

Our Lady of Lourdes Social Justice Minuets September 12, 2024

Present: Patti Sereno, Margaret Kelly, Terry Falk, Kevin Kane, Emily Kane, Steve Szymanski, John Wolfe, Mary Botsford, Pat McKay, Eileen O'Connor

Plans for Peace Prayer Service – October 28 at 6:30 pm.

Jim Wielgosz will publish our announcement in the Discipleship column on the weekends of October 6, 13, and 20. A pulpit announcement will also be made on Oct. 26 & 27. Steve will publicize the service to members of GIFT. We will reach out to members of the music ministry to see if any would be willing to supply a musical background. Patty S and Mary B. volunteered to help Pat to plan the service. Eileen will design a flyer.

How to Fight Racism

Terry presented a written synopsis of the adult version of *How to Fight Racism* along with a rationale for purchasing more copies of the children's version of the book. The committee agreed to purchase a few more copies of the children's version as well as other books on racism/Black history written for children. The committee also agreed that we ask that one GIFT session in 2026 focus on racism.

Presidential Election

Pat will add voting posters to the SJ bulletin board and will write an article on the election for the October Spotlight article. Members mentioned that, for the most part, OLOL parishioners are aware of the election issues and have most likely already made their choice.

Plans for Black History Month

Two possible activities have been suggested: invite the All Saints choir to join our own choir for a Mass; invite All Saints choir for another musical presentation similar to (or a repeat of) the 2023 event. Deb supports the first suggestion and will present the idea to the Parish Staff. If approved, Pat will contact All Saints about joining in a weekend liturgy. If possible, we would like to have the Mass on a Community Weekend.

Plans for Earth Day, 2025

The GIFT session on Saturday, April 26 will be a park clean-up. Social Justice members will support Steve and Maggie in the planning. A current earth related activity is taking place between Sept. 1 (Feast of Creation) and Oct. 4, (Feast of St. Francis) through the ecumenical group titled The Season of Creation. In addition, both the Catholic Climate Covenant and The Francis Effect offer current articles related to caring for the earth as well as other social justice topics.

Spotlight

November 10, Terry; November 24, Mary Y (handed in); December 8, Eileen

Announcements

a. **Vatican World Day for Migrants and Refugees** On September 22 at 9:30 am, Elizabeth Anne Seton Church will host a presentation by a couple who visited the border. Free. Lunch included.

b. On September 19 at 6:30 pm, the Times Theater will show *Cooked – Survival by Zip Code*. The film reveals the connection between social economic policies and the environment. The film will be followed by a discussion session. The cost is \$10. Interested SJ members can carpool.

c. On October 6, GIFT will present “**Conscience Formation and the Election.**” Fr. Chuck Schramm

d. On October 10 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, the Biard Center will host an **Emergency Gun Violence** session.

e. On October 14 and 28 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm, St. Matthias will host a repeat presentation of **“Forming Your Conscience.”**

The next meeting will be held on **October 17**. Please note the change of date due to Oktoberfest.

Closing: Prayer for the Homebound

Adjourned 7:40 pm