

COMPANIONS FOR THE JOURNEY
WITH OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS

MINUTES
May 19, 2015



The meeting was opened with a prayer by Alice Rutkowski at 10:20 am.

SIGN-IN

Seven members were present & 2 guests: Alice Rutkowski, Harold Rakowitz, Kathy Snoga, Anita Jimenez, Ken Keller, Delia Lopez, Karen Bagwell (Counselor), Denise Matkovich(guest).

Denise Matkovich introduced herself to the group. Both she and her husband Ken have a lot to offer to our parish. They are originally from Chicago area. The members of the committee introduced themselves to Denise.

MINUTES

Minutes were passed out and read by the members. Ken Keller approved and Kathy Snoga seconded. Members agreed.

VISITATIONS

Visitation reps that go with Father Emmanuel were not in attendance, so we have no report from them nor did they give us a list of who was visited.

OBITUARIES

Edward Daniel Kalka was buried Monday May 18. One more funeral tomorrow May 20. Unknown person.

We still do not have funeral coordinators. Darlene LaVelle is still looking for coordinators. Anita Jimenez feels that our committee should be connected to the Funeral Coordinators so that we can communicate with them on the needs of the families. Not involved in the planning of the Liturgy, just to make sure that we are here to serve them if they wish. Alice will get with Diane and find out about the funerals of this week.

COUNSELOR

Facilitator Training is scheduled with Karen for June meeting. Karen explained how she would train the committee on grief counseling, for instance, how to handle a person who might be anticipating suicide. Kathy Snoga suggested a spiritual counselor as well; her cousin has a degree in spiritual counseling. Karen felt that we were all skilled enough to handle the spiritual end. But if she wanted to attend one of our meetings it would be a benefit to us. Karen is basically going to train us on each of the different subjects, Emotional Process, Importance of Community, Coping Skills & Strategies, Remembering & Sharing Incorporated into Social, Goals, Challenging Distorted Thinking, The Holistic Self, Medication, Sharing & Fellowship. She feels that this can be accomplished in one or two sessions. We would each handle a gathering session.

Date Karen can meet with us: Committee meeting Tuesday, June 16th and Facilitator meeting, Thursday June 18 from 9-11am. Ken will bring breakfast tacos. Karen complimented the group on their dedication to the grieving community. Karen announced that she is now a Licensed Counselor. She named her practice in honor of her brother Randy who passed away. She had made a cross with blue roses and placed it in his coffin; therefore Blue Rose Christian Counseling.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with prayer by the members to Our Mother of Sorrows at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Rutkowski

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