



VISION

The Social Ministry Committee encompasses social outreach (faithful action) with spirituality (through Catholic Social Teaching formation), to integrate an awareness of social justice and charity into all aspects of parish life.

2023 YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

JUSTICE & PEACE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

[Justice And Peace | Sacred Heart Catholic Church \(sacredheartnorfolk.org\)](https://sacredheartnorfolk.org)

Monday, November 6th, 2023, | 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm | Sacred Heart Church, Commons

Attendees: Frank Murphy, Patricia Britz, Mike Stark, Francesca Smith, Melissa Marquardt, Greg LaMontagne

Guest Speaker: Tracey Fick, President and CEO of Catholic Charities of Eastern VA

Frank welcomed and thanked all attendees. The goals of the meeting are for each ministry to give a short report of their current activities, and for guest speaker, Tracey Fick to share about the work of Catholic Charities of Eastern VA.

Special intentions: Fr. Paul, Pastor at Sacred Heart, and Fr. Fitho, Pastor at our twin parish, St. Gabriel, Haiti. The souls of our beloved departed: Rev. James Kauffmann, Neil Walsh, Gar Housler, Eileen Powell, Ellen Renn, and Nicolas Valcour. Peace with Justice in Ukraine, Haiti, Gaza, and in the world, fair treatment of immigrants, a stop to human trafficking, empowerment of the poor, protecting the unborn, respect of the environment, victims of wars, conflicts, and climate change.

Melissa offered the opening prayer, — Sun. Nov. 5th, Gospel, *Matthew 23:1-12*, & a reflection followed by all. Service is based on the accompaniment of the community we serve. This accompaniment empowers the person in need of services toward increased capacity and independence.

Patricia introduced [Tracy Fick, President & CEO](#) Tracy has been with Catholic Charity of Eastern VA for ten years, serving as the CEO since July 2022. She volunteers with her church, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Norfolk and has a special affinity for organizations in Haiti serving orphans. Tracy is passionate about her work since she sees how the hard work of accompaniment leads to the empowerment of many individuals and families CC serves.

SIGNS OF THE TIME | ARTICLE

THE SIGNS OF THE TIME: Catholic Virginian—[Home Page - Biweekly Newspaper for the Diocese of Richmond \(catholicvirginian.org\)](#)

[Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia works to empower mothers](#) By Jennifer Neville, Special to The Catholic Virginian / October 26, 2023

UPDATES

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF EASTERN VA || Tracy reported that for 90 years, Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia has been serving vulnerable populations of every race, creed, and background in Hampton Roads. The organization strives to serve the whole person and strengthen families. Services include pregnancy, parenting and adoption support, mentoring initiatives, mental health counseling, financial and housing counseling, public and private guardianship, and senior services. With five offices spanning the region, the organization aids more than 10,000 families annually. CCEVA was recognized as United Way of South Hampton Roads' 2020 Agency of the Year. For more information, visit www.cceva.org. Tracy distributed some literature including the 2023 Annual Report.

OFFICE OF SOCIAL MINISTRIES | Director Tina Wandersee sent the 3 following Save the Dates in her November Newsletter.



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CRS Rice Bowl Kickoff Event

Tuesday, November 14th, 2:00pm, Location: Zoom

Join Catholic Relief Services and chapter members, club advisors, parish and diocesan leaders, and partners from across the country for an interactive workshop about preparing for CRS Rice Bowl.

This is an exclusive opportunity to learn what CRS Rice Bowl will be offering for Lent 2024, to share best practices with other leaders and to begin your planning. We hope to see you there!

Diocesan Haiti Gathering

Saturday February 17, 2024, 10:00am - 2:00pm, Location: St. Bede Catholic Church - Williamsburg

The Diocesan Haiti Gathering will be held at St. Bede Catholic Church in Williamsburg. This gathering will include a keynote speaker, various breakout sessions, and lunch.

Registration fee: \$10 - Registration Link Coming Soon

Shine Conference

Saturday, March 2, 2024, 9:00am - 3:00pm, Location: Church of the Redeemer - Mechanicsville

The Shine Conference is a diocesan-wide gathering for all those doing the works of Social Ministry, living out of the Catholic Social Teachings of the Church, and/or are interested in learning about ways to engage in the Social Teaching of the Church. There will be breakout sessions for Prison Ministry, Racial Justice, Haiti Ministry, Migrant/Refugee Ministry, Parish Social Ministry, and more; Mass led by Bishop Knestout; and a keynote speaker to ground us in CST. It will be a day to nourish and assist those doing the work of social ministry, to foster growth in their work and relationships with each other and God, and to better equip those interested in the work to be able to begin. Registration fee: \$15 - Registration Link Coming Soon

PARISH | All

First Friday this month, Nov. 3, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm, with dinner. Guest speaker was Innocent Smith, O.P. This event was well attended. Children had their own activities. Fr. Smith is visiting Assistant Professor of Dogmatic Theology and Pastoral Studies at the Dominican House of Studies, Washington, DC. Fr. Smith's 2023 monograph, [Bible Missals and the Medieval Dominican Liturgy](#), focuses on medieval bibles which contain liturgical texts for the celebration of the Mass.

Sandra Bryant is no longer volunteering at the Church Office because of work.

PPC | Frank reported Fr. Paul had Parish Leadership Opportunities Form for 2023 placed in pews. The nominated people will be invited to participate in a discernment session in early Nov. to give them more info. on the commitment. Nominations ended Oct. 28th, 2023. The form includes the responsibilities of the PPC, and eligibility. The main objective of the Parish Pastoral Council is "to promote pastoral activity that will help the parish achieve its supreme purpose; the salvation of souls."

J&P CALENDAR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2023 | Frank

MINISTRIES' UPDATED REPORTS



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1. THANKSGIVING BASKET | Karen set the table in the Commons and wrote this bulletin note. We are collecting non-perishable food to distribute to several area agencies. Grab a bag after Mass, fill it, and bring it back to Sacred Heart no later than Sun. Nov. 19th. Shopping list and the agencies we serve are listed on the website. We need help sorting and packing the food. Contact Karen Latham to volunteer, and please note "Thanksgiving Baskets" in the subject line: karenobertal@aol.com

Monday, November 20th (3-5 PM): pack the grocery bags for distribution

Tuesday, November 21st (9-11AM): load vehicles

2. ADVENT GIVING TREE | Pam set the table in the Commons, and wrote this bulletin note. Our Advent tradition of providing gifts for our friends at St. Gabriel parish in Haiti, as well as the children of the migrant workers on Virginia's Eastern Shore continues this year, with [online signups](#) only. The websites will be active on November 1 and will continue through December. We have the names of the children, from infants to 12 years old, from the Eastern Shore. For each one we have the name, age, clothing size and toy preference. We prefer new gifts but will accept gently used. You may give both clothing and a toy if you wish. Wrapped gifts, with the child's name and number firmly attached, must be brought to the church by **Sunday, Dec. 10th**.

We have the names of the children 8th and 9th graders at St. Gabriel parish who are in need of textbooks. We are asking for monetary donations to purchase books for these students. Those donations can be made online, to the office or in the collection basket. **Please write Haiti Giving Tree/Textbooks in the memo line** of your check. If you have any questions, you can contact Pam Housler at 757-536-2442 or pamhousler@cox.net. Thank you for your generosity to the children that depend on us.

3. BREAD FOR THE WORLD'S OFFERING OF LETTERS | Mike

Bread for the World is a Christian advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger. Our mission is to educate and equip people to advocate for policies and programs that can help end hunger in the U.S. and around the world. <https://www.bread.org/>

4. CARE FOR CREATION | Frank reported

Keep Norfolk Beautiful: The clean-up of our section of Princess Anne Road was accomplished on Saturday, October 14 with four parishioners. We hope more will come on our next one in February or March. We will ask Sister Linh about encouraging the Youth groups to help as not only a Parish service but also as a way to have volunteer hours for their various school/club service hours.

Jane has spoken with Sister Linh and Sister has indicated that she would like to do Lenten recycling projects in the Spring. We can help facilitate those.

Also we might be able to obtain the KNB magnets for parishioners to put on refrigerators to serve as a reminder about recycling dates and events.

Earth Day: Earth Day is Monday, April 22, 2024. The theme for 2024 is *Planet vs. Plastics*. Projects for that will be addressed at the beginning of the year.

Reduction of waste: Frank invited Francesca Smith to our meeting to discuss the ways we might be able to reduce the distribution of the Bulletins at the end of Mass. She will mention to the ushers not to "push" the Bulletins but feels that they are doing much of that at this point. We really need to determine how many are left each Sunday for a few weeks to see if this is possible.



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Education: The Bulletin Notes are finished for the year. Now that the PPC has approved our participation in the Laudato Si Platform (see appropriate note below), Jane will try to incorporate aspects of that into the 2024 Bulletin Notes.

Youth and Family Programs: Sister Linh is intending several education programs for the Lenten season, one (at least) that will include a practical project. Jane will work with her to develop one or two that will reflect Care for Creation goals.

5. CATHOLIC WORKER | Steve sent out the Catholic Worker Fall Newsletter. It includes a schedule of activities and vigils. Breakfast on the streets, Black Lives Matter vigil, Vigil against war, for nonviolence and nuclear disarmament, and Hampton Roads Campaign to Abolish Nuclear. Also, there is a list of current needs including:

Volunteers: to serve breakfast on the streets, make sandwiches or drive guests to appointments.

Food: ground coffee, quick grits, salted butter, sugar, creamer, family size tea bags, salt and pepper, fresh produce, rice, pasta, beans, tomato products.

Clothing: men's durable clothes (winter: warm jackets, gloves, pants, hoodies, long johns, men's belts and boxers (32-36, and white crew socks.

6. CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS) | Frank shared the follow

Tuesday, November 14th, 2:00pm, Location: Zoom

Join Catholic Relief Services and chapter members, club advisors, parish and diocesan leaders, and partners from across the country for an interactive workshop about preparing for CRS Rice Bowl.

This is an exclusive opportunity to learn what CRS Rice Bowl will be offering for Lent 2024, to share best practices with other leaders and to begin your planning. We hope to see you there!

7. DIGNITY OF LIFE | Francesca reported DIGNITY OF LIFE WORKSHOP All are invited to write Christmas cards to our church community, Monday, November 27th, 10:00 am-11:30 am, in the Commons. Please bring 8 Religious Christmas cards and stamps. Bulletin notes and a flyer have been sent to the office. Have requested the names of parishioners 80 and above. The office will address and send the envelopes.

8. HAITI TWINNING | Patricia reported. We remain in close contact with Fr. Fitho via Whatsapp. The school ended its first quarter with exams the last week in Oct. All Souls Day vacation followed, Nov. 1st-7th. 2-yard sales to help feed the children, 1 sale at a time are scheduled Nov. 4th and 18th outside Colley Ave. Antique Store. Advent Giving Tree has started online, Nov. 1st. It will provide some textbooks for 2 grades. Nov. 18th is the Battle of Vertieres celebration, the last major battle of the Haitian Revolution under Jean Jacques Dessalines. Also, various pen pal notes were sent to friend parishioners this month. Fr. Paul did the 1st quarter wire transfer in October. We are on track with the plan of supporting the following funds: scholarships, medical, teacher, lunch, and sustainable project/building and outfitting.

9. SOUP KITCHEN | Christopher

Sacred Heart Soup Kitchen serves 50 - 60 hot meals to our guests, in person every Sunday. Each Sunday has its own cook and serving team captain. The cooking team captains create the meal menu, acquire the ingredients, and lead the cooking volunteers. Our serving team volunteers set up the tables, plate the meal, serve our guests, and clean up the commons afterward.



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COMMUNITY PARTNERS

GHENT AREA MINISTRY | Frank reported that the Board will meet Thursday, November 9th. Frank and Patricia will attend.

VA SUPPORTIVE HOUSING | Nancy Perry, Major Gift Officer sent those dates for two tours of the following facility.

Heron’s Landing in Chesapeake at 10:30 a.m. on November 8th

Crescent Square in Virginia Beach at 10:30 a.m. on November 9th

NOVEMBER	
FOOD SECURITY, BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY	
Sundays	Soup Kitchen
Tues./Thur./Sat. weekly	Catholic Worker, Soupline
11/1-	All Saints Day
*11/4-	Advent Giving Tree Display (Children of the Eastern Shore & St. Gabriel's)
11/6-	Justice & Peace Meeting, 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm, Commons
11/14-	<i>Haiti Twinning Ministry 6:00 pm light dinner, meeting 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm, Commons</i>
11/4-	Sat., Thanksgiving Basket am Set Up-Commons
11/4&18	Yard Sales, outside Ghent Antiques Store, 1414 Colley Ave, Norfolk, 10:00 am-2:00 pm
11/4&5-	Week 1-Thanksgiving Baskets: pulpit announcement, shopping list & dates in bulletin. Link on the Sacred Heart Website with updated shopping list/dates
11/ 11&12	Week 2-Thanksgiving Baskets: pulpit announcement, shopping list & dates in bulletin. Link on the Sacred Heart Website with updated shopping list/dates
11/18 & 19-	Ministry Fair
11/18 & 19-	Week 3-All nonperishable food due by 4 p.m. Sun. Nov. 19, Pulpit Announcement
11/19-	Memorial Mass Neil Walsh
Sun. 11/19-	Thanksgiving Baskets: Sacred Heart Youth Sort & Count Food, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
11/20 Mon.	Thanksgiving Baskets: Volunteers pack food in reusable grocery bags, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
11/20-	Care For Creation Meeting, 7:00 pm-8:15 pm-Commons
Tues. 11/21-	Tues. 9:00 am Fr. Paul blesses food, Agencies pick-up bags, 9:00 am - 11:00 am
*11/23-	Thanksgiving Day
11/27-	Writing to our Elder, 10 am-11:30 am —Christmas Dignity of Life

DECEMBER	
CHARITY, PREFERENTIAL OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE, CHILDREN EASTERN SHORE & HAITI	
Sundays	Soup Kitchen



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Tues./Thur./Sat. weekly	Catholic Worker, Soupline
12/2-3-	Fair-Trade Festival 11:00 am - 8:00 pm & 11:00 am - 5:00 pm (HTM Joins Tidewater Sowers of Justice) Elation Brewing/Colley Ave.
12/3-	Memorial Mass Neil Walsh
12/2&3	Advent Giving Tree (Eastern Shore and Saint Gabriel Children)
12/4-	Justice & Peace Advent Gathering/Dinner, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm, (all members of J&P ministries, family & friends)
12/12-	<i>Haiti Twinning Ministry (HTM) 6:00 pm light dinner, meeting 6:30 pm - 7:30, Commons</i>
12/18-	Care For Creation Meeting, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm-Commons
12/9-10-	Advent Giving Tree (Eastern Shore and Saint Gabriel Children)
12/10-	Return All Gifts for Eastern Shore Children
12/11-	Pick up Eastern Shore Children
12/16&17	Sign-Up AGT (St. Gabriel's Children) Donations accepted until Epiphany
12/25	Nativity of Our Lord

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Yard Sale Nov. 4 & Nov. 18, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Outside Ghent Antiques Store Colley Ave.—Food Security
- Thanksgiving Baskets Nov. 4th-19th—Food Security
- Advent Giving Tree Nov. 1st- Epiphany—Bringing Hope

NEXT, IN LIEU OF J&P MEETING: Mon., Dec. 4th, 2023, | 6:00 pm-7:30 pm, in Commons

J&P Advent Potluck Dinner, all J&P volunteers, family members, community partners, and friends are invited. RSVP to Patricia and Frank

Melissa offered the closing prayer, Let Peace Be Our Way.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PARTNERS | **Tina Wandersee**, Director of the Diocesan Office of Social Ministries (1/11/23, 9/11/23, weekly communication), **Fr. Tochi Iwuji**, Director of the diocesan Office for Black Catholics, **Maggie Keenan**, Director of Legacy Giving, Diocesan Office (2/5/23), Norfolk Community Service Board Program Administrator Housing & Homeless Services, **Timothy Giddens** GAM Director (10/4/22), **Nancy Perry** Major Gift Officer, VA Supportive Housing/Richmond (2/6/23, 6/6/23, 9/11/23), **Steve Baggarty** Norfolk Catholic Worker & Sowers of Justice (guest 10/2/23), Jimmy Culpepper CRS & Immigration (5/1/23), **Jay Brown** CCC, , **Marla Newby** Reentry Coordinator, **Ed Marroni** Holy Family/Environment & Sowers of Justice (10/4/21 guest), **Pam Boatwright** Elizabeth River Projects, **Fleta Jackson** Keep Norfolk Beautiful, **Stephanie Cuffee** | Volunteer Coordinator FoodBank of Southeastern VA & The Eastern Shore (guest, 3/7/22), **Jeff Caruso** VA Catholic Conference, **Wendy Manos**, Crisis Pregnancy Center of Tidewater (02/07/22, Sizzlers 2022) **Louantha Kerr**, Director Hope 4 Life (Cheri Britt 6/21 guest), **Joann Wagner** (Birthright Pregnancy Center), **Denise Parker** Health Educator-FAMIS Department of Medical Assistance Services Commonwealth of Virginia (5/3/21 guest), **Kathy Bredimus** St. Peter the Apostle's Migrant Worker Coordinator (12/14/22 picked up Christmas gifts), **Tracy Fick** Director & CEO Catholic Charity (guest 11/6/23), **Andrea Wiegard**, Catholic Charity, Senior Care Program (5/9/22 guest), **Mary Ann Gower**, Senior In-Home Services Coordinator (5/9/22), **Natasha Zoby**, Disability Services **UpCenter** Director (1/9/23 guest), Jimmy Culpepper, Teresa Stanley, Sally Andrews-**Gudas Interface Immigration Legal Assistance Fund** (5/1/23)



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