

Dear Ladies of Our Lady of the Prairie Church,

Greetings to you from the president of the Council of Catholic Women (CCW)!

The CCW is a vital part of the parish's support network. All registered women of Our Lady of the Prairie are members of the CCW. Our mission is to unite the women of the parish more closely in the family of Christ through a program of prayer, study and good works. We also care for the altar and sanctuary. It is through the membership dues and our fundraising events that we are able to fulfill our mission.

We are in the process of restructuring the CCW to make it easier for all women to find a place they are excited to serve and support our parish community. Currently, we have six (6) circles that serve the parish. We would like to create groups that align with our mission. Each of these groups would serve the parish in a more efficient way. These groups would entail the following services: Funerals, Altar Needs, Community Service, Prayer Life, Communications, and Church Social Events. Each of these groups would have several volunteer opportunities/events so that each woman can share her unique talents. More details about each of these groups can found on the back of this letter.

Please complete the request for information at the bottom of this letter and return it by March 27, 2016. You can drop it off at the church office, place it in the weekly collection basket, or mail it to Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church c/o 200 E Church St, Belle Plaine, MN 56011.

Thank you for helping make Our Lady of the Prairie a vibrant parish community!

CCW President, Georgine Gansen

\_\_\_\_ I would like to be an Active Member in one or more of the groups listed on the back (\$10.00 annual dues)

\_\_\_\_ I would like to be a member and pay \$20.00 annual dues

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate events/volunteer opportunities that you are interested in:

## **Highlights of Events and Volunteer Opportunities by Service Group:**

### **Funerals**

The CCW helps serve meals and set up and clean up at parish funerals. Time Commitment: As needed on a 6 month rotation (April-September and October-March)

### **Altar Needs**

The CCW cleans the sanctuary, decorates for the liturgical seasons, cares for the plants and flowers, and washes the altar linens and altar server robes. Time Commitment: As needed or up to once a month

### **Community Service**

The CCW participates in Meals on Wheels, Cancer Home Bake Sale, MCCL flower sale, social justice programs such as Families Moving Forward, and our Annual Clothing Swap. Time Commitment: As needed or up to once a year

### **Prayer Life**

The CCW facilitates the parish prayer chain, prayer shawl gatherings, and praying the rosary at funerals. We also support the RCIA (Rites of Christian Initiation for Adults) program and provide baptismal garments for our newest parish members. Time Commitment: As needed or up to once a month

### **Communications**

The CCW would like to communicate to all women of the parish with website updates and flyers informing them about upcoming events. Events include, but not limited to, Archdiocesan sponsored events, local CCW events, and WINE (Women In the New Evangelization). Time Commitment: As needed

### **Church Social Events**

The CCW sponsors the, Donut Sundays, Summer Parish Picnic, Cookies/Candy by the Pound, Tea parties, and other events. Time Commitment: once a month or up to once a year.

February 2016