

These minutes can also be found on the Women's Club page on the parish website (<https://www.stmarysl.org/womens-club.html>).

ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S CLUB
Wednesday, September 9, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

Trish welcomed everyone and led the group in the opening prayer. She also recognized recent birthdays and anniversaries. We welcomed two new members: Gail Lahr and Marilyn Reichardt. Jean Smalligan is a long-time club member but has not attended meetings. We welcomed her back. About 35 women were in attendance.

Reminder! Club dues of \$10 are due this month. If you get church donation envelopes, use the one for Women's Club and drop it in the collection basket as soon as possible. If you don't get envelopes, put your \$10 dues in a plain envelope clearly marked "Women's Club Dues" along with your name, email address, and phone number. You can drop it in the collection basket or at the parish office.

REFRESHMENTS – A very nice lunch was provided by the Board members and the club.

REQUEST FROM FATHER BILL – Trish reported that Father Bill would like our club to purchase three new cruets for holy oil at a cost of about \$365. Lynn McMaster moved that we approve this purchase; Eileen Grunstra seconded; motion carried. Lynn Rigoli noted that the cords for the crosses that servers wear are very worn; Father Bill welcomed the offer to replace them. Ann Fortenbacher moved that we purchase new cords; ?? seconded; motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Club Treasurer, Lynn Rigoli, reported that as of the new fiscal year, July 1, our expenses were \$260 for hosts, our checking account balance is \$13,379, and our diocese account balance is \$8,710.

PROGRAMS – Cynthia Caulfield

Our October outing is on Wednesday, October 14. We will have brunch together at New Beginnings Restaurant* in Coopersville and a tour of the Cathedral of St. Andrew** in Grand Rapids. If you wish to carpool, meet in the south church parking lot at 10:30 a.m. If you want to drive separately, be at the restaurant at 11 a.m. and the Cathedral at 1 p.m. A sign-up sheet was circulated at the meeting. **We must have an accurate count, so if you didn't sign up at the meeting, be sure to contact Cynthia by Monday, October 12.** You can email her at doncaul@att.net, call or text her at 616-822-1820, or call her home phone at 616-847-6752.

*New Beginnings Restaurant is at 25 68th Ave N, Unit K, Coopersville

**Cathedral of St. Andrew is at 215 Sheldon Blvd SE, Grand Rapids

Our November program is on Wednesday, November 11, Veteran's Day. We will meet in the church at 12:30 p.m. for a Patriotic Rosary. There will be a special text and for each of the beads, we will name one of our loved ones, living or dead, who served in the military. A sign-up sheet was available at the meeting, but if you didn't see it, please let Marilyn

Wheeler or Trish Ostberg know the name. Marilyn is at mewheeler2005@sbcglobal.net or 734 674-9440. Trish is at trish.ostberg@gmail.com or 616-268-9660. Everyone is invited to attend – husbands, friends, relatives. After the rosary, the club members will meet in the ABC room.

In December, we will have our Christmas luncheon. Trish asked for ideas and suggestions. Possible locations are Ted's, Stable Inn, or Olive Garden. Do we want to have a gift exchange or a Christmas trivia game or both? Let Trish know if you have any suggestions. More discussion will occur at our November meeting after the Patriotic Rosary.

QUILT GROUP UPDATE – Deb Taetsch reported that tickets are still available for purchase, including at the festival. The quilts are on display in the church gathering space and are very beautiful. A big thanks goes out to all the talented ladies who helped make them. Please return any unused tickets to Deb Taetsch or Bonnie Glavich.

PARISH FESTIVAL BAKE SALE – Although our club does not run the parish festival bake sale anymore, we do want to support it! They need all kinds of baked goods: pies, cookies, cupcakes, fudge, jam, bread, brownies, blondies, bars, nuts, Rice Krispie treats, pretzel bark, biscotti, scones, muffins, crumbles and cakes! Any fun food that your family loves to devour will be a welcome addition to the Bake Sale and the Cake Walk. The drop-off location is in the women's lounge on Friday (September 11) from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and on Saturday (September 12) starting at 9 a.m. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

CARDS SENT FROM THE CLUB – Deb Taetsch sent a get-well card to Bonnie Schmitt who is in the hospital. Deb was asked to send thinking of you cards to long-time members who are no longer able to participate, such as Gloria Draeger, Sharon Vink, and Pauline Yount. Deb asks that you contact her if you know of any club member who would appreciate a card of sympathy, get well, or thinking of you. Contact Deb at 517-449-7778.

OTHER BUSINESS

Club member Eileen Grunstra has a lot of experience teaching Mahjong and is willing to conduct some sessions for club members at no charge. Contact her at 616-402-2871. It is a lot of fun, and she will also tell you where you can go to play.

Trish read a couple of very nice thank you notes from the families of Barb Burke and Mary Pat Dubuc who both passed away this year.

Reminder: Please check your email at least once a week. This is our primary source of communication. If you don't have an email address, please ask another club member to keep you informed. The church bulletin will still be used for meeting announcements.

Thank you to those who donated toiletries for the food pantry!

Submitted by
Marilyn Wheeler, Secretary
St. Mary's Women's Club