

St Robert's Guild Gazette

Winter/Spring Issue ~ 2017 - 2018



Rose Cuka
Editor

The New Year began with a murder! A "Mystery Murder Dinner" that is! Thanks to Circle 1 for hosting such a successful event! The 1960's themed party was truly inspired with costumes and signature 1960's drinks – all reminiscent of the era in which the Guild was founded!

The newly formed Focus Group began meeting in mid-January. Our goal is to update and make changes to the Guild that help it stay true to its core mission. The Focus Group is looking at the by-laws, the duties of leaders, the requirements of the Circles and much more. Our hope is that the Guild will be a supportive place for St. Robert's women and serve the parish and community as needed.

The Lenten Morning of Reflection will be Monday March 26. Sharon Doran, of Seeking Truth Bible Study, will be leading the retreat entitled "Two Princesses and You!" The talk will center on the healing of the woman with the hemorrhage and how we can reach out to Jesus for healing today. All are invited to attend. Watch the bulletin for registration information.

Veronica Wright, President of the Ladies' Guild

EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR - 2017/2018

March 1	*	Guild Board Meeting 7:00 PM
March 4	*	Donut Sunday
March 15	*	Circle #3 EPS Brunch
March 25	*	Circle #1 Easter Egg Hunt
March 26	*	Lenten Morning of Reflection
March 29	*	Seder Service
March 31	*	RCIA Reception
April 1	*	Easter Sunday
April 6	*	Guild Board Meeting 9:00 AM
April 7	*	Mother/Daughter Event
April 8	*	Donut Sunday
April 20	*	Social ~ Las Vegas Night
April 24	*	Fr. Stillmunk's Birthday
May 4	*	Spring Luncheon
May 13	*	May Crowning

Betsy Jo Rahn Reed

On January 2, 2018 our Heavenly Father opened His arms wide to welcome and embrace His faithful servant, Betsy Reed.

Betsy was well known, respected and loved within our parish family as well as our entire community.



She was born in Omaha on October 9, 1940, attended Blessed Sacrament elementary school and Holy Name High School. She then earned a B.A. in English Literature and Education from Duchesne College. Her love for education took her to Dundee Elementary where she taught all subjects to second grade students. She exchanged teaching in the OPS system for motherhood when their first son Rob was born. Son, Tim, would complete the family circle a few years later.

But before that, in 1965 she met and married Rob Reed. They set up housekeeping in West Omaha just in time to witness the beginning of a new parish, St. Robert Bellarmine. As charter members, Betsy was instrumental in developing and participating in the CCD program by coordinating and teaching in the Sunday Pre-School. She volunteered in the CCD office for nearly ten years. She was also very supportive of the Ladies Guild and actively offered her talents to that group in a variety of ways.

Her community service knew no bounds. She was an energetic leader and avid supporter of so many organizations offering her time and talent by chairing boards and fundraising campaigns. And in doing so touched many lives and hearts.

Her footsteps were guided by her strong faith and love of God. They took her to The Assistance League of Omaha; Campfire Girls' and Boys' Annual Benefit dinner; Chair of Children's Museum Gala; Omaha Community Playhouse; Chair of Omaha Symphony Debutante Ball; President of Omaha Town Hall Board; Chair of Creighton Prep BASH; President of Duchesne Academy Board of Trustees; Bergan Mercy Hospital Auxiliary and Chair of Candlelight Ball; New Cassel Development Campaign; Girls and Boys Town Trustee; Catholic Charities Foundation; Equestrian Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre - Lady of the Grand Cross; and Chair of YWCA Christmas of your dreams; EPS Auxiliary Board. This is only a short list of all the projects and organizations she supported.

She was inducted into the Holy Name Alumni Hall of Fame, and received the Spirit of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish Award and New Cassel Foundation Award.

Betsy packed a lot of living, volunteering and support into her lifetime. She spent countless hours in promoting her faith and ministering to so many, doing so with a humble attitude.

As we bid farewell to Betsy, we can only thank God for the gift she was to our Parish and our community. And we thank her family, Bob, Rob and Stacie, Tim and Mindy, and her grandchildren for sharing her with us all these years.

May she Rest in Peace.

CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

CIRCLE # 1 ~ "Celebrate and Serve"

Murder mystery...What fun everyone had while sleuthing for the culprit. Approximately 225 attendees enjoyed a delicious dinner, drinks and the 60's costumes. One table successfully surmised that "the butler did it!"

Mah Jongg lessons are the next endeavor of this Circle! Lessons will be **March 8th, 12th, 20th, and April 3rd** in the St. Robert's Meeting Rooms and start at 7:00 PM.

Learn the game at a cost of \$50 which will include your Mah Jongg card for both 2017 and the new 2018 card available after March 31. Cost is \$35 if you already know how to play.

All proceeds will go to Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, which supports children, young adults and families at risk with the overall goal of giving our state's most vulnerable kids what they need to reach their full potential. They work with communities to:

1. Prevent child abuse and neglect.
2. Ensure that every child can succeed in school.
3. Support youth in foster care as they transition to adulthood

So come and have some fun and fellowship while supporting a great charity for less than \$15 a night.

RSVP to Ann Zemann before February 20th at annzemann@cox.net and please indicate if you will be learning how to play or are refreshing your existing skills. Seats are limited.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Palm Sunday, March 21th on the field at 1 PM.

CIRCLE # 2 ~ "On a Wing & a Prayer"

Continuing the 50th anniversary theme, these ladies hosted a Golden Bake Sale on December 3rd. Gold ribbons encircled baked items and golden balloons enhanced the festive theme. It was a very successful event thanks to the donations of all the ladies of the parish. A holiday pot luck was enjoyed in January and their February plans are to socialize while enjoying a game night. They will prepare and serve dinner at the Hospice House in April.

CIRCLE # 3 ~ "Been There Done That"

A Christmas Brunch at Happy Hollow on December 14th was well attended and enjoyed by all, while the January meeting was cancelled due to Mother Nature sending bitter cold our way.

Sgt. Jeff Kopietz, an Omaha police officer and St. Robert's parishioner, was our February speaker. He provided us with a glimpse into the life of a police officer and his/her family. Sgt. Kopietz has served our Omaha community for 25 years, with 22 of those years as a SWAT team member. During that time he has dealt with the worst of the worst in criminality. He is also part of the Metro Fugitive Task Force and in that capacity is called upon day and night to serve warrants for the arrest of any and every type of criminal. His input was very informative and appreciated. We are so grateful for his dedication and the dedication of all our police officers who protect our community 24 hours a day.

We were reminded to keep them in our prayers.

COMMITTEES

BLOOD DRIVE

A successful drive was held on February 5th. Watch the bulletin for the next drive. The drive is held in the Mainelli Center from 1 - 6 PM. Schedule yourself for that time of walk in after 3 PM.

Visit redcrossblood.org (search sponsor code STROBERT) or contact Marie Kozel via text phone call at 402-680-0182.

GUILD SOCIALS

Las Vegas night is scheduled for April 20th. This committee is working hard for the success of this event. Raffle baskets will also be available.

MORNING OF REFLECTION

On March 26th, parishioners will be provided the opportunity to attend a timely and inspirational presentation by a noted speaker. What a great way to begin Holy Week. Sharon Doran, coordinator of "Seeking Truth Bible Study" will be our guest speaker. Mass will be at 8:30 with a 9:15 continental breakfast and talks beginning at 9:30 AM.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER

The date has been set...April 7th, a Saturday night event from 6:30 to 9:30 PM in the Mainelli Center. The evening promises to be a good time for all. More information will be forthcoming in the bulletin.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

These ladies meet every Tuesday at 1:00 PM in Room #3. All levels of knitting and crocheting are welcome. Yarn donations are most appreciated.

Contact Mary Jo at 402-333-5640 or Rita at 402-926-2282 with questions.

PRO LIFE

We had successful drives over Christmas as we sponsored the moms and babies at Mater Filius and donated items to EPS. Several members attended the Walk For Life in Lincoln in January.

The 40 Days for Life prayer spring campaign began February 14th. The dates of our parish participation were February 16th and the next is March 13th. To sign up for an hour go to:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050b49a5ae2a1-40days1> or contact Ann Bauer, ann.bauer@me.com.

This solemn prayer time is held at the Planned Parenthood facility on 93rd and Maple St.

SEDER MEAL

Lent is just beginning, but it will go quickly. Plan to attend our annual Seder Service on March 29th.

My apologies to Ginny Godkin, a Guild past president, whom I listed as possibly deceased in the last Gazette. Ginny is alive and well, living in Denver and keeps in touch with Omaha friends.