

St. Clare Social Concerns Meeting

Thursday, 9/14/17 6:30 p.m.

- **Opening prayer** - done by guest speaker, Ned Quigley
- **Old Business**

a. **25th. Anniversary** - Thank you to all who worked on the event and the lemonade stand. It was all a big success.

b. **Gathering Inn Thrift Store** - Bill will email the flyer asking for volunteers in the store as it gets ready to close.

c. **Laundry Love** - Divine Savior spearheads this ministry and involves using a local laundromat to allow the homeless to wash their clothes and things.

Martin is checking out ways for our group to possibly start a similar ministry in our area.

d. **Loaves and Fishes** - have done it for 2 months so far, once in prep and once in serving. Next 4th. Saturday will be a prep day meaning making tamale [pie](#). The group will leave from St. Clare's at 7:15 a.m. and work at Loaves and Fishes until 10:00. Larry Bertrand is organizing the site "SignUpGenius" so people can sign up easily.

e. **T.P. Drive** - August's T.P.drive was a big success collecting 1100 rolls! Various groups such as North Highlands Christian Food Ministry, the Gathering Inn, and WWJD received rolls, [along with two other homeless camps on the Sacramento River](#).

- **New Business**

a. **Thanksgiving turkeys** - we already got 100 from Thunder Valley. We will be giving out Christmas dinners this year again along with [200 backpacks](#) in lieu of stockings.

b. **Robla Schools new hire** - a fulltime person has been hired to run a clothes closet. They currently need sleeping bags and clothing.

c. **Sock Drive** - we were asked that if we have any connection to local schools if we could see if they would be interested in doing a socks drive. Need adult socks mainly, but also can use children's socks. Reni will talk with Holli about having her group get involved also.

d. **November - Coats and socks drive** - These will be given out with the Thanksgiving baskets. Signups for baskets will be in October and early November. There will be 100 - 125 families served in our parish. If St. Lawrence's can get their Knights of Columbus to run the program there, we will be able to serve around 50 of their families. The form will be in color this year.

Guest Speaker - Deacon Ned Quigley

a. He told of a ministry at St. Augustine's of collecting holiday toys to be given to children of inmates in prison. He is looking into this as a possibility in Placer County facilities.

b. **Jail ministry** - he currently works with Folsom Prison and our 2 Placer County jails in providing a communion service to inmates.

1. Much help is still needed in terms of volunteers.

2. Interested people would be trained by the jail and by Ned. The service also is a time to provide community conversation and listening to the inmates who are usually under a great deal of stress. Seems like the time is from 1-2 hours on each visit. Sunday at 10 a.m. is currently Ned's service time at Santucci Center.

c. **Module training program** - samples were passed, along with articles on a nun who is a real angel to prisoners and a real mentor, of a program of weekly lessons which are worked with a volunteer leader and a group of prisoners. This program can really help prisoners accept what they have done and plan for success on the outside once released. People successfully completing this program can use this to help with probation. Some with conditional probation need to come in weekly and complete this program. This program really helps with **recidivism**. The program called "Partnership for Re-entry Program" has impressed the parole board with its good results. Ned would like to bring this program into Placer jails, but in an abbreviated form.

d. Told a story of a woman who was reticent, but after time was not only reconnected with her son in prison but also was able to be a successful group leader to groups of prisoners. This was at Santa Rita in Alameda County.

e. Ned also has an interest in providing some other type of clothing items as done in another program. He is looking into this possibility.

f. People possibly interested in helping in the prison ministry should contact Deacon Ned Quigley. Can also call the parish office and get his phone number.

Note to Bill - please correct this where needed. Ned said a lot in a short time and I had trouble getting it down so I may have misinterpreted some of it!

- **Reports**

a, **Gathering Inn** - Brian Parry shared. 70 were at the last dinner including 8 children. Divine Mercy provided the food. There were not enough signed up servers, but others filled in and got the job done. "Martin's Angel's" - the 5:30 a.m. breakfast ladies provided 72 breakfasts.

b. **North Highlands Christian Food Ministry** - John Hagener - Over 400 households, plus 100 homeless people, were helped last month. Hard to get up to the 500 households as in the past.

c. **Excel** - John Hagener - Fall program started last week. Usually serve around 90 K-8 students. St. V. provides dinner for the children. The reading comprehension program hasn't begun yet.

d. **WWJD** - Fran McMahon - Doing great. A wonderful team of helpers to make the sandwich lunches for 50-70 people. Hospitality and clothing are also provided.

e. **St. V DP** - George Beutner -

1. The fund raiser dinner is sold out.

2. They have had lots of food to pass to those in need and help by sharing with several other charities. 7 vans are also used to distribute food to other areas.

3. Volunteers are still needed in the thrift store. There is even one paid position. Call the office at 781- 3303 and ask for Patti, Cindy, or Brian if interested.

f. **Jail** - Carole Chicoine Auburn jail requested just shirts so was able to bring a batch of around thirty, mostly men's shirts, to the jail last Sunday. Thanks a lot to Bill for all the shirts he was able to collect!

g. **Sierra College Guardian Youth Program** - Carole Chicoine

1. Guardian Scholar Lunch, where students picked up supplies (after we all shared a buffet lunch) such as pillows, homemade quilts, backpacks filled with school supplies, etc. A picture folder was passed to show the setup of the lunch which was held in the cafeteria.

2. Bill has good shoes, shirts, and other items to donate so Britney was contacted and, since the office is now all moved, they are able to take in items to pass to students needing them. We also are looking for "grab and go" foods such as granola bars, cup of soup etc. A load of collected items will be delivered in the next week. Bill also has some food items to be picked up and delivered.

3. After the meeting, Bernadine asked about hosting students for Thanksgiving and/or Christmas. Carole will contact the college and advise Bernadette and also Bill as Carole will be gone for the October meeting and the holidays are fast approaching.

- **Other**

a. 2600 homeless children in the Twin Rivers schools.

b.. Olivehurst - told a story of a woman pastor who moved into the poor area in Olivehurst and had a scary night with a cussing neighbor who later turned up and offered to help her find the neediest families in the area. 53 backpacks were passed out. Baby furniture was recently donated and the pastor is to pick it up soon.

c. Advertisement needed for getting good shoes to give out. Patricia Madden will look into this and report back. Any ideas? Contact Patricia at plmadden@comcast.net.

d. Thanksgiving /Christmas Signups - Bill will be sending out information to get volunteers to sign up to help register people.

1. Will continue to be on Wednesday evenings.

2. Susan and Andrea will be helping.

3. Bilingual people are still needed to help out with registering people.

e. Freezer needs a new home!! Reni has housed our freezer for two years and really needs her garage space back. It is a chest style freezer and can be used by the family housing it except for about 2 months around the holidays. Reni will agree to keep it one more year if we can't get another volunteer, but would prefer to have it placed somewhere else. Please contact Bill if you are willing to give the freezer a new home for awhile.

- Closing prayer - Bill
- Next meeting will be October 12, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.