

Our Lady of Lourdes Social Justice Meeting Minutes October 16, 2025

Present: Mary Conaarchy, Terry Falk, Sister Diana DeBruin, Kevin Kane, Steve Szymanski, Patti Sereno, Margaret Kelley, Pat McKay, Eileen O'Connor

The Meeting opened with a prayer at 6:30 pm.

Prayers for SJ members with health issues:

Committee members are asked to pray for Emily Kane who broke a bone in her shoulder (had surgery) and for John Wolfe who is undergoing cancer treatment. Pat passed cards to sign to assure them both of our concern and prayers. Pat will send their addresses so we can send personal cards.

Judge Derek Mosley Presentation:

There was a great turnout and the responses were positive and provided ideas for future topics. Many requests to have Judge Mosley return.

Considerations for Future Events:

- April Mass of *Our Kinship with Nature* Liturgy
- Native American speaker or presentation
- Dan Terrio, Milwaukee Director of DEI (Steve sent committee members an article and a TED talk given by Mr. Terrio.)

Nonviolence Prayer Service:

The service was held on November 1st, the International Day of Nonviolence, with a large number attending. As the response for this event was so positive, the committee will consider holding a nonviolence prayer service on a regular basis. Thank you to the nonviolence subcommittee for planning this event.

SJ Budget:

Every time we offer an event, there are costs involved, and we have been covering the costs by using money from our memorial fund, but this will not support us forever. We will consider having donation baskets available at future events. Often, when we have not had baskets available, attendees have asked where to put donations.

All Saints Meal Program:

Our Lady of Lourdes is now helping out at the meal program in November and December. We need one more volunteer for each of these two months. Donations for All Saints will be included on the OLOL donation slips in 2026.

All Saints Choir

The Choir will sing at the 4:00 pm Mass on November 15. The committee members will prepare snacks for a gathering after the Mass. Pat will email a sign-up sheet for members to volunteer their contributions. All Saints choir presentation for Black History month will take place on February 27, beginning at 6:30 pm.

SJ Website Updates:

Mary Botsford and Pat McKay will be meeting with Marc regarding the updates, and they will provide more complete information at the November SJ meeting.

SJ Website Nonviolence Corner Monthly Topic Update:

November is Native American Heritage Month – Be sure to check the website.

Opportunities for Involvement:

- City of Milwaukee residents, please contact your alderperson asking that the **Justice Point Municipal Court** contract be renewed. Justice Point works with people who have outstanding municipal tickets, but due to difficulties in navigating the system are unable to pay or otherwise manage them. People with unpaid municipal tickets are frequently denied treatment and other needed services, and many landlords will not rent to individuals with outstanding tickets. Steve sent committee members a Journal-Sentinel article about the contract.
- On October 18 “**No Kings**” rallies will be held throughout the city from 10:00-11:30 am. These rallies are national and also include rallies around the world. You can check the No Kings website for a site near you. The nearest one to OLOL will be on 76th and Layton Streets.
- On October 19 Stephanie Rhodes will be speaking at the Greendale Community Church, 6015 Clover Lane from 4-6:00 pm about her work with **SURJ** (Showing Up for Racial Justice).
- November 2nd from 5:30-8:00 pm **Love Your Neighbor Immigration Series** will be held at Holy Apostles Parish. A presentation by Fr. Javier Busto, a meal, prayer, and singing will be included.
- A weekly gathering is held on Fridays at ICE Headquarters on Knapp Street from 9:00-10:00 am.
- Monthly vigils are held on the 23rd of each month in front of the Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility on 10th and State Streets to protest ongoing lockdowns at Green Bay and Waupun Correctional Facilities.
- Wednesday, October 22 – **One Church, One Family: Public Witness for Immigrants** will take place at Cathedral Square Park from 5:30-7:00 pm. Bishop Jeffrey Haines will lead a candlelight procession.

Open Wide Spotlight Articles:

November, Kevin; December, Eileen

Next Meeting: November 13

November Prayer: Karen

Closing: Prayer for the Homebound and included Emily Kane and John Wolfe

Adjourned: 7:20 pm.