Eastern Deanery Fall Report

November 7th, 2026

Michelle Stratton Eastern Deanery President

St James the Greater has continued to lead the monthly Rosary with participation of the NCCW as well as weekend Rosary before mass. Several women bowled for a fundraiser for Friends Against Family Violence, a nonprofit, that provides resources, housing and shelter for victims of domestic violence. We served 47 breakfasts & lunches to the Confirmation class and presenters for a retreat held for the students. During our last meeting we read the mini retreat from Grace Marie and very much enjoyed it. We held Council Sunday on October 18th, CCW ladies participated as Eucharistic Minsters, lectors, greeters, and other parts of the mass, afterward had refreshments along with a membership drive and gained a few new members. We are participating in the Box of Joy project and will pay postage for Religious Ed students that would like to participate. Many of our ladies will be volunteering at our annual Bingo fundraiser Nov. 7th, as well as CCW providing one of the prizes.

St Anthony of Padua has hit the ground running and are loving it. Individually, we watched Pope Loe celebrate mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Counsel, and CRS-Stories From the Field. We prayed for and supported our sister and her family during their loss. This year we only had one runner in the Carmelite Fair 5k but are hopeful for more next year. We welcomed the Genesis Pregnancy center to present their growth and needs for their center. All 50 Boxes of Joy were successfully distributed. Some of our members joined the Council Chat and found it very informative on a service idea and the Rosary call after was great. We attended the America Needs Fatima Public Square Rosary Crusade. Our annual Bingo Fundraiser was a success. We volunteered time with Carbon Caring for Kids and packed 248 meal kits for children who go home hungry over the weekend without food. Lastly Council Sunday was beautifully celebrated and welcoming to all women of the parish.

We held our Eastern Deanery meeting at St James the Greater in October, and we were very appreciative for the visit from the convention committee. Jamie Beert and Marcie Downs explained why we pay the amount we do for a such spiritual weekend. Many thanks to them for traveling to enlighten us.

As we continue our work together, may we look to Mother Mary as our example of humble and loving service. Just as she reached out to others with a willing heart, we, too, are called to answer God's call with faith, generosity, and love. May her example inspire us to bring Christ's love to those we serve in our parishes and throughout our area, remembering that even the smallest act of kindness can become a beautiful offering to God.

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