

# New Jersey State Council Columbiettes



## Women of God



Spring 2022

ECHO

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## STATE OFFICERS

### President, Nadine Lecorchick

Greetings from the State of New Jersey

New Jersey has been busy with Initiations. The board did a zoom meeting for Presidents and Financial Secretaries to help them maneuver the Supreme Website. The website happened to go down so a live demonstration wasn't possible, however, we did get a lot accomplished. We will try again in January for the live demo.

We implemented a new charity this year. We are partnering with our brother knights with their charity "Bring a Hero home for the Holidays". They raise money to bring a soldier, rank E3 and below, home to spend the holidays with their family. Many are off but cannot afford to go home, so they cover the cost of travel, whether by bus, plane or train. Please visit our state website for more information.

Our Auxiliaries are baking, selling, and raising money for their charities and our state charities. We support the seminarians and postulants, feed the hungry, collect school supplies and toiletries for the needy, support our church, our knights, and our country. I am so grateful to all the ladies of New Jersey for their support and commitment to our Columbiette family.

New Jersey wants to wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving full of family, love and of course turkey!

We also wish you a very Merry Christmas full of the miracle of Jesus' birth and the love He has for us. Spending time with your family and friends, sharing the joy of each other is the most precious gift of all.

And we wish you a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Remember, every time you say yes to helping others, you are saying "yes" to God, Our Father.

We are all "Women of God"

Wishing you all a most holy season of thanksgiving and love,

Nadine Lecorchick

President

New Jersey State Columbiettes

## SOS Hail Mary Campaign



**HAIL MARYS FOR THE**

LET THE PE  
OF

**PEACE OF CHRIST**



The Don Bosco Columbiettes are sponsoring a Hail Mary Campaign designated for the Peace of Christ—that peace which only the Lord can give! This theme covers a broad spectrum of petitions such as peace in the world, serenity for yourself or others, forgiveness of our transgressions, etc. Your interpretation will be part of your intentions. It is now more important than ever to beseech our Blessed Mother's intercession with Jesus her Son through the powerful prayers of the Rosary. Please support this endeavor to collectively say more than

**ONE MILLION HAIL MARYS** by praying and reporting the amount of Hail Marys you have recited. This campaign will run until May 31, 2023. A dedicated e-mail address has been set up at: **[hailmarysforthePOC@gmail.com](mailto:hailmarysforthePOC@gmail.com)** to receive tallies from anyone at anytime. Please ask family members, friends, neighbors, church groups, etc. to pray Hail Marys to help in obtaining this goal. Thank you for your assistance. The cumulative tally of all Hail Marys prayed will be updated as responses are received at: [www.donboscocolumbiettes.weebly.com](http://www.donboscocolumbiettes.weebly.com).

## **Immediate Past President, Elena McFarland**

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

It is the most wonderful time of the Year!!! Time to be thankful all that we have and thank others for all they have done...**"Thank You"** to all of my sister Columbiettes for all the wonderful works of charity you have done throughout 2022. In less than a month we celebrate the Birth of Christ! Let us focus on the joy and happiness of Christmas and find pleasure in all we do to prepare for such a wonderful event.

Remember to send me the information for any new members for the Welcome Program and the Initiation Honoree. You can email or snail mail the information to me. Please be sure to include the Initiation date, the new members full name and address.

[elena.columbiettes@comcast.net](mailto:elena.columbiettes@comcast.net) or 3 Monfort Drive, Hillsborough, NJ 08844.

Tax time is approaching. If you have a tax year ending of 8/31 be sure to file you 990N-epostcard soon. If you have a tax year ending of 12/31 your time is coming up soon. Remember that the IRS shuts down the website for updates mid to the end of January. File before you are locked out. It only takes 10 minutes!

Wishing you and your family a Happy, Holy and Blessed Christmas and may your New Year be filled with love and happiness!

Elena McFarland  
Immediate Past President

## **Prestigious Past State Presidents, Sandra Bohinski**

To All:

May the joys of Christmas leave all of you with lingering happiness and goodness,

May you have a most Blessed Merry Christmas and Happy, Healthy New Year! May these holiday blessings linger and stay with you throughout the coming year.

Love, Peace, and Joy,

Sandy, Barbara Ann, Anna, Anne, Susan, Lorraine, Lisa, Vicki



Induction of our newest Prestigious Past President, Vicki Bird, at State Convention

### **Vice President, Frances Corcione**

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

It has been a privilege and a honor to be the New Jersey State Vice President. I hope that every Auxiliary had a rewarding year.

Happy Holidays to all my sister Columbiettes and your family.

Sincerely,

Frances Corcione

### **Secretary, Kathleen Donahue**

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

Autumn has arrived in a blaze of color. Mother Nature is putting on a show with her vibrant yellow, orange and red leaves. She's reminding us that the world can be a beautiful place if we take the time to look for it.

Thanksgiving is a time to be grateful for all that God has given us. We have warm homes and food on the table to share with family and friends. You have people who love and care about you.

Christmas is on its way! God showed how much He loves us by giving us His Son born on Christmas Day. What a wonderful time to show those we love how much we care about them. If you can't afford to buy a present for everyone, why not give them a homemade Christmas card or write a heart filled note. It would probably mean more to the recipient knowing you spent time creating something special just for them.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a healthy Happy New Year!

Kathy Donahue  
State Secretary

### **Financial Secretary, Donna Lewandowski**

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

As the busy holiday season comes upon us, may we always remember to be grateful and thankful for all that we have.

This Advent season try and make it special for someone you never met and this Christmas extend some cheer to those in need, be true to your Catholic faith.

Reminder, per capita bills will be rolling out soon, they do not need approval to be paid.

Hope your Thanksgiving was filling and may you have a Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year!

Pray the Rosary Daily for Peace,

Donna Lewandowski  
NJS Financial Secretary

### **Treasurer, Catherine Nicholson**

Another year is upon us and I couldn't be happier to see all the great works that our Sister Columbiettes are already accomplishing.

The fall & chilly weather is here which can only mean one thing....the holidays are right around the corner. Thank you to all who have contributed to the Send A Hero Home Program. It is wonderful to think how all of your wonderful works will help some of our military to spend the holidays with their loved ones.

#### **Year-Round Joy**

Christmas is full of shiny things  
That sparkle, gleam and glow;  
These holiday pleasures dazzle us,  
And yet, deep down, we know...  
That Christmas has its special gifts,

But year-round joy depends  
On the cherished people in our lives,  
Our family and our friends.

*-Joanna Fuchs*

I am keeping each of you and your families in my thoughts and prayers during these festive times and wishing you a Blessed Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2023.

Cathe Nicholson  
NJ State Treasurer

### **Sentinel, Laura Labetti**

I would like to wish all my sister Columbiettes a Happy and Healthy Christmas and Happy New Year. As many of us spend time with our families and friends during this holiday season, please remember those who are less fortunate than us. As Columbiettes, our giving season does not end with Christmas and we should strive all during the year to help those in need.

Coming in January will be our Support/Charity raffle. This is a great way to help your Chapter charities selected for 2023. Please do your best to sell extra tickets.

Also remember to look at our state website for any updates to our state directory. All changes to the directory are highlighted in yellow.

*May the blessing of joy abide within you;  
May the blessing of peace rest upon you;  
May the blessing of love flow out through you;  
And may the blessings of the Lord be yours at Christmas and in the New Year.*

Laura Labetti  
NJ State Sentinel

### **Supreme Director, Carol Bohinski**



**Sending my Best Wishes to all  
Sister Columbiettes  
and their loved ones  
For a Merry Christmas and  
A New Year filled with  
Blessings!**

***Carol Bohinski  
Territorial Deputy-Wisconsin***





## STATE COMMITTEES

### **30 Week Club, Catherine Nicholson**

There is still time to enter the Columbiettes 30 Week Club Drawing. There are 3 chances each week to win \$60 and up to \$1000 at the State Convention in June.

This is not only open to Columbiettes. Ask your friends, neighbors, relatives if they are feeling lucky and ask them to purchase tickets as well.

This makes a great Christmas gift! If you are giving it as a gift, I have made special tickets you can give as the present. When sending in your tickets, please let me know and I will be happy to email you the Christmas ticket.

If you have any questions please feel free to call or email me at [njstate30weekclub@yahoo.com](mailto:njstate30weekclub@yahoo.com)

Hope you will all join in this fun weekly event!

Thank you and Good Luck!!

*Cathe Nicholson*

30 Week Club Chair



# NJ State Columbiettes 30 Week Club Aggregate Retail Value of \$3000



ID# 64-6-8078

December 2022							January 2023							February 2023								
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					26	27	28					

March 2023							April 2023							May 2023								
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
				1	2	3	4							1								6
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				

June 2023							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	

### How The 30 Week Club Works

1. Donation Per Card: \$30.00 (Please make checks payable to NJ State Council Columbiettes)
2. Drawings will take place weekly beginning December 3, 2022. Three numbers will be drawn every Saturday. The winner will receive \$30, \$20, or \$10. Winning numbers will be returned to the drawing pool and can win multiple times (3 times per Saturday pull). Aggregate Retail Value of \$3000.
3. A Total of 90 times during the drawing period of December 3, 2022 through June 24, 2023. No substitution of the offered prize may be made.
4. Checks will be mailed within 5 days of drawing. Winning numbers will be posted on [www.njcolumbiettes.com](http://www.njcolumbiettes.com)
5. Drawing will take place at 10:00am – St. Anthony’s Knights of Columbus , 65 Hamburg Turnpike, Butler, NJ
6. Attendance is not required to win
7. Must be 18 years or older to enter

All Proceeds to Benefit  
**NJ State Columbiettes**  
Thank you for Supporting!  
Good Luck!!

Gambling Problem?  
Call 1-800-GAMBLER  
Please Play Responsibly



For More Information Please Contact  
Cathe Nicholson  
201-723-5935  
email: [njstate30weekclub@yahoo.com](mailto:njstate30weekclub@yahoo.com)

ID# 64-6-8078

Send to NJSCC-30 Week Club Attn: Cathe Nicholson  
28 Adalst Avenue, Butler, NJ 07405



Name:	
Address:	
Email:	Phone Number:
Auxiliary:	Chapter:



## **Angel Pins, Pennies from Heaven, Vocations, Lorraine Noger**

Pennies from heaven -

Please remember to keep saving those pennies, this will enhance our Vocation program, this will help our Seminarian/Postulants with their studies. Please note: the Pennies from Heaven check is due by May 15th, this is different from last year. Only one check to state payable to NJSCC. If you could send it earlier it would be appreciated.

I have been taken over as Angel pin chairperson and this year we have a large selection of pins approximately 65. If any auxiliary or chapter would like me to visit to sell them, please let me know. I do have a list but if interested, let me know and I will sent it to you (it is in PDF format).

Chapter Presidents - remember to send in your selection of a seminarian/postulant to me by April 15th or earlier. When sending it to me, please give me the full name, address, email and phone number so if I need to contact them I can. The letters of invite need to go to them by May. Remember when you come to Convention this year, you will see the gifts given out on Saturday morning.

I wish all of my sister Columbiettes a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Thank again,

Lorraine Noger, Chairlady

[lmnoger@gmail.com](mailto:lmnoger@gmail.com)

## **Ceremonials and Humanitarian Award, Lisa Roberts**

Greetings to all my Sister Columbiettes, family and friends. Hope this finds all well and enjoying this wonderful time of the year as we prepare for the coming of the Christ child.

As we are nearing the midpoint of our Columbian year – it is time to start thinking about a worthy recipient of the Humanitarian Award. As Chair, on behalf of State President Nadine, I look forward the many submissions from each auxiliary. I am confident that each of you know of a special, deserving individual that you can nominate for this award. Reach out to your pastor, community leaders, etc. and ask if they know someone who stands out and is deserving of this recognition. Another great resource to find those worthy candidates, is your local community news. Whether it be online or in the written newspaper, I am sure you all have someone who is doing that extra something to make others lives better. It could be anyone who is serving the community and touching peoples lives in a charitable way. It is through their time and talent that the lives of others are improved. Each auxiliary is eligible to submit one nominee for this award. The NJ Prestigious Past State Presidents are anxious to read the submission letters and biographies and choose the most deserving humanitarian.

I want to wish everyone a Very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Lisa Roberts

NJ Past State President

Humanitarian Award Chair



## Convention 2022

Here are some photos from Convention 2022 held at the Embassy Suites in Piscataway June 24-26, 2022. We look forward to seeing you at Convention 2023.











## Convention 2023 – Save the Date

Next year's convention will be held June 23-25, 2023. Stay tuned for more information in the new year with details and registration information. We hope to see everyone there.

## Expansion/Recruitment/Retention, Sandra Bohinski

What is the easiest way to get a new member - just ask them, they might surprise you and say yes.

Make a New Year's resolution - divide the list of your members who haven't been attending meetings and give them a call to see how they are doing. If they haven't attended a meeting because they don't like to drive at night, start a carpool.

Sandy, Cathe, Lisa, Nadine

## Historian

Please submit any photos you may have for the Historian to the webmaster, Frances Corcione at [MrsC417@hotmail.com](mailto:MrsC417@hotmail.com).

## Jewelry, Kathleen Donahue

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

The Columbiette jewelry is still available. In addition to the usual items, there is a new item. We have a limited number of silver Columbiette earrings. They cost \$20.00.

We have received a new supply of travel card cases. They include the opening and closing prayers. You will be receiving your 2023 travel card soon. Do you need a new case to hold it?

If you would like the Columbiette jewelry brought to one of your meetings, please contact me.

You may reach me by email at [columbietteskathy@yahoo.com](mailto:columbietteskathy@yahoo.com). My phone numbers are 732-826-3881 (home) or my cell is 732-824-1135.

Kathy Donahue  
Jewelry Chairperson



## Memorial Cards, Greeting Card & Business Card, Kathy Jessen

Customized Greeting Cards and Business Card Enclosures are available through this State program and all proceeds are donated to our Seminarians and Postulants in June at convention. As of this writing, 72 cards and 5 business cards have been created with proceeds totalling \$365.00. We have received requests from 13 members and 11 auxiliaries/chapters.

Anyone can request a card: Columbiette members, Officers, District Deputies, and non-Columbiettes alike.

Business card enclosures are a business card size printed on both sides that can be inserted into your own store-bought greeting card.

The greeting cards have this year's "Women of God" theme on the front. Cards can be created for all occasions. Thank You, Get Well, Congratulations, Thinking of You, Sympathy, Birthday, whatever your need may be. You can provide me with the verse that you want written on the card, or I will write a custom message from you.

All you need to do to request a card is send me an email, text, call, or letter. Your request should include who the card is being sent to (along with their address if it is not in the State Columbiette directory), who it is from, and what kind of card you want.

I will mail the completed card within 48 hours of your request using your return address or I can deliver it to you for your special occasion. (And if you need me to hold it and mail it on a certain date, just let me know and I will do that!)

The suggested donation is \$5.00 per card (including postage) but any amount is gratefully accepted.

You can request the cards today and pay for them tomorrow, I keep track of all requests and payments. You can mail a check made payable to "NJSCC" to me and I will forward it to the State Financial Secretary.

NOW ACCEPTING REQUESTS FOR CHRISTMAS CARDS! It's not too early to order those cards for your Chaplain, District Deputy, or whoever you want and check an item off your to-do list! These can be sent to the recipient or to you for presentation.

Do you have a question that was not answered? Please feel free to ask! Wishing you a wonderful and blessed Christmas season!!

*Kathy Jessen*

Chair, NJSCC Greeting Card and Business Card Enclosure Program

Contact Information:

Email- [kjessen5@optonline.net](mailto:kjessen5@optonline.net)

Cell/Text- 732-261-7490/Home Phone 732-721-2522

5 Singleton St.

South Amboy NJ 08879

## State Directory, Laura Labetti

Please submit any updates to the New Jersey State Directory to Laura Labetti at [labetti250@optonline.net](mailto:labetti250@optonline.net). The online edition of the New Jersey State Directory is available on the state website at [www.njcolumbiettes.com](http://www.njcolumbiettes.com).

## State Fundraiser – Garden Flags, Frances Corcione

Please see the order form on the next page for the order form to order this year's state fundraiser.



# New Jersey State Council Columbiettes

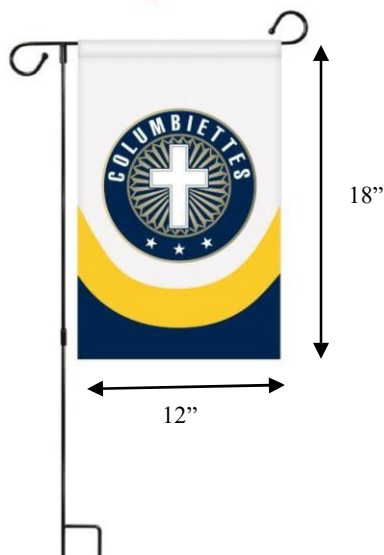
## Garden Flag

Order form	
Cost per Garden Remembrance Flags (price of flag only)	\$15.00
Number of Garden Remembrance Flags	
Total amount enclosed	

(Print or Type Name and Address)
Name
Address

**\*Make check payable to NJ State Council Columbiettes\***

Please mail or email to:  
Fran Corcione  
227 Barbados Drive North  
Toms River, NJ 08757 973-454-4145  
Email: [mrsc417@hotmail.com](mailto:mrsc417@hotmail.com)





## State Officer Seminar August 28, 2022



## Supreme Convention August 15, 2022

We were well-represented at Supreme Convention held this year at our own Embassy Suites in Piscataway. Here are a few photos from that event.







### **Tab Tops, Sandra Bohinski**

Please keep saving your tab top, ask your family, co-workers and friends to do so too. They are easy to store and they cost nothing. The Ronald McDonald House is a house built from love.

Sandy

### **Website, Frances Corcione**

Don't forget to regularly visit our Columbiettes websites to learn about new activities, events and regulations!

- Supreme: [www.columbiettes.com](http://www.columbiettes.com)
- NJ State: [www.njcolumbiettes.com](http://www.njcolumbiettes.com)

### **Weekend Retreat, Barbara Ann Lucarelli**

Save the date for the 2023 Weekend Retreat to be held April 28-30, 2023. For more information reach out to Barbara Ann Lucarelli at [bannlucarelli@aol.com](mailto:bannlucarelli@aol.com).

## CHAPTERS

### Central

Happy Fall Sister Columbiettes!

Since the Spring Echo, all of Central Chapter Auxiliaries are now meeting in person and holding their activities, both spiritual & fundraisers. From “Booby Bingo” to “A Night with Elvis” to a “Pop-up Shop” to a “Sneaker Drive” to a “Sunday Sauce competition”, our Auxiliaries have been working hard to make up time lost, while enjoying our sisterhood. It has been wonderful to see the Auxiliaries supporting each other’s activities.

Central Chapter enjoyed being able to meet again and sponsored a bus trip to Sights & Sounds in PA on July 9th to see the story of “DAVID”. The SOLD OUT trip was loads of fun, the Production amazing and we even held a horse race (Lillian Holmes’ famous) on our return trip to NJ. We are going to hold another trip to Sights & Sounds just after Easter to see a production of MOSES.



There is a lot more exciting news to come, but I will save that for the Spring Echo.

But for right now, all of us at Central Chapter wish all our NJ Sister Columbiettes, a Happy Thanksgiving, and a wonderful, blessed Christmas filled with love & joy!

*Joan*

Joan M. Winant  
President, Central Chapter

### Mid West

The MidWest Chapter started off the 2022-2023 Columbiette Year by Installing their new slate of officers. We welcomed Yvonne Shimshock as President, Erica Ruffer as Vice President, Beverly Redondo as Past President, Linda Kenyhercz as Secretary, JoAnn Shuleski as Treasurer, Cathy Incandela as Financial Secretary and Margaret Connelly as Sentinel.

At our September Chapter meeting we played BINGO which has become a fan favorite. At our upcoming November meeting there is a Turkey Themed game in the works and in February we hold our annual Baby Shower and a twist on the typical baby shower games will take place. These games not only bring us together and encourage socialization among the attendees from all the auxiliaries, but they also serve as mini-fundraisers for our chapter treasury. Another fundraiser that we are running again this year is our 10 Week Club. We sell numbers 00 through 99 and if a number is picked as the first two or last two numbers during the Wednesday night NJ pick four within a ten week time span, that person wins twenty-five dollars. This fundraiser is also to maintain and boost our treasury.

In turn, we will use the money from these various activities and fundraiser to support our Chapter Charity pick, Suzanne, a breast cancer patient from Union NJ and our Chapter Seminarian, Jacob Miller from the diocese of Metuchen attending Seaton Hall University. We will also continue to support worthy causes and charities in our area.

Our gavel began this year in Somerville and will move to Sgt. John F. Basilone for our November meeting. The February meeting will be held at Millstone Valley and our meetings in the spring will take place at Msgr. Francis X. Coyle and then Union.

The MidWest Chapter officers would like to extend our sincere blessing and good wishes for a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

## South East

Our Chapter prays all of our Sister Columbiettes had a healthy and restful summer!

At our May meeting held at St Lawrence we celebrated our Memorial Mass followed by our Annual May Crowning with our South East Chapter President crowning our Blessed Mother. Our meeting followed in their Parish Center.



President Katie Elichko crowning the Blessed Mother

We held our elections for the 2022-2023 year at our June meeting. Our new slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee: President - Gerri Kosloski (St Lawrence), Immediate Past President - Katie Elichko (Our Lady of Victories), Vice-President – Louise Welch (Vincent T Lombardi), Secretary Barbara Kadubic (St Bartholomew's), Financial Secretary Lois Ann Smith (St Bernadette), Treasurer Ginger Tornombe (Fr. Carey), and Sentinel Roseanne Brady (Our Lady of Peace).

Many of our chapter gathered at the Embassy Suites for our annual convention. The Christmas theme along with games and contests was most enjoyable! It was good to socialize with sister Columbiettes.



St. Bernadette President K. Jessen, SE Chapter President K. Elichko, State Secretary K. Donahue, St. Bartholomew President D. Kulbacki and District Deputy M. O'Brien

September brought us together at St Lawrence Parish Hall for our first meeting of this Columbian year. Past President Katie Elichko was recognized and thanked for her two years as our Chapter President and was presented a bouquet of flowers and a check. This was the first meeting led by our new president Gerri. While no Installation Ceremony was held President Gerri presented officers with their jewels. Special thanks to her pastor for leading the Opening and Closing Prayers.



South East Chapter President Gerri Kosloski

An Initiation Ceremony was held at St Bartholomew's Council was held on November 3rd where candidates from several auxiliaries were inducted into our organization.

Our November meeting will be held at Our Lady of Victories Knights of Columbus Hall on Thursday, November 17th for our annual Tricky Tray fundraiser. We all look forward to an enjoyable activity after our meeting.

Each auxiliary has been asked to donate two (2) items – a \$25.00 basket or gift item to be raffled off and a gift card valued at \$25.00 with a small item to accentuate the gift card.

Once again, this year auxiliaries will bring their own snacks or dinner items to be shared at their table and Our Lady of Victories Auxiliary will supply dessert and coffee.

On Thursday, February 16th we will gather at Our Lady of Peach Parish Center for our Chapter Meeting. Members will bring nominations for our Chapter Seminarian or Postulant and our Chapter Charity.

March is the month that we hold our Evening of Reflection held by our Chapter Chaplain, Rev William Smith. Father Bill always holds mass and provides us with a very spiritual evening. This is tentatively on Thursday, March 23rd.

April welcomes our Rite to Life Baby Shower which this year will be held on Thursday, April 20th at Host Auxiliary St Bartholomew's.

Our Memorial Mass and May Crowning is set for Thursday, May 18th hosted by Vincent T Lombardi Auxiliary.

While our Columbiette Year is young, we have many exciting events coming to fruition. And, of course, it will be great to see our Sister Columbiettes.



Thanksgiving Blessings and enjoy your Christmas and New Year!

Until the Spring ECHO, be safe and be well!

Lois Ann Smith, Publicity  
South East Chapter

## Western

Western Chapter is sad to announce that our General Judson Kilpatrick Auxiliary disbanded after more than 20 years. Many of its members transferred to St. Anthony's in Butler, which is where Western Chapter was honored to begin its 2022 – 2023 Columbian year with the installation of officers on October 5th by State President Nadine Lecorchick. Many thanks to Nadine, Cathe Nicholson who chaired the installation, Kathy Nolan and Marybeth Doyle who were our guides, and to Debbie Wickham and our sisters of St. Anthony's who hosted the event and a delicious dinner. Also in attendance was Past State President Susan Kadar. The following officers were installed:

- President Betsy Roos (Saint Anthony's)
- Immediate Past President Lucie Cohn (Long Valley)
- Vice President Janet Tussey (Saint Anthony's)
- Secretary Mary Ann Stanek (Don Bosco)
- Financial Secretary Colleen Testa (Don Bosco)
- Treasurer Mary Hargraves (Bishop Navagh)
- Sentinel Nancy Lennon (Long Valley).



Our first meeting followed the installation which included a pass the basket in support of the new NJSCC program "Send a Hero Home", \$250 was raised and a check was given to State Treasurer, Cathe Nicholson.

Western Chapter held a Fall Fundraiser with a Dine and Donate event at Thatcher McGhee's October 24-27th.

Our next meeting will be our Christmas Tricky Tray event on December 7th at Halloran Hall with dinner hosted by Bishop Navagh. This is always a fun evening and we look forward to seeing all the ladies who come out for the evening!

Western Chapter wishes all our Columbiette Sisters a very Blessed and Thankful Holiday Season and a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May God Bless Us All!

Love & Hugs,

Betsy Roos  
President, Western Chapter

## AUXILIARIES

### Bishop Navagh

We are back to meeting in person and we have also continued using Zoom for our members who are out of the area and who are not comfortable meeting in large groups yet. Our Past President Mary Kubisky moved to Florida last year and one of our founding members, Mary Jane Wisneski lives in North Carolina. It's so good to see them at our meetings every month!

Our TO GO Fish Fry on April 8th was very successful! Our volunteers worked hard packing and delivering 206 meals in less than 2 hours. We received some donations and even sold some Angel Pins! We worked hard but had a lot of fun! We are planning another Fish Fry on November 18th. Looking forward to another successful event!

There were 20 excellent submissions to our Holy Spirit Essay Contest Scholarship program. It was difficult to choose just one. We presented the winner with a check at the Holy Spirit graduation on June 15th.

We held a "Baby Shower" in June and donated baby clothes, diapers, baby supplies, a Pack N Play and many handmade items to the Lighthouse Pregnancy Center. The Director gave us a wonderful presentation explaining how the Center helps Moms who have decided to have their babies. They also provide counseling to women who have decided to end their pregnancies.

Our Adopt-A-Family Chairwoman, Joan Deodato worked with Sr. Ellen at St. Joseph's Church to choose a family for our program. It's a single Mom with 2 young children. Our members are providing her with canned goods, paper products and gift cards to the local supermarket. We will supply their entire meal for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We will also give the Mom a monetary donation so she can purchase some Christmas gifts for the children.

Pat Fell, our Financial Secretary for 20+ years, decided to retire from her position. We treated her to lunch to say Thank You for her many years of service.

We hosted Recruitment Weekend at each of our 3 parishes in October. Several of our members spoke at the Masses and handed out brochures. As a result, we have 10 potential new members. We will hold an Initiation Ceremony at our November Meeting.

We were very proud when one of our Sisters, Linda Nazario, and her husband Ron received an award at the Vivere Christus Award Ceremony at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Paterson. This award is given in recognition of their selfless and faithful response to the missionary discipleship of their parish.

The Columbiettes and Knights are jointly hosting Family Movie Night at Halloran Hall at St Joseph's Church on November 12th. The movie is "Noah" and admission is free. Snacks will be provided. We're hoping for a good turnout.

Father Martin Bradtke will be saying Mass for our Deceased Members of the Columbiettes and the Knights on November 30th at St. Joseph's Church. We feel that it's so important to remember and honor those Sisters and Brothers who have given so much of themselves but are no longer with us.

We are praying that all our Sisters stay safe and healthy. And we wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Blessed Christmas!

Marybeth Doyle  
President Bishop Navagh

## Don Bosco—Newton



The Don Bosco Columbiettes helped our brother Knights in their food booth at the NJ State Fair during the month of August. We all shared many laughs and hard work while working alongside the Knights.

Our Installation of Officers was held in the chapel at the Sacred Heart Retreat Center on September 6th with a reception immediately following in the meeting hall for our outgoing President, Pam Raynor. We continue to hold our meetings via Zoom and in person thereby enabling everyone the option of traveling or not. Each gathering allows members to make predetermined voluntary donations to local food pantries and other charities which are usually delivered within a day or two after the meeting.



On September 10th we joined the Knights at Swartswood State Park for a family picnic. The food was good and the camaraderie even better. We again united forces with the Knights on Sunday, October 2nd for a Respect Life Rally in Newton on the Green. Many Columbiettes were present and several group rosaries were said. The sisters



from Sacred Heart joined us for the first time this year.



October 15 found us at St. Paul's Abbey in Andover for an America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally spearheaded by Columbiette Mary Beth Flora. It was encouraging to see sister Columbiettes reciting the rosary as cars sped by on the highway. Large signs proclaimed our mission.

We held our first ever Family Halloween Party on Saturday, October 29th. This community affair was a fun event with many animated ghouls, ghosts and inflated monsters surrounding the attendees. Games were held for both children and adults with prizes awarded for various categories of costumes and games. We were pleased to have the Salesian Sisters also join in the festivities.



We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and wish God's blessings on you all for a most holy and joyful Christmas!

## Father Cannon

It has been a busy Fall for our Auxiliary! We held our School Supply Drive in September and got terrific support from the St Gabriel the Archangel parishioners. This benefits local children, as well as supports the efforts at the State Convention in June.

Our Knights were able to obtain the Silver Rose icon again this year, and we enjoyed the opportunity to work with them to prepare for and participate in the Prayer Service for the Parish. The response was amazing.

A Memorial Mass is held in November each year for all deceased parishioners, and this year our Auxiliary sponsored the Reception which followed the service for all of the families. This provides a good opportunity for support, consolation and community for everyone.

We are currently holding our annual Thanksgiving Pie Sale, which generates funds to support our contributions to many community organizations throughout the year.

We will participate in the Parish Giving Tree program, in which we and our Knights collect items for Veterans who are residing in the nearby Veterans Home.

Last but not least, we conducted another Initiation Ceremony and we welcomed three new members to our Auxiliary! We feel very blessed to have such an active and energized Auxiliary.



We wish many blessings to our Sister Columbiettes across New Jersey!

## Immaculate Conception

As always do in May, we assembled to crown the Blessed Mother in the Columbian Club garden. We recited the rosary and enjoyed a beautiful spring day. Hail Holy Queen

Three of our Auxiliary members attended the annual Convention, Christmas in June. The convention was packed full of fun activities and recognition for great accomplishments. Mass was celebrated by Immaculate Conception Pastor, Fr. Jack O'Kane. He was very impressed with the number of Columbiettes in attendance but more impressed by the work we do as Columbiettes. Fr. Jack also installed the State Officers, including our auxiliary Past President, Nadine Lecorchick, to her second year as State President. Nadine has shown she is a great leader and will continue to be a great State President.



In October we were happy to host our Third Annual Ghostly Gala Halloween fundraiser. Our guests outdid themselves with their costumes. The hall was decorated by the members and it looked awesomely frightful. Two impressive Gift Card raffles were held, along with a 50/50. Prizes were awarded in three categories for best costumes. Our great DJ had guests dancing to a variety of songs and music. Everyone had a spooktacular night of food, fun and good friends.



We were asked by our parish office if we would help prepare for their annual Christmas Tree Display. We were happy to help. Five members spent four hours checking approximately 225 strings of net lights. We all know that when one goes out they all go out. We found that 175 did not go out and they will be used on this year's trees. We purchased a tree dedicated to all our living and deceased members. The display is a beautiful scene for the celebration of Christmas and a glittering backdrop for our Parish Manger and is enjoyed by the entire community.

In November, fifteen members attended the Parish Memorial Mass to pray for three of our members. Two were Past Presidents and one was our auxiliary's superb baker. Prayers were also said for a Past Grand Knight and two family members of Columbiettes. It was a privilege to pray for their souls on All Souls Day at a beautiful mass.

We are looking forward to our Member Christmas Party the first week of December. Getting together for a meal, some fun and games is a great way to begin the Advent season and prepare for the birth of Christ at Christmas.

We have continued to participate in the Don Bosco sponsored Hail Mary campaign to save unborn babies and as we pray for our Nation.

Best Wishes to everyone as the holidays approach and we celebrate with family and friends. May the Baby Jesus bring us all wonderful gifts and blessings for 2023 and may our Mother Mary continue to watch over us.

## Long Valley

Since our last Echo update, the Long Valley Columbiettes have been keeping super busy. We are always excited to tell you what we have accomplished!

Let's start off with announcing our 2022 Scholarship winner. She is an exceptional young woman who was able to commit to service work for her community and school, have exceptional grades, and attend mass on a regular basis. We congratulate our 2022 High School Graduate Scholarship Winner. After mass, our Vice President Marge Sanders and I awarded \$500 to Elize Fracchiolla and congratulated her for being an exceptional student. She will be attending "The

College of New Jersey” and majoring in Public Health in hopes of helping the Community and making a difference in Low-Income communities. Way to go, Elize! We are so proud of you!



We helped out this summer at “Vets Summer Fest”. This event is run by Operation Chillout, an organization which helps homeless Veterans. This year’s Vets Summer Fest was on Saturday August 13h. Along with other vendors, it was a huge success! The LV Columbiettes were able to collect over \$200 with the help of selling T-shirts and Cookbooks that our auxiliary has produced. The money goes directly back into helping Veterans.



Let’s give a special congratulations our own Financial Secretary, Nancy Lennon and our Past President, Lucie Cohn who were installed as our Western Chapter Auxiliary Sentinel and Past President for their second terms. As always, we are so proud of you both! Keep up the great work!



Christmas is right around the corner! So many things are done before the end of the year and I can't wait to give you the total amounts with what we collected and donated for in the next Echo Submission. Throughout the year, we have collected yarn and donated Scarves to the Father English Center, which is a pantry that helps so many people out in the community. Last year we had made over 100 scarves. We can't wait to tell you the total amount, but we are still collecting and making. In the middle of November, we had our 3rd year of taking Christmas photos for the Community. This was done to help families who wanted nice photos who couldn't afford them during Covid. Because of how successful it has been, we've continued it. We collected over \$300 in donations this year. Here is an advertisement that was posted on social media!



Continue to have a successful year fellow Sister Columbiettes and continue to stay safe and healthy. Merry Christmas to you all!

With love,

Laura Bigos; President  
Long Valley Columbiettes Council #10419

## Millstone Valley

Welcome back Columbiettes! We hope you enjoyed the summer.

For Millstone Valley, September began with a recap of the June convention. We proudly accepted three awards – The Women of God Activities Award, the Founders Award, and the Margaret Mary J. Mangan Award. Some of the things our auxiliary did to receive these awards included: Assisting the Millstone Valley Knights of Columbus with their pasta dinner which resulted in enough funds to purchase an ultrasound machine for the local Pregnancy Aid Center. We gathered together as an auxiliary along with our brother Knights to say the rosary. We presented gifts to the first communicants. We made donations, both monetary and of children's toys, clothes and baby supplies to help the Sisters of St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center in Camden NJ. Throughout the year we made crafts which were donated to local assisted living facilities to bring smiles to homebound individuals who don't receive a lot of visitors. We also had a fun day out of our element by going to a Tea with Martha Washington which was not only a social outing but a fundraiser for children with special needs. To help children who are admitted to the hospital keep themselves occupied we donated coloring books and crayons to St. Peter's University Hospital multiple times. Looking back on it, we had a very successful year and accomplished quite a lot.



Looking forward, we hope to replicate many of the things we did last year and have already successfully kicked off the ongoing collections of backpacks, school supplies, toiletries, tab tops, pennies from heaven and food for the Feed the Hungry/Food by the Pound competition.

We have also assisted our Knights of Columbus with preparation for our annual St. Joseph's Parish Picnic and they partnered with us to help run, along with the Young Family Ministry, the first annual Trunk or Treat at our parish. In October we partnered with the Sgt. John F. Basilone auxiliary and ran a success vendor fair fundraiser in Raritan. The weekend of November 13th the Millstone Valley Columbiettes are playing a huge role in orchestrating the Veterans Mass and Luncheon at our parish.

Our monthly Book Club and our new crochet/knitting group are going strong and will continue to meet throughout this 2022-23 Columbiette Year.

After Thanksgiving, we will gather for our annual Christmas Social. From that point forward we will diligently help with what St. Joseph's Parish calls "Oh Holy Nights" which occurs every Sunday evening between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Each week there are memorial Christmas Trees lit and a specific themed event. The Columbiettes are acting as "Co-Workers" for each of these nights as well as the prep work.

Millstone hopes all the NJ Auxiliaries are finding such happiness, joy and fulfillment in the things they accomplished last year and the things in the works this year. We are wishing all Columbiettes a healthy and safe Christmas!

## **Our Lady of Perpetual Help—Jersey City**

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

### **Our Lady of Perpetual Help JC**

We had our Installation of Officers in our new home, St Anthony of Padua Church in downtown Jersey City. Beautiful Church, welcoming Pastor. We are so at home here!

The Pastor Fr Joseph blessed our Jewels and all of us before the Installation ceremony. Our brother Knights from St Aloysius Church as well as from our Council came to help us set up.



## Our Lady of Victory

As the holiday season approaches, we are blessed that we are able to gather together to continue our charitable efforts to help bring some joy to others in need. Here are some of the things our auxiliary has been working on or participating in:

On September 18th, members of our auxiliary joined our Brother Knights at St. Stanislaus Kostka for a Communion Mass and Installation of Officers for the Knights upcoming year. On Sept. 25th, families gathered together at the Knights Family Picnic fundraiser. A great time was had by all as we joined together to enjoy delicious food. Our younger family members were able to enjoy face painting, and a bouncy house. All members were able to select delicious ice cream from an ice cream truck that made a special delivery to the picnic.

Also, in September we made a monetary donation to The Knights Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser.

In October, members of our auxiliary joined our Brother Knights at a local Irish Festival to help sell corned beef and cabbage sandwiches in an effort to raise funds to help those in need.

Our auxiliary also donated \$200 in Gift Cards to two local families in need of assistance when their homes were damaged in a house fire.

On November 10th, members of our auxiliary joined students and faculty of St. Stanislaus Kostka school to attend a dedication service honoring the patriotism of the brave men and women of our nation's amazing armed forces.

At our November meeting, we wrote out 130 Christmas and Holiday cards that were distributed to a local Nursing Home to bring some cheer to their residents.

On Nov. 17th, we hosted the South East Chapter's Meeting. Those who attended enjoyed a Tricky Tray and light refreshments.

On Nov. 27th, we once again joined our Brother Knights at a Communion Mass at OLV.

Our group collected donations from our auxiliary members to the "Send a Hero Home for the Holidays" program. This program helps provide military service members with round trip transportation costs whether by air, train, bus or automobile. Our auxiliary also purchased religious postal stamps to promote our support of the Catholic Church

On December 10th, members of our auxiliary joined our Brother Knights at a Children's Breakfast with Santa where all who attended enjoyed a delicious breakfast as the children waited for Santa to arrive and present each child with a special gift.

On December 17th, we once again joined our Brothers to enjoy an evening of food, music and festivities to celebrate together at an Adult Christmas Party.

In November and December, we collected and donated cleaning products, personal hygiene items as well as food items to a local food pantry. These items are greatly needed by local families who look to the food pantry for aid and can only be distributed to them if they are donated by an outside entity.

At our regular meeting in December, we held a Tricky Tray with the monies collected going to our chapter's charity. Finally, in December we purchased and donated items from the Giving Trees at OLV and St. Stanislaus Kostka churches to help our local families in need and bring cheer during the Christmas season.

In Closing, we pray for the safety and well-being of each and every one of our Sister Columbiettes and their loved ones. We look forward to continuing the work that is the foundation of the Columbiettes. Our Lady of Victory Columbiettes wish our Sister Columbiettes a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy, Blessed New Year! We mostly wish you all Good Health. Be Safe, Be Well and God Bless.

Liza Palestrini  
Vice President

## Parsippany

Sister Columbiettes:

There is a chill in the air, but warmth in the hearts of Parsippany Columbiettes. We recently had our first "Institution" for five new members. It was a big change but a beautiful event. That same evening, we had the Installation of Officers at a Mass that included the Installation of the Knights of Columbus Officers.

Our ongoing events keeping us busy have been a Cakeless Cake Sale with profits going to First Communicants in need of outfits for their special day. Lap Blankets are made by Betty and Connie and Anita and are delivered to Nursing Homes and Shelters on an ongoing basis. We also join to say the Rosary at a beautiful little Chapel honoring St. Therese in Mountain Lakes. Our ladies are having a Sock drive with boxes at all three of our Churches hoping to collect enough to warm all those in need. Of course our TEA that was held on October 15th was a major success. It was our 10th Annual Tea, sold out, happy happy ladies leaving St. Ann's in Parsippany.

We look ahead to our November meeting when we will have a Memorial Mass for our deceased members, again joining the Knights to honor our deceased brothers. We all wish you the very best Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays – hoping to see many of you at the December Western Chapter.



Our Tea Table Setting and Sister Columbiettes hard at work.



St. Therese Chapel

## Regina Mundi

WE ARE CELEBRATING 65 YEARS, THE TIME HAS FLOWN BY. WE ARE HAVING IN PERSON MEETINGS AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH ONCE AGAIN. BECAUSE OF NOVEMBER BEING THE MONTH OF THE POOR SOUL'S IN PURGATORY WE WERE PART OF A MEMORIAL MASS ALONG WITH OUR BROTHER KNIGHTS OF REGINA MUNDI AT ST. JOHN KANTY CHURCH IN CLIFTON, NJ. ALSO IN NOVEMBER WE PARTICIPATED IN A CAMPAIGN COLLECTION FOR THE HOMELESS AT DESTINY HOUSE IN PASSAIC, NJ. THIS IS LOOKING TO BE AN ONGOING COLLECTION. ALSO, WE'RE HELPING OUT OUR BROTHER 4TH KNIGHTS OF THE ST. ISAAC JOGUES ASSEMBLY IN ESSEX COUNTY. WE'LL BE DONATING TO THEIR PROGRAM CALLED PAJAMAS FOR VETERAN'S.

OTHER GOOD NEWS, WE HAVE 2 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND WAITING ON OTHER APPLICATIONS TO BE SENT BACK.

MAY YOU ALL HAVE A HAPPY AND HEALTHY THANKSGIVING AND A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!

## Sacred Heart

As the weather cools down the Sacred Heart Columbiettes are doing anything but cooling down. We ended the summer celebrating our 1st anniversary. Thank you to everyone who supported us along this journey. We held our first baby shower for our Spiritual Adoption journey. We made a donation to the Birthright Organization in Maywood NJ that supports mothers.

In June we also had a blast attending the State Convention. We can't wait to see more of you there next year. In October we had our 2nd Annual Boobie Bingo Fundraiser for Breast Cancer Awareness. We held our Open House with the fellow Nights this past November. We continue to co-host family nights with our Brother Knights each month. Some upcoming events we are planning are Trivia Night in February and a Spring Bingo in April.

Warm wishes for a great holiday season.



## Santa Maria

The season for enjoying the fullness of life - partaking of the harvest, sharing the harvest with others, and reinvesting and saving portions of the harvest for yet another season of growth." Denis Whitley

October 18, 2022 We are seven years old!!!!

THE COLUMBIETTES HAVE BEEN BUSY THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER.

4/7/22 WE GATHERED GIFT BAGS FOR THE MOTHER'S AT PROVIDENCE HOUSE, MOUNT HOLLY, NJ

4/23/22 WE RECEIVED THE SACRED HEART SCHOOL LEGACY AWARD FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE TO OUR SCHOOL AND PARISH.

6/14/22 WE HELD A BABY SHOWER FOR GOOD COUNSEL HOME IN RIVERSIDE, NJ COLLECTED MANY GIFTS OF CLOTHING, DIAPERS, FORMULA AND MONIES.

6/14/22 WE RECOGNIZED OUR SISTER COLUMBIETTE, VIVIAN GRUPICO, WHO APPEARED IN THE LATEST NURSING MAGAZINE REPRESENTING A MULTIGENERATIONAL NURSING FAMILY. SHE HAS WORKED AT DEBORAH HEART HOSPITAL, BROWNS MILLS, NJ AND HAS TWO SONS WHO HAVE BECOME NURSES ALSO.

6/25/22 WE ATTENDED THE NJ STATE CONVENTION.

6/30/22 WE AWARDED OUR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP \$800. TUITION TO NANA KONADU TOWARDS HER 8TH GRADE EDUCATION AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL.

7/15/22 ASSISTED KNIGHTS WITH BENTO BOX SALE.

7/23/22 WE PREPARED BREAKFAST AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE FOR 40 VISITOR.

7/30/22 BRONZE SPONSORS AND VOLUNTEERS OF SPELLBOUND BIKE RACE, MOUNT HOLLY, NJ.

8/20/22 WE RECEIVED THE MARGARET MARY MANGAN AWARD.

8/28/22 ATTENDED MASS AND OFFICIERS MEETING, SPOTSWOOD, NJ.

9/25/22 HELD PRETZEL SALE FOR DONATIONS TO HEROES COME HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS FOLLOWED BY A MUM SALE THE FIRST WEEKEND OF OCTOBER.



LEGACY AWARD PRESENTED TO SANTA MARIA 1179 BY SACRED HEART CHURCH AND SCHOOL.





SANTA MARIA 1179 AT RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE IN CAMDEN.



BABY SHOWER FOR GOOD COUNSEL HOME AND RECOGNITION OF OUR OWN VIVIAN GRUPICO BY NURSES ASSOCIATION AND DEBORAH HOSPITAL. SHE WAS NOMINATED FOR HER MULTIGENERATIONAL FAMILY OF NURSES. BOTH HER SONS BECAME NURSES AS THEIR MOTHER.



BIKE RACE T SHIRTS



FUN HELPING AT THE BIKE RACE.

### Sgt. John F. Basilone

This past July our Knights were able to borrow a relic of Blessed Michael McGivney, the founder of the Knights of Columbus. Our president attended the service and was able to venerate the relic.



In August we had our Officer's meeting and planned some of our activities and fundraisers for the year.

September was a planning month for us. Together with Millstone Valley we planned a Fall Vendor and Craft Fair for October.

In October we sold blessed St. Francis of Assisi pet medals at the St. Ann's annual Blessing of the Animals and held our second Vendor and Craft Fair of the year. It was a very successful fundraiser, and we plan to continue to hold this event. As part of the event, we gave 3 charities a table each to accept donations for their charities.





Our auxiliary participated in the Trunk or Treat at the St. Ann Classical Academy. I think we had as much fun as the kids!

We have adopted a family in need for the year and will supply a Thanksgiving dinner, a Christmas dinner and Christmas gifts for the family.

We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and blessed Christmas season. We look forward to continuing our good works in the new year!

## Somerville

**Cheers to 60 Years!** We kicked off this milestone anniversary year with an Officer Installation, the addition of 2 new members, and a celebratory social at “Old Man Rafferty’s”. We hosted the Midwest Chapter Meeting, and organized Bingo as the meeting fundraiser/social. We also opted to continue our tradition of making monthly donations to a local food pantry. Every month, we select a theme for donations (e.g., Breakfast, Dinner, Cleaning Products, etc.).

October kept us busy. In conjunction with the Blessing of the Animals at Mary Mother of God Church, we held a collection for St. Hubert’s Animal Shelter. The parishioners of MMOG donated monetary gifts, as well as much needed animal food and laundry detergent. Several of us also attended the Somerville Knights of Columbus Charity Ball. At the Ball, we held a Basket of Cheer Raffle, from which all proceeds were given to SHIP.

In November, we ‘adopted’ 10 children from the Appalachian (rural VW) area. We will provide the children with coats, shoes, and a toy for Christmas. We have also completed Shake-A-Can events at 3 parishes to collect donations for the NJSCC Seminarian/Postulant program. We expect to add a few more Shake events before the year is over.

We will be winding down 2022 with a December Social at local diner “Time To Eat”, where we will also write Christmas cards for our members that are unable to attend meetings. Somerville wishes all of our Columbiette sisters a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Blessings,

Yvonne Shimshock  
Past President

## South Amboy

Wishing Supreme, and all of our Columbiette sisters a Blessed Holiday Season!

September 2022 we started off with our St. Michael the Archangel prayer service in hope that all will be safe throughout the duration of the year!

We sponsored a Halloween Costume Party! Well that was fun!

We'd like to keep that trend in the coming years!

We were able to help support our churches for Christmas!

12/4/22 a Polar Express Movie night for the kids will get them all worked up before Christmas, with prizes and live characters! Fundraiser for Make-A-Wish foundation of NJ.

Followed by the KOC Walk to Bethlehem, 12/11/22, the Columbiettes will prepare homemade soups and will be served with other hot drinks.

We will also assist with KOC Breakfast with Santa on 12/18/22.

The New Year starts with our Spaghetti and meat ball dinner on 1/13/23, fundraiser for the Tears Foundation. A final Kielbasa and Pierogi dinner on 2/10/23 will allow us to make an Easter donation to the Sacred Heart and St. Mary's church of South Amboy!

God Bless and wishing all a healthy, safe and prosperous New Year!

Vicki Dante Lattanzi, President of South Amboy #426

## St. Ann's

St. Ann's started the new Columbiette year by volunteering at 2 of our churches St. Leo's Roman Catholic Church in Elmwood Park, and also St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church in Fair Lawn, at their annual parish picnics selling food and beverages.

On September 23rd we held an Initiation Ceremony welcoming 9 new members followed by a small reception.

October our members made their "Good Deed Beads" in conjunction with our October Catholic Action. Members dressed in Halloween costumes or wore pink for "Breast Cancer Awareness" and we hosted a "Coffee Sunday" after all masses at St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church in Fair Lawn in which Parishioners enjoyed Coffee, pastries etc. We celebrated our Bother Knights "80th Anniversary" and presented them with a plaque honoring this milestone as we assisted them in their annual Italian Night Fundraiser. We wrapped up October with a "Trunk or Treat" with St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church's Faith Formation.

On November 3rd, we hosted our very first Pop Up Shop fundraiser and engaged in a new Charity "Teddy Bears with Love". This Charity is near and dear to one of our member's heart and in conjunction Alma Mater. To date, our members have donated a total of 28 Teddy bears with more to come. The Teddy bears will be donated to Joseph M Sanzari Children's Hospital at Hackensack University Medical Center in Hackensack, NJ.

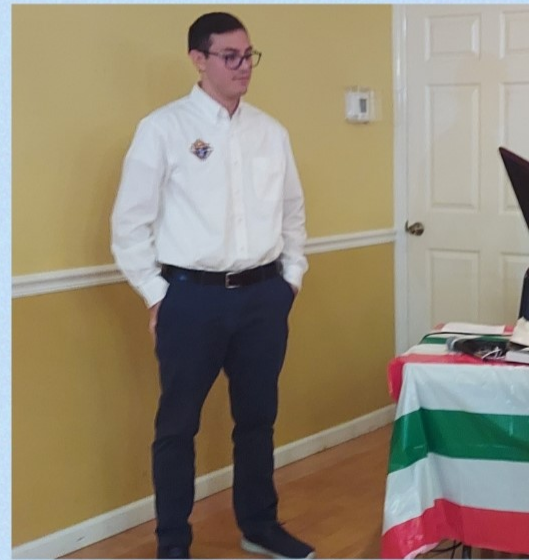


November 18th we will be hosting our 2nd Paint and Sip fundraiser.

As December is quickly approaching, we will be busy with St. Ann's #2853 annual Children's Christmas party, followed by hosting a Baby Shower 2 days later for New Hope and ending this busy week by meeting the Operation Toy Train "Toys for Tots" on December 10th. We will also be hosting a Christmas Social for our Council #2853 on December 16th.

We will be ending "2022" with a bus trip on December 27th to see the Radio City Rockettes Show.

St. Ann's #2853 would like to wish all our Sister Columbiettes a "Merry Christmas" and a "Blessed 2023".







## St. Anthony's

Welcome to another fantastic year for the Columbiettes!

All of our Officers enjoyed attending the State Seminar at the end of August. It is always a wonderful opportunity to see our Sister Columbiettes from throughout the State. We thank the State Officers for an informative afternoon.

On October 5th, we hosted the first Western Chapter meeting of the new year. Congratulations to our members Betsy Roos who was elected as President and Janet Tussey who was elected Vice President. We look forward to our December

Western Chapter meeting which is our annual Christmas Dinner and Tricky Tray. It's always a fun time to see all the wonderful prizes each member brings and even better to see when something is won.

November 11th we held our Annual Baked Potato Night. This year the proceeds from the event are being donated to the Send A Hero Home program. The night was a success and we were able to thank the Veterans who joined us for the night.

We are in the process of holding our Holiday Ten Week Club drawing. The ten winners will have some extra "fun money" for the holiday season. It is always fun to wait for that winning phone call. Even though some of us are still waiting 😊

St. Anthony's Columbiettes wishes all of our Sister Columbiettes from New Jersey and their families a Blessed Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2023!

### St. Augustine

The St. Augustine of Canterbury Auxiliary # 6345 held its Retention meeting on a Saturday afternoon and included a service project- a no sew blanket - after the close of the meeting. A lunch of tortellini soup, pizza snacks, and beverages was served. Two blankets were completed and will be donated to the Linus Project.



### St. Bartholomew

On October 7th we were once again asked to assist our Brother Knights during their annual Yard Sale. As usual, we help with the food table, and the Grand Knight, Tom Garrett, informed us the sale was a success.

We held a membership drive the weekend of October 9th and received applications from 9 interested ladies! Seven of them attended an Initiation Ceremony on 11/03 to become members of our group.





Once again we distributed shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child before and after the masses on the weekend of October 29th. The boxes are due for collection on 11/20.

Another yearly activity for the fall season is the distribution of cards made by the St. Bartholomew school kids to Veterans on Veterans Day at our local VFW and at Applebee's restaurant. Our members also sign a card that we attach to the kids' cards. This year we distributed 197 cards.



Veterans Day cards made by the St. Batholomew School students and distributed at the local Applebee's.

We have a couple of upcoming activities for the end of the year for the Christmas season. At our November meeting, we decided once again to adopt a couple of classrooms from the YES Preschool Program in New Brunswick in lieu of a grab bag. We are bringing Christmas gifts for these kids to our December meeting. On 12/4 we will have our annual Christmas Tea at the KOC house at 1:30 pm. This is an afternoon of fellowship, music, stories, and fun. During December we also will be bringing Christmas cards to the Roosevelt Nursing Home in Old Bridge.

We wish our Sisters and their families a Very Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!



## St. Bernadette



May Crowning

Over the weekend of July 16 and 17, our Columbiettes held a Summer Children's Clothing Drive. Donations were given to Life Choices in Metuchen, NJ. This was so successful that we also hosted a Fall Children's Clothing Drive the weekend of September 19 and 20. These clothes are used by Life Choices' clients that have older children.

In August, we donated 10 backpacks that were not claimed at our June Convention to the Old Bridge Public Library backpack drive. These backpacks were distributed to children in need by the Old Bridge Food Bank.

Three of our Officers attended the St. Bernadette Knights of Columbus Installation of Officers on August 17. It was a moving ceremony.

At our October meeting, we voted on a donation to the Supreme Disaster Relief Fund to support members affected by Hurricane Ida. A total of \$120.00 was collected, consisting of member donations and money from our Treasury. After that meeting, we wrote Christmas cards in English and Spanish and Hannukah cards. These cards will be donated to the residents of the Venetian Care and Rehabilitation Center in South Amboy.

On October 16, three sisters participated in our Knights of Columbus Memorial Mass and Breakfast. After Mass, we prepared and served a light breakfast consisting of bagels, fruit, juice, coffee and tea.

On the morning of October 23, 4 sisters assisted our Knights with their cleanup project in Old Bridge. Our participation allowed them to receive a \$500.00 fee from the town.



Over the weekend of October 23 and 24, we held a combined membership drive and Shake the Can for Send a Hero Home for the Holidays. We received one new application. That member attended an initiation Ceremony at St. Bartholomew's on 11/3. Shake the Can was very successful, we collected \$812.46 to be donated to the State.

At our November meeting, we voted to donate Thanksgiving items to our Parish Social Concerns ministry. We will donate 5 \$10 Shop Rite gift cards and 5 of each item: Corn, Yams, Applesauce, Stuffing Mix, Green beans, Turkey Gravy, Cornbread mix, Cranberry Sauce, Chicken broth (for stuffing). These items will be given to those in need. This is the third year we are doing this and we will be sure to count our pounds for the Feed the Hungry program.

Later in November we will be holding our Poinsettia Sale (11/28). We are holding a Bake Sale in December. Proceeds from our Bake Sale will be donated to our Parish for improvements. Our Parish "Women's Organization Christmas Party" will be held in December as well. Members will participate in the Annual Walk to Bethlehem on December 11 beginning at the South Amboy Knights of Columbus.

Once again, this year we plan to donate Shop Rite gift cards in lieu of having a "grab bag" at our December Meeting. These cards are given to our Parish Social Concerns Committee.

We wish all our Sisters and their families a Very Blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

Kathy Jessen, President

## St. Cecilia

St Cecilia Columbiettes #7046 of Monmouth Junction New Jersey are gearing up for a fun filled and productive year. We are starting a calendar raffle to raise funds for a charity (TBD), helping with Wreaths Across America and planning a drive through food drive to help our local food pantry. We helped our Brother Knights with their Citizens with Needs fundraiser and cleanup of the Veterans Day pancake breakfast. We helped our parish family by cleaning the church kitchen and storage closet. We spent some time together painting ceramics and are planning a Christmas party. We are looking forward to helping others and growing in faith, hope and charity.



## St. Francis

Our Auxiliary participated in Boscov's Department Store's "Friends Helping Friends" fundraising event on October 19, 2022. Members sold shopping passes at "Swedesboro Day" on September 24, 2022, and all masses in Swedesboro and Gibbstown. Our auxiliary raised approximately \$615.

Gail Marie Persia, President

## St. John's

St John's Council finally celebrated their 15 Anniversary in April. It was Happy 15, 16, 17 years to us!

We also held a very successful scarf drive and sneaker drive during the year.

In September we were "all shook up" as we had Elvis "in the house" for our big fundraiser of the year.

As things return back to normal we are looking forward to the new year with new events being planned.

As the holidays draw near, let us continue to stay safe, be well and continue to pray for one another.

Wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Blessed New Year!

Peace,

Roberta Elwell

Past President- St John's Council 1345 Dumont-Bergenfield



## St. Philip the Apostle

We hope everyone had a great summer and now are ready to start a new year of activities. Our June meeting ended with the Installation of our new officers: President Debra Sirvidio, Vice-president Barbara Ann Lissi, Secretary Teresa Antonopoulos, Dolores Bianchi, Financial Secretary Sabrina Celestin, Sentinel Karin Christiaens and Immediate Past President Sharon Festa.



During the summer months our Feed the Hungry team under the direction of Jackie Wozniak helped to keep St. Michael the Archangel's Food Pantry Stocked.

We celebrated Respect Life on Saturday, September 17. Cheryl A. Riley was guest speaker. Our day ended with the presentation of Jesus and the Children for the Cry Room to Reverend Father David Monteleone, Pastor of St. Philip's Church.

We will be sponsoring our Annual Mary Ellen Valentin International Dinner in June honoring the heritages of each of us. Our October meeting will have a Crazy Auction and November we will be making Sacrifice Beads for our First Communicant classes of 2023. In lieu of our regular December meeting we are having a Christmas party for all members.

A Happy Thanksgiving to all and A Very Merry Christmas and Happy Holy Healthy year for all!!!

## Warren



Greetings from Northwest NJ:

The Warren Council 474 Columbiettes started the new Columbiette year on September 14th. Members present that evening recited the Columbiette Pledge. Our schedule of events for the year was reviewed and, as usual, at our September meeting, we reviewed our planned donations for the year and voted to accept them with no changes. Because of being busy with our second craft/vendor and tricky tray event, being held on Nov. 5, we did not hold our October bake sale. We did have a one fundraiser, selling coupons for Boscov's, Friends and Family day, a large Department Store that gives 25 percent off on October 19. A quick and easy way to raise several hundred dollars and a nice day to shop for yourself or for Christmas presents and save money too!

At our October 12 meeting we voted to have a Christmas party with gift exchange in lieu of our December meeting. Our usual Christmas Donations will be made to our two churches and perhaps a family in need.

On the weekend of Oct 15 and 16 our brother knights held a winter coat drive for our needy children of Catholic Charities. While we did not assist in the collection of these coats for the children and hats and gloves for the homeless, we certainly did donate to such a worthy cause.

On October 23, our Brother Knights held a spaghetti dinner, so we put our aprons on, got our eggs and flour out and baked some sweet treats, then we assisted our brothers with serving the desserts.

We will let you know more of our craft/vendor/tricky tray event in the spring ECHO.

On behalf of our entire membership, we wish all of you a blessed Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

*Carol Kucheruck*

Kucheruck, President Warren Council 474 Columbiette



## A Note From The Editor

Dear Sister Columbiettes,

Thank you to everyone who submitted articles for this publication. Due to the high cost of printing the ECHO, printed subscriptions are no longer available. The ECHO is posted as a .PDF file on the state website at:

[www.njcolumbiettes.com](http://www.njcolumbiettes.com). Please share this availability with your members.

For the next submission due on April 15, 2022, articles can be e-mailed to [echonewsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:echonewsletter@hotmail.com) Microsoft Word files are the easiest to manipulate when inserting into the publication. Text files and .JPG files are also acceptable.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year to you and your families. I look forward to seeing all of the wonderful things that everyone is doing in our next edition of the ECHO.

Thank you. Stay healthy and safe.

Lucie Cohn



# Our Patronesses

By Margaret Porter, CT PSP

My Lifetime is a journey which I do not walk alone,  
I walk with three who guide me on my way;  
I feel their presence with me when I'm facing the unknown,  
They give me strength to face my fears each day.  
Our lady walks before me, clearing peril from my path,  
St. Theresa holds my hand and comforts me;  
With Joan of Arc behind me shielding me from unseen wrath,  
I feel the Peace of God among these three.  
They walk with me through crisis, freeing me from untold strife,  
I feel their love and I am born anew;  
Don't hesitate to call on them for guidance in your life  
Just feel their presence...they are there with you.

