

THE BYLAWS OF THE WOMEN'S GROUP OF THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST JUDE
DEWITT, MICHIGAN

ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1

The name of this organization shall be The Mary's and Martha's of the Catholic Community of St. Jude, DeWitt, Michigan, and may also be known or referenced as Ministry, Group, Club or Association, and shall be dedicated to Mary and Martha of Bethany.

Section 2

We have adopted a prayer for our group ministry:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, whose Son blessed by his Presence the home of Lazarus and Mary and Martha in Bethany: grant that, like Martha, we may serve Christ faithfully in the person of our brothers and sisters; and that, like Mary, we may feed on his Word and grow in his love and grace; and that, like Lazarus, we may be brought forth from death to new life in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE

Section 1

The purpose of this Ministry is the personal sanctification of the members by participation in the spiritual, social and material works of the ministry; as well as performing special works assigned by the Pastor of the Parish for building of the spirit of community in the Parish.

Section 2

The Group shall support projects and parish activities to help with the needs of the Parish.

Section 3

The members of this Ministry Group will be encouraged to participate as a body in the Liturgies.

ARTICLE III SPIRITUAL BENEFITS

Section 1

Mass will be attended yearly as a group on the patronal feast day of Mary and Martha of Bethany which is July 29th.

Section 2

All members of the Ministry Group will benefit from the prayers offered by the membership for the intentions of each other.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Every woman 18 years of age or older and registered in the Parish is eligible for membership in the Group and take part in voting.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

Section 1

The Pastor and/or his designate shall be ex officio, an officer of the Group and Spiritual Director.

Section 2

The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be the elected officers of the Group, elected in May, installed in June and take office immediately. These officers shall be members of the Executive Board, along with the Pastor. Current parish staff may not hold an office of the group.

- A. President: The President shall preside at meetings of the Group and the Executive Board. She shall represent the Group in its external relations.
- B. Vice President: The Vice President shall attend meetings of the Group and shall preside in the absence of the President.
 - 1) In the event of the death or resignation of the President, the Vice President shall assume the Presidency to fill the unexpired term and shall remain in office for her normal term to follow.
- C. Secretary: The Secretary shall attend meetings of the Group. She shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Group and of the meetings of the Executive Board, posting them to either the Parish website, Google Docs or another agreed upon mutual site along with a hard copy maintained in a binder in the Parish office. She shall conduct all the correspondence of the Group.
- D. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall attend meetings of the Group. She shall keep a record of all the money received and disbursed, and present a report on the financial condition of the Association at all meetings of the Group. She will work with the Parish Bookkeeper and or Parish Business Manager to deposit and distribute all funds. If at any time there is an exceptional running balance the treasurer will work with the parish to open a separate liability account for the Groups benefit. Any NSF charges or other fees incurred due to a Group problem will be collected by the Group and reimbursed to the Parish.

ARTICLE VI EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1

The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Pastor and immediate past President shall constitute the Executive Board which shall have the power to act in emergencies.

ARTICLE VII ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1

In February the President shall appoint a nominating committee of five members to name no more than three candidates for each elective office, subject to the approval of the Pastor.

Section 2

The nominating committee shall report their slate of candidates at the April meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Section 3

The final slate of candidates shall be presented at the May meeting and voting by ballot shall immediately follow. A simple majority of those present and voting will decide those elected.

Section 4

The term of office shall be one year for elected officers, and no officer shall be elected for more than two years in succession to the same office.

Section 5

When an office other than the presidency becomes vacant, a successor shall be elected at the first following meeting of the Group.

ARTICLE VIII RULES OF ORDER

Section 1

Business meetings shall be conducted on an informal basis. Members shall be bound by the ordinary rules of courtesy. In the event of an honest difference of opinion, such difference shall be resolved by the rules of parliamentary procedure set forth in Robert's Rules of Order, Revised Edition, which do not conflict with any provision of this organization's Constitution.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS

Section 1

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Ministry Group by a three-fourths vote of approval of the members present, PROVIDED the proposed amendment meets the approval of the Executive Board and Spiritual Director and previous notice has been given to the members.

CERTIFICATION

These Bylaws have been approved at a meeting of the Executive Board by a two thirds majority vote.

Dated: _____

Pastor

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer