

Our Lady of Lourdes Social Justice Minutes June 12, 2025

Present: Karen Streich, Patti Sereno, Kevin Kane, Emily Kane, Sister Dianna, Steve Szymanski, Margaret Kelley, Jim Gill, Mary Conarchy, Pat McKay, Eileen O'Connor, and new member Sue Volz

The meeting opened with a prayer at 6:35.

Final Plans: Immigration: Fiction, Fact, & Faith

Seventy-four have registered to date. Rooms A, B, and C have been reserved. Committee members volunteered to provide juice (Patti, Emily and Kevin) and cookies (Mary C., Patti, Eileen, Sister Dianna). Karen and Cherie volunteered to register sign ins. Sr. Dianna will ask walk-in guests to sign their name, parish, and e-mail. Deb Steppe will provide an opening welcome. Pat will provide a prayer and then introduce the speaker, Darryl Morin. Committee members are requested to arrive at 6:00 pm. An unobtrusive basket will be available for those who wish to make a donation. Any amount collected will be donated to *Forward Latino*, the organization which Daryl Morin directs.

Racial Justice Catholic Collaborative News

At the June 4 meeting: Jeremy Booth from the Community Center for Immigrants informed members about the counseling, tutoring and advocacy work of his group. On August 17, St. William's parish in Waukesha will sponsor an afternoon program where attorneys will work with immigrants on a one-on-one basis.

No Kings Protest

Demonstrations will be held Saturday, June 14, beginning at 10:00 am. The closest one to Our Lady of Lourdes takes place on 76th and Layton. Maps of other locations can be found on the internet.

Kinship Cafe Visit

Kinship Cafe is a Black-owned restaurant. Mary Y., Karen, Jim, Steve, Sister Dianna, Pat, Cherie, and Sue Volz will have lunch there at noon on June 23rd as part of committee's effort to support Black businesses.

Community Garden

The Community Garden, located on 9th and Ring Streets, has been created to serve youth living on the near North side. Their website lists several volunteer opportunities, one of which is just to drop in to see the activities in person. It is open every Saturday. Via email, Pat will invite members to join her on a Saturday in July or August.

Research Paper Products for OLOL Events

Although, we have a plethora of styrofoam remaining, once it has been used, we would like to start using a product that is more environmentally friendly. Steve asked for a volunteer to research possibilities. Our new member, Sue, volunteered.

Ministry Fair

OLOL has decided to provide a ministry fair on Thursday, July 17 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm. The fair will include a table for every ministry. This fair is an opportunity for people to learn how they can become involved in the various activities and ministries offered by OLOL. We are hoping to entice people with added enjoyment of providing potluck appetizers. More information will be forthcoming. Committee members will take turns at the table. More information will arrive by email.

All Saints Church News

The Pastoral Council supports our becoming more involved with All Saints. Patricia Fabian said that All Saints could be added to the Contribution Slips on a rotating basis. Rodney Van Bibber, head of the All Saints meal program, will be invited to speak at GIFT. The tentative date is November 2.

Information for the All Saints summer meal program is on the SJ website. There will also be a flyer in the bulletin. The dates for July are 8, 10, 22, and 24; for August, the 5th and 7th. This is the third summer of OLOL's participation.

Plans for Derrick Mosely Presentation on September 15

Derrick's topic will be *Blacks in History*. Mary C. will do the flyer. Committee members will provide juice and cookies. Since the next SJ meeting is just prior to the presentation, further information will be via email.

Community Events

The **Juneteenth** celebration is next Thursday; June 19 It will begin with Mass at 8:00 am at St. Martin De Porres followed by various events on Martin Luther King Drive.

The Milton House Tour (part of the Underground Railroad) is being sponsored by the Social Justice Ministry of the Milwaukee Archdiocese. The bus departs at 7:30 am on July 19th.

A Zoom presentation, *White Supremacy and American Christianity – Faith or Fiction* will occur on June 28 at 11:00 am CDT. Father Bryan Massingale and Dr. Robert Jones are the scheduled presenters. Check the web address networklobby.org for registration.

A flyer will be placed on the SJ bulletin board describing a **Free Day Camp for adults and children with special needs**.

On August 6th, the committee on nonviolence will hold a short **prayer service** commemorating the eightieth anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima.

On the fourth Wednesday of every month from 11:00 am to noon, a demonstration is held in front of the Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility on 10th and State in support of the **national campaign to end solitary confinement**.

The International Day of Nonviolence is upcoming in October.

Open Wide Our Hearts column: July - Mary Y, August - Karen, September - Sister Dianna

Our next meeting is September 11.

The meeting closed at 7:40 with the Prayer for the Homebound.