

Ministry Highlight: Columbiettes



Hi! My name is Judy Holtz, and I am the President of the Columbiettes.

The Columbiettes is an organization of women dedicated to doing God's work by promoting His love for all through works of charity, service to others, and prayer. Modeled after the Knights of Columbus, the organization spans the United States. Saint Joseph Parish has one of only 10 Columbiette Auxiliaries in Pennsylvania. Our auxiliary was instituted in 2005 and in the past 18 years, we have grown to 53 members. Our patronesses are the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Thérèse The Little Flower, and Saint Joan of Arc. Like Saint Thérèse, we understand that simple acts of kindness and sacrifice are great acts of love.

Christmas Fest is the major fund raiser for our auxiliary each year. The proceeds from this event enable us to make charitable contributions to many organizations and activities in our parish and community. This past year we provided scholarships/tuition assistance to seminarians, Trinity High School, and Saint Joseph School. We made monetary donations to Holy Family Radio, the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius, our parish's Lenten Supper and Speaker Series, our parish's Vacation Bible School, Lourdes House, Morning Star Pregnancy Services, Sisters of Christian Charity, and many others.

We have provided service as ushers for our parish's Advent and Lenten community penance services, collected personal care items for Silence of Mary Home twice a year, and supplied desserts for the parish picnic. Our members give school supplies to our Backpack Ministry, which are given to one or more local schools in need, and our members give personal care items to our Shoebox Ministry for the Bethesda Mission Men's and Women's Shelters in Harrisburg.

In addition to works of charity and service, we welcome speakers to our meetings, make pilgrimages to a local shrine, and enjoy an annual Christmas Party

If you are a woman 18+ and would like more information about joining the Columbiettes, please contact our President, Judy Holtz, at holtzjudith@gmail.com.



I really enjoy the fellowship of my Sister Columbiettes. They are a group of loving and generous women working together for the good of our parish and community. They live and share their faith, helping me to grow spiritually. - Ann Sprague, Auxiliary Member

I joined the Columbiettes to perform works for God, our Church, and the community and also for the fellowship of liked minded women that I consider my friends. - Rose Mikolajczak, Auxiliary Member

I joined the Columbiettes to get to know people in the parish. I have made good friends and I love doing things for the Parish and Father Rozman. - Melissa Little, Auxiliary Member

Being a Columbiette has let me make new friends and allowed me to help others in need. I feel so blessed being a part of the Columbiettes. - Phyllis Messenger, Auxiliary Member

Being a Columbiette gives me opportunities to make Holy Moments! - Diane Freundel, Auxiliary Vice-President