

Women's Club Planning Meeting

August 14, 2026

In attendance; Anita Ulshoeffer, Alice Zedonis, Chris Wodecki, Jean Graney, Dee Conway, Nancy Strycharz, Linda Rzeszutek, Emily Gallivan, Barb Rejniak and Lisa York.

1. Calendar of activities/meetings for the year was reviewed.
2. Wreath Raffle: Alice Zedonis and Jean Graney hope that Mary Grace will agree to be a co-chair. They are asking Angie Duquette to decorate the wreaths with the donated gift cards. In September they will get sign-ups for helpers.
3. Dee Conway brings leftover baked goods from the bake sale each year to Wright House for Women and she asked if we could ask people to donate small travel size hygiene products that she could bring to them as well. We decided to make that request part of the discussion for the Advent Giving Tree project in the fall. Dee will, first, ask the people at Wright Home what things they could use so we know what to ask for in contributions.
4. September 28, 2026 will be our Potluck Supper. Anita will include in the summer newsletter and in the church bulletin a request that women bring copies of their recipes for the dishes they bring to the potluck. Anita will ask members to bring dishes based on last name, as done in the past. Emily brings the paper goods. We can use the round tablecloths from the Latin Mass supplies as long as we wash them after.
5. Mary's Picnic is 2pm-4pm on September 13. Volunteers should arrive at 1pm. Fr. Sliwa is going to ask for volunteers to help set up and clean up. Alice Zedonis is coordinating Women's Club volunteers.
6. Bethlehem House fundraiser checks need to be made payable to OLV Women's Club. This will be stressed in publicity for the fundraiser.
7. The Holy Rosary Sodality and Women's Club combined Christmas party will likely be December 6, based on past years' dates.
8. The Boar's Head Festival sponsorship will be purchased by Barb Rejniak and reimbursed by the club. Barb will then purchase tickets and sell them to club members and other parishioners. Barb will see what the rates are as soon as the host church contacts her with the date the website goes live and then Barb will contact the Women's Club Board before proceeding. Barb will be in Los Angeles in

late October and that may affect her ability to purchase the tickets quickly. She'll stay in touch with the Board to make sure are all aware of her progress. It's a complicated process to give a sponsorship gift, select seats and purchase tickets, then sell the tickets to others and get reimbursed by them. Barb does not think she'll have the time or energy to coordinate a van to drive everyone since not all may want to ride together.

9. Dee suggested that another nice event for the club would be a dinner and show at Storowton Tavern. She has tickets to a dinner and Jimmy Mazz show.
10. The Advent Giving Tree project will be assumed by the Women's Club beginning this year. Anita is checking to see if Ann Cauley will stay involved and guide new volunteers for the project. Maybe Katie Sadakierski can get the Religious Education students to make the ornament tags for the tree.
11. Gift Bags for Homebound parishioners (only about 10 now) will be included as part of the Advent Giving Tree project. Chris Wodecki is willing to help with that. This is a project that came to the merged churches from Notre Dame, so they may be disappointed that the project had been dropped.
12. Lisa York has suggestions for events this year:
 - a. Flower arrangement with Annmary Boruchowski. Lisa will ask Annmary if she is available either March 22, 2027 or a Monday night in April. This would be an event by itself with no scheduled club meeting. Participants would pay a fee and get to take home an arrangement that they make themselves during the event.
 - b. Katie Sadakierski has already planned two events that need us to get the word out to others so the bus can be filled:
 - i. Saturday, Oct. 17 Pilgrimage to North American Martyrs Shrine in Auriesville, NY. They are suggesting a donation to cover the cost of the bus.
 - ii. Saturday, Dec. 5, trip to LaSalette. They are suggesting a donation to cover cost of bus.
13. Ministry Fair
 - a. Patron Saint—the group who met today unanimously agreed that we should keep the Blessed Mother Mary as our patroness since she has been as long as we can remember.
 - b. Table display—Dee and Anita will work on this.
 - i. Dee plans to make Kleenex holder pockets to give to attendees at the fair.
 - ii. We need to get volunteers to work at the display table each shift.

- iii. Anita has a collection of flyers of Women's Club events from recent years and she may use them to display in place of some photos although some photos will likely be included too.
 - iv. It was suggested that we keep a list available at the table to hand out to visitors so they can see certain volunteer tasks they can do one-time rather than having to commit on a committee or as a member of the club.
 - v. Alice Zedonis will get us a statue of Blessed Mother Mary from Angel's Attic to include at our table.
 - vi. Calendar of Events will be at the table.
 - vii. Angel's Attic has rosaries inside Mary prayer cards that they will get to us to have as handouts at our table.
 - viii. We can also print and laminate other prayer cards if we need/want.
- c. PSA video
- i. Along with the general definition of our mission, Katie asked if we can provide some history of the club and answer the PSA prompt questions she provided so she and Jay can have some material to share with viewers about what the Women's Club does and how others can help.
 - ii. Barbara will use notes taken from this meeting and put them together in an email. She'll share this with Anita before submitting it to Katie.
 - iii. PSA prompts brought these answers from the meeting participants today;
 1. How does your ministry serve God and His people? **Ans: The Women's Club serves God through its mission beyond ourselves and through fellowship among women.**
 2. How and why was your ministry started? How long has your ministry been serving at OLV? **Ans: In 1967 the pastor asked the women of the parish to come together to raise money for parish projects. The Catholic Women's Club was continued as a ministry in the parish after the merger of the three Easthampton Catholic parishes in 2010.**
 3. In which capacities may volunteers serve in your ministry? How many new volunteers became involved? **Ans: Volunteers serve in hospitality roles at many parish functions. The number of volunteers has averaged about 55 per year since the 2010 merger.**
 4. What is your most treasured memory of serving in your ministry? **Ans: The happiness we see from people we serve.**
 5. What most sets your ministry apart/makes it unique? **Ans: We are all women willing to serve as needed.**
 6. Who is your ministry's patron saint, and why? **Ans: Our patroness is the Blessed Mother as has been true as long as we can remember.**

7. How may we pray for you? The people whom you serve?
(Intentions? Special devotions to offer for your ministry?) **Ans:**
**Please pray that our membership increases and pray for
our good health.**