**The Christian Life Commission  
 CLC Core Committee Parish Council Report**

January 2014

*Core Committee Members: Katie Hirschboeck (Commission Chair), Laura Stehle (Social Concerns CLC Staff Liaison), Helen DeVries, Rich Sherwood, Maggie Medina, Fran Nutt, Anne Meyers (also Pastoral Care Staff Liaison Diana Maugans)*

The Christian Life Commission consists of the ministry groups which serve in the four intersecting Ministry Areas of Christian Life depicted in our logo. The **CLC Core Committee** oversees the four Ministry Areas, interacts with individual ministry groups as needed, organizes and presents annual convocation/retreats for the ministry areas, and provides vision and leadership for the commission as a whole in implementing the OMOS Pastoral Plan.

Attached is the Description of Ministry Opportunities that was prepared for the Stewardship and Development Committee

Following are just a few highlights of some the CLC activities, including those sponsored by the CLC Core in 2013:

**∙**  **The CLC Convocation** “To Seek & Embrace as Servant leaders” (13 April 2013) was offered as a Morning of Reflection for ministers in the Christian Life Commission. It was based on the John 21 scripture: “Feed my lambs, Tend my sheep, Feed my sheep,” and incorporated selections from the Holy Week address of newly elected Pope Francis on going out “to seek the lost sheep, the one that has strayed the furthest”. Helen DeVries facilitated a deeply meaningful and well-received morning of reflection that beautifully combined our **2013 Pastoral Plan theme** and the parish’s new emphasis on Servant Leadership.

**∙**  The **Care for Creation Committee** (**Area IV)** sponsored the first annual **Parish Earth Fair** after all Masses an Earth Day (April 22). The Committee also continued its recycling effort at the **Parish Fiesta** (**Area I**) which once again brought the parish together in fellowship and celebration. The CLC Core is deeply grateful for the leadership of **Hank Krzysik** and his many efforts, including the environmental upgrades for the new **Women's Shelter** facility (which is supported by many of our CLC members) .  
  
**∙**The **Consistent Ethic of Life Committee (Area IV)**  sponsored **evenings of formation and reflection** after the Peace and Justice Mass and the CLC Core met with Tim Heinan to strategize on ways to increase the visibility of the **Blessed Nuno Society** (**Area III)** and its new orphanage in Agua Prieta.

**∙** The **Haiti Project (Area IV)** outreach continued, driven by Joan Martin's leadership even in the midst of her significant heath challenges. The CLC and Haiti Committee asks for your prayers for Joan.

**∙** The **CLC Core Committee** established even stronger bonds with the newly thriving **Hispanic Ministry   
Commission** through the addition of CLC Core member Fran Nutt.

**∙** The above represent only a portion of what the CLC Commission as a whole has accomplished in 2012. The Core Committee is humbled and grateful for the abundant gifts of time, treasure and talent from our many CLC minsters and the continued outpouring of generous assistance that our parish bestows on all of our ministries.

*Respectfully submitted by Katie Hirschboeck January 2014, Christian Life Commission Chair*

**DESCRIPTION OF MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

**MINISTRY TITLE:** Core Committee of the Christian Life Commission

**RESPONSIBLE TO:** Chair of the Christian Life Commission

**DESCRIPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY:**

* Anchor the mission of the commission in prayer and worship (through retreats, coordination with the Liturgy Commission, etc.)
* Oversee and organize the four CLC Ministry Areas *(see Comments)*
* Call and facilitate regular meetings of the four Ministry Areas & of the whole Commission
* Facilitate and encourage education and formation (as appropriate) for the Core Committee, each Ministry Area, and the parish-at-large through coordination with the Christian Education / Formation Commission and OMOS School
* Coordinate activities in support of the Ministry of Everyday Life with all other commissions

**TIME REQUIRED:** 1.5 hours per month (monthly CLC Core meetings), participation in annual Christian Life Commission Convocation (3-4 hours annually) and other CLC Core-sponsored events

**IN-SERVICE TRAINING REQUIRED:**

* Read, study, and reflect on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Pastoral Letter:  
   *Communities of Salt & Light: Reflections on the Social Mission of the Parish*[*http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/communities-of-salt-and-light-reflections-on-the-social-mission-of-the-parish.cfm*](http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/communities-of-salt-and-light-reflections-on-the-social-mission-of-the-parish.cfm)
* Become familiar with the CLC Vision and Mission Statements (see Comments)
* Become familiar with the ministries of the commission and all they have to offer

**On-going training expected:**

* Attend and participate in monthly meetings, convocations, and ongoing formation opportunities, such as retreats, when offered

**QUALIFICANTS OR SPECIAL SKILLS:** *Profile of an Ideal CLC Core Committee Member:*

* A person of prayer
* An active participant or member in at least one of the OMOS CLC ministries
* A person who is able to see issues from the viewpoint of others as well as his or her own perspective, to enter into discussion, and to make decisions in this light, i.e., a person who can work effectively as a member of a team.
* A person able to articulate the meaning and importance of the Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching.
* A person with the time and commitment to participate in the monthly Core Committee meetings, additional periodic meetings of the Full Commission, and ongoing formation of the entire Core Committee.

**COMPLIANCE REQUIRMENTS**: YES

**COMMENTS:**

*The following statements provide an overview of the vision and mission of the Christian Life Commission. Details about the individual ministries of the Commission can be found in the CLC brochure.*

**THE CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION'S   
OVERARCHING VISION**

Parishes are called to help people live their faith in the world; to help them understand and act on the social dimension of the gospel in their everyday lives as they live their roles as:  parents, friends, workers, students, owners, investors, citizens, caregivers, advocates, policy makers, and members of both local and global communities.  Through grace, in community, we are called to image the face of God to one another in times of suffering, times of joy, times of giving, and times of receiving. *[Eccl 3:1-8]*

**MISSION STATEMENT  
 OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION**

Anchored in prayer and worship, and formed through preaching, education and reflection, the people of Our Mother of Sorrows Parish engage in the Church's social mission of charity, justice, and peace within the framework of the **Christian Life Commission**.  This Commission celebrates the fact that the Holy Spirit calls and speaks to each of us in our everyday lives.

The Commission supports and fosters efforts within the parish to fulfill the Church's social mission by responding in an organized way to individual and societal needs.  Within and beyond the parish, the Commission enriches the dimensions of faith, family, and social life through its **I. Community Building** and **II. Community Health & Caring** ministry areas.  The Commission engages in outreach services and activities that promote charity, justice and peace through its **III. Charity & Outreach**and **IV. Social Change & Solidarity** ministry areas.

By these means, the Christian Life Commission seeks to build Our Mother of Sorrows Parish into a community of faith where all believers are challenged to bring God's charity, justice, and peace to a world in desperate need of the salt of the gospel and the light of Catholic teaching.