, 2017):**

- We are all [spiritual mothers](#) – nurturing each other.
- How much is just for the parish? Could we [reach out beyond our parish?](#)
- How do we have a [central location](#) for people to know what is going on?
- Need to meet physical and emotional needs –

- Need to meet people where they are.
- If you see it, address it.
- MOM's group – [Bible study](#) – If you see a need (because you FEEL the need) [YOU start it](#).
- [Children are God's gift](#) – they belong here (cards/reminders)
- DBQ Area Congregations United
- Women's Arch Newsletter? Combine with [ACCW "Link?"](#)
- [Buddy Bench](#) – need a friend, sit and someone becomes your buddy
- [The Witness](#) – publicize parish events
- Need good communication between parishes in DBQ (or cities/areas)
  - Representative who seeks out programs and communications
- [Befriender Group](#) – 23 yrs old and still growing
  - [Young Adult small group/women's group](#) 2 months and Facebook group for social events
  - Moms and not Moms
  - Spiritual book – read and discuss
- Women's group began as a [RENEW](#) group in late 80's/early 90's – meet once a month
- Resurrection ([LIFT](#): Ladies in Faith Together)
  - Women's ministry groups
  - Monthly social (usually Sunday afternoon),
  - Friday night movie night
  - [Bunco](#)
  - All-Saints tea –
  - Available – trying to connect women in parish –
    - use bulletin, facebook, email, for all women
    - use social space
- Grief Share – any kind of a loss – from a pastorate of 5 parishes
- Sew Much Love – make all kinds of things (chemo hats, dresses, etc.) to be given away
- [Prayer Shawl](#) group – ladies get together, make in home, blessed
  - given to anyone who needs them, receive yarn, card-making ministry
- Word of mouth gets more women.
- Avoid saying hello to people you don't know –
  - waited for someone to say Hi after Mass
  - still waiting
- Tries to [welcome newcomers](#)
- Back of church – people who stay – all in their own groups
- Finding time that works to offer things
- Grandma joined a Moms group
  - took care of children
  - invited self
  - now mix of older women and younger women
- [Pietra Fitness](#) – for all ages – videos available to gather women
- Holy Spirit – [Grandparent ministry \(want to start\)](#)

- Looking for divorce support – [Divorce & Beyond](#)– from St. Joseph the Worker
- [Wisdom and Wine](#) – gets women together – doing [Altaration](#) this Fall
- [Catholic Fitness videos](#) during RE classes
- [Looking for resources](#) – what has worked
- [FORMED.org](#) -Like Catholic Netflix
- [Walking with Purpose](#) – being done – 16 or 22 weeks, and videos are expensive
- Single, never married – where do I fit? – Big concern
- Expectant mothers
  - needs for [fertility/infertility](#) and [infertility issues, miscarriages](#), and those who have [lost a child](#), and those who have no mother
- How do we be more intentional and aware of others?
- Started single [women’s group](#) – evolved into widows
- Bulletin announcement – need to have clear announcements –
  - Who is it for?
  - What is it for?
  - Clearly articulated
  - Make it easier to find out what the event is
  - Targeting/mindful

#### **MANCHESTER – St. Mary (October 10, 2017):**

- [Homebound](#) and [recently widowed](#) are lonely – how do we reach out to them?  
[Sit-with-me Rosary](#).
- [Christ Renews His Parish](#) – how a group got to know each other
- [RENEW](#) program – put life in parishes
- [Guess who’s coming to dinner?](#)
- Building up a new pastorate
- [Men](#) have their own group
  - Important for men and women to meet separately
  - Mother’s women’s group
  - Meet weekly at someone’s home
  - Right after school drop-off
  - Studying [Wisdom](#)
- [Youth Group](#) started
  - Meet every-other Sunday night
  - Also a [Jeff Cavins](#) youth group that meets every Wednesday night with rosary and talk – makes snacks
- [Theology On Tap](#) – just had a very successful witness presentation
- [Bereavement group](#) – helping those grieving, with funerals
- [Sponsor couples](#)
- Weekly gathering to [pray the rosary](#)
- Adoration has been started
- Lay Formation Alumni discussion group – meets 5x/year to discuss spiritual books
- [IMPACT](#) program and then [My Walk With God](#) – now do one book instead of one per month – spread it out more

- So uncomfortable at Church – especially if new to the Church
  - [Needs life after RCIA course](#)
- Great organization – [CDofA](#) – court in Manchester
  - Charitable and spiritual
  - Welcome everyone
  - Not all about meetings
  - Have “Circle of Love”
  - Can participate in any part of it
  - Woman w/cancer had other members praying rosary for her during treatments
- Very active group – [social justice](#) committee (right now all women)
  - Do all sorts of projects/[outreach](#)
- Everyone getting along – want to see that
- People taking [younger generation to care centers](#) and asking them what wisdom they have to share
- The youth are amazing – 20,000 at [NCYC](#) – so excited, but come back to nothing has changed
- [Vocational discernment](#)
- Generations of Faith
- How do you get the [fire](#) going in others?
- Figuring out to involve people in [what they love to do](#)
- Wants to see more for the [single young adults](#) – done with college, but not settled
- [Start something online?](#)
- Decorah – clean up river, go canoeing, prayer service