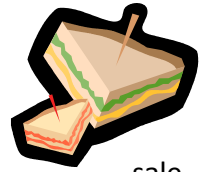


St. Rita's Ladies Group

Update January 2010

St. Rita's Ladies Group is a service group serving St. Pius X. When CWL was organized in 1955, there were 200 members so individual groups were formed and each group was named after a Saint. Other than the CWL St. Rita's Group is the only group which has remained active. Most of our members are also CWL members.

Our group applies their culinary skills in many different ways. We provide lunches following funerals for a nominal fee, serving seven in 2009. This is a service to the parish and allows us to raise money to support our various projects and charities. We also gather as a group to make our famous pies. Last year we made close to 200 pies which we sold at Father's Day and Thanksgiving. In the fall we got together as a group and made three batches of Antipasto. Our group is in charge of the bake sale for the Annual Christmas Bazaar & Bake Sale. Our members donate at least 80 per cent of the baking.



Our other activities include hosting a Continental Breakfast in February. The money from this is used to buy underwear, socks, etc. which are donated to the Mustard Seed. In the spring we do a meal for Inn From the Cold, which we find very rewarding. Twice a year we make 50 loaves of sandwiches for the Manna Ministry Monthly Sandwich project. At our Christmas party we each bring a gift to be given to Avenue 15.

Some of our members and friends knit and crochet afghans, knit worry dolls, sew dream pillows and bags for the dolls. These are donated to the Sheriff King Women's Shelter, where they are used in therapy sessions for the children and mothers. Last year we donated 99 worry dolls, 32 afghans and 110 bags for dolls, plus new clothing for the children and toiletries for the mothers. As these are voluntarily donated, no price value can be put on the articles which involve many hours of work. The satisfaction you receive from knowing how much they are appreciated is all we need. The pattern for 'Worry Dolls' can be found on the parish website if you'd like help with the knitting [stpiusx.ca/ Social Action Committee / Social Action page / St. Rita's]



We supply layettes to the Louise Dean School and the Kara Center. We have a baby shower in October where we receive lovely clothing for the babies and we use funds to buy other needed articles to complete the layettes. In 2009 we have provided 34 layettes to these two schools. The average cost of a layette is approximately \$80, representing a donation of \$2,720 from our group.

This past year we served the tea and goodies for the Shamrock Tea in March and the Harvest Tea in October. These were fund-raising events for our Facilities Expansion Fund. We raised \$236 in March and \$263 in October for a total donation of \$499.

One of our members has kept track of our volunteer hours for the last year and as a group we have given approximately 990 hours of our time.

We do take time for socializing with our fellow members and spouses. We hold a pot luck BBQ in June and a Christmas pot luck that are well attended. The ladies try and go out for lunch through the year.

Yes we are a busy group but we know the friendships made and the satisfaction of working together for the Parish are very satisfying. We do welcome new members. We meet the 4th Wednesday morning of every month, in one of our member's homes. Some of our members are unable to attend our meetings but can help with our activities. If anyone is interested in joining our group please contact myself Margaret Anne Quinn (403-274-1433); Marie Dumas (403-239-2755) or Laverna Jennings (403-289-2157).

Donations made in 2009

Manna Ministry	\$500.00
Servants Anonymous	500.00
St. Vincent de Paul	1,000.00
Rosedale Hospice	500.00
Fridge for Hall	921.47
Mustard Seed	500.00
Food Bank	500.00
* Sanctuary Light	1,307.86
Facilities Fund-raising	499.00

(*Purchased with memorial money from two of our former members of our group.)

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Anne Quinn
President St. Rita's Group