

Social Justice Committee Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2025 All Saints Library
Submitted by Bea Rethwisch

Present: Barb Klappholz, Steve Schmitz, Bea Rethwisch, Tom Takes, Dennis Deutmeyer, Colleen Waldron, Todd Holverson, Liv Kelley-Sellnau, Joseph Cataldo

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Opening prayer was said by Steve.

Barb made a motion to approve the October meeting minutes, and Tom seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Barb reported the following balances: Loaves & Fish - \$15,662.52, Thanksgiving Day collection - \$1,557.17, TAH - \$3,156.67 and All Saints Family Fund - \$22,136.45. Barb explained the funds and distributions. She explained how the funds were distributed at the end of the fiscal year. Historically, the All Saints Family Fund has been used for All Saints family or those with a connection to All Saints. There is a limit of \$950 donation for a family. Steve, Barb and Tracy will review if anything needs to be updated. Barb made a proposal to donate \$750 each to MCO and Green Square Meals from the Thanksgiving Day collection. Steve suggested to split the current Thanksgiving Day collection and if more money was collected to vote via email on how to split the money. Barb made a motion to split the \$1500 evenly between MCO and Green Square Meals, and Joseph seconded the motion. This was approved.

GIVING TREE/AGENCY WREATH GIFTS:

We discussed the Giving Tree (families) and Agency Wreath (donations to non-profit organizations that we support) and the gift tags that are left on the Giving Tree. The Social Justice Committee will pay what's left from the Giving tree. Barb will follow up with Tracy on the final dollar amount. Volunteers are needed to distribute the agency donations that were collected. Steve will coordinate the date and time for this.

LOAVES & FISH MONTHLY COLLECTION:

We discussed the Loaves & Fish monthly collection with the collection on the altar during Thanksgiving Day and the weekend following it. The donation amount was double the amount as usual. We discussed if we should do this on a monthly basis. It provides a visual donation. We decided to try this during the weekend of January 24/January 25. Information will be placed in the bulletin.

CR METRO SOCIAL JUSTICE COLLABORATION:

We reviewed the email that was received regarding the CR Metro Social Justice Collaboration. This is a spin-off of Pilgrims of Hope. They are asking for a representative from every church for the quarterly meeting. Dennis volunteered to be our representative. Steve will notify the CR Metro Social Justice group to let them know. Steve will send the Pilgrims of Hope information. We will have future discussion if we want to do this.

MEMBER RECRUITMENT:

Tom suggested reaching out to those who were nominated for elected positions to see if they are interested in joining the Social Justice Committee. Tom will send Steve the list of people who were

nominated. It was suggested to continue asking people to join the committee including students who have made their Confirmation. It would be good to have more diversity on our team.

RESPECT LIFE (Colleen Waldron): Colleen reported that several people continue to pray at Planned Parenthood on Saturday mornings. There was a national prayer chain. There are several people who pray in the Chapel on Friday morning. Colleen will check on the outreach agency regarding teen mothers.

TAKE AWAY HUNGER (Bea Rethwisch): Bea reported that a group of All Saints parishioners will have a packaging event in December. We will plan an event in January at All Saints.

GREEN SQUARE MEALS (Bea Rethwisch): Because of the increased number of groups who would like to volunteer at Green Square Meals, we will no longer volunteer on the 5th Tuesday of the month so another group can take this date. Bea will update the bulletin information and send it to Dan. It was suggested to place the sign-up information on the website and social media. Bea will follow up with Dan. Bea will also ask Tracy if she can announce the new schedule at mass.

METRO CATHOLIC OUTREACH (Nicole Johnson): MCO will meet the week of 12/15, updates to follow.

PASTORAL SERVICES (Deacon Mike Klappholz): Barb gave the update since Deacon Mike was unable to attend. The Communal Reconciliation was well attended with approximately 100 people. The lunch that was provided to the priests after the service was very much appreciated.

HAITI COMMITTEE (Steve Schmitz): Fundraising has been very successful with the Fall Fundraiser bringing in \$23,000 and the 5K Race bringing in \$10,000. Steve explained the history of what the funds have been used for including financing two men to go to medical school. One of the men moved to Canada until Haiti is safe again. Frankel remains and is trying to open a clinic in the village. He is asking for money to purchase supplies. The Haiti Committee agreed to provide \$500 a month for a three-month trial. Father Viller asked for money to fix the Ducrabon rectory roof and walls, and \$3,200 was given for this. Improvements to Sr. Joseph's school classroom in Ducrabon to include a roof, windows, doors and desks is needed for a total of \$1,500. There is hope that the situation is improving. Zoom meetings have improved communication and helped with the relationship.

NEW BUSINESS:

We discussed ways to broaden our communication such as posting on Facebook and Instagram. We will check with Dan to see if he puts announcements on there.

Closing prayer was said by Steve.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. The next meeting will be on Monday, February 9, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the All Saints Library.