

Minutes Social Justice Commission 09/08/11

**Present:** Mary Margaret, Judy O'Fallon, Marcia Hartmann, Richard Hartmann, Bob Loechler, Margie Hake, John McGuire, John Orbeck, Ariel Caride

Also present: Mary Alessio from Catholic Charities and Terri Stockinger & Mary Ekker, representatives from the liturgy commission

**Opening prayer:** Last Sunday gospel.

**Minutes:** Approved with small changes.

**Advent project:** Mary Alessio gave a very moving overview of her work with refugees. The Advent project this year will be to gather support to help new refugees. More than half of the refugees are children and so items appropriate to that group will be included. Recently, Rochester has received many refugees from Iraq but Mary and her staff are preparing for new groups –Burmese from camps in Malasia and Butanese from camps in Nepal. Their first need will be housing but we will be able to help with supplies and financial support.

Mary brought materials we can use in the Advent project, including a beautiful tri-fold and a power point presentation. It was suggested to put the powerpoint in the Social Justice website.

There are Volunteer opportunities. Mary brought some brochures about that.

Important: let the refugees help.

Mary Alessio offered all kinds of little things to help.

For Advent they are going to focus on donations.

**Speakers series:** Susan Windley-Doust will speak on September 13. Most likely there will be left over sweets from the picnic that we can serve. Chairs will be set up in the Narthex. We will come at 6:30 to set-up the beverages and food, and to welcome the audience.

**Citywide Social Justice Meeting:** A report is in the newsletter. It was a positive meeting.

**Newsletter** is printed. We will be stuffing the bulletin on Sat. afternoon.

**IHN:** Holy Spirit week is October 9-16.. Lourdes Honor Students are going to prepare meals once a week and be evening hosts. Other news: In the apartment complex that is being built in Civic Center Dr. and 6<sup>th</sup> Ave NW there will be apartments for IHN families at low cost.

**Hunger Sunday** October 16 is Bread for the World Hunger Sunday. We are going to include either an insert or a note in the Bulletin.

**Sunday Lunch:** October 16.

**Closing Prayer**

Next meeting: October 6.