

Women's Guild of Holy Infant Church, Orange, CT

May 2025

Dear Women's Guild Members,

Of course I am going to recap Friday night's Parish Pasta Dinner. It was a success. While I consider this event a stage for Father Norm to showcase his homemade pasta sauce, we did a masterful job as the supporting cast. We greatly appreciate the additional support we received from the Knights doing the heavy lifting. From set up to clean up they lent a much needed hand.

Our member volunteers on the portico selling tickets did not lose enthusiasm even when the first weekend of sales yielded modest results. The second weekend nearly tripled our sales. In total we sold over 135 tickets. Credit goes to our membership who were willing to do the big jobs and, sometimes even more onerous, the small tasks. We have some new members who impressed me with their ability to join our Guild and immediately become fully engaged in our organization. And then, the long standing members who never fail to show up and give 100%. To everyone who literally and figuratively rolled up their sleeves, thank you.

This may sound like a litany of names, but the time and effort our members put into making our pasta dinner a success did not go unnoticed and cannot go unmentioned. I often hesitate to mention names, risking an important omission or a misspelling, but the time and energy put into hosting an event this size cannot go unrecognized.

Special thanks to Carol Perry and Patty Biga who worked tirelessly in the kitchen plating the pasta. Also, thanks to Donna Wesolowski who arrived fully supplied with tubs, tongs and towels to run the cold beverage station; so much additional gear I was able to leave at home. To Margherita Lisi, thanks for answering my texts, seemingly every day, as I anxiously reconsidered our dessert and bread needs. Thank you Kathy Chiaro for using your Garden Club skills to beautify our tables, elevating our school gym to a lovely dining space. Thank you Cindy Evangeleste and Pat Leach for operating the salad station for the whole dinner, even as the "extra toppings" slowly dwindled. Cindy Spector, Suzanne Anderson and Carmela Blakeman, thank you for being seemingly everywhere, wherever extra hands were needed, start to finish. Kathy and Karen Barrett, thank you for once again demonstrating why you are our favorite baristas. Joyce Mauro and Linda Iannotti, thank you for making us profitable. Thank you Rita Nardecchia for once again showing up in your apron.

Finally, many thanks to Nina Zagarski and her team of Faith Formation students. They served and bused the tables like seasoned pros. Full of energy, polite and attentive to our every request, we heard so many comments/compliments about these young people and not a single negative remark.

See you at our **May Membership Meeting, Tuesday, May 13, 6:30pm, in the Guild Hall.** This will be a full business meeting, plus (no charge) craft project and refreshments. Please consider bringing a dessert.

God bless you and thank you for all you do to support our Guild,

Margaret Siena
President