

February 4, 2010

Hello to all the women of St Michael!

My name is Estelle DeJonge and I am the President of the Altar Society for 2010. Along with the other officers we hope to make the year a fulfilling, fun, and faith filled year.

My family has been members at St. Michael since 1996. I work for Norris Public Schools. My husband Ted works for Lincoln Electric System. We have three kids Kevin a 7th grader, Kelsey a 5th grader, and Kaleb a 1st grader who all attend Norris.

Sara Sukup will be vice president. Sara and Jerry have been parishioners of St. Michael for three years. Their kids are in the 6th, 3rd and 1st grades at St. Joseph school. Sara is a rental manager and volunteers at St. Joseph.

Caroline Hug will serve a second year as Secretary. Caroline taught for 36 years with the last 29 being at Lincoln Northeast. She retired 3 years ago and currently is a substitute for LPS. Her husband Butch is Associate Athletic Director for Facilities and Events. Their two grown sons live in Illinois and they have a five year old granddaughter.

The Treasurer for 2010 will again be Ann Dolph. Ann and her husband have been parishioners' for 7 years. They have a daughter at Pius (freshman), two daughters at St Josephs (5th & 8th) and a son at St Josephs (kindergarten). Ann works as a Controller for HomeServices of Nebraska.

The St. Michael Altar Society is a group that all women of the parish are automatically a member of. We meet once a month. The meetings are the first Thursday of the month at 7pm in the Cheney School gym. On occasion the date, time, or place may change but this will be announced at mass and posted in the bulletin. We will try to keep the meetings to 1 hour and I will send an agenda to all women parishioners that I have an email address for prior to the meeting.

The Altar Society is in charge of numerous activities. For each activity to be successful we need people to volunteer their time and talents. The activities we do may be as simple as serving donuts and coffee after masses, to as elaborate as the Ice Cream Social. It is up to each woman to share her time and talents in whatever way she feels comfortable. Most activities we do really do not take an enormous amount of your time. What they entail usually is a little planning on your part to work it into your schedule.

In the past each woman of the parish has been assigned to an activity. You found out about this assignment via mail and really had no choice. This year I would like to give you an opportunity to choose where you give of your time and talents. Attached is a sheet explaining each of the activities for this year, which are currently planned. I hope you will prayerfully review the list and then consider volunteering to be a part of something. It could be you want to make phone calls and line people up to work or maybe you want to serve donuts and coffee. Whatever it may be I ask that each woman of the parish pick something that they are comfortable helping with. We will have signup sheets in the back of church for you to sign up or if you prefer you can email me (dejonge@live.com) or call (782-3557) me to

volunteer. If anyone has any questions please feel free to contact me also. We will leave the signup sheets out until February 21st. If someone does not volunteer then we will revert back to assigning people to activities without their input.

Along with being a part of activities I would ask each woman to also consider coming to at least one meeting. The meetings will be part social, part spiritual, part business. You can choose to come to all or part of the meeting. We have a meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 4 at 6:30pm in the school gym. This meeting will include a program by Linda Terrano and Chloe Burianek on a trip they recently took to Jerusalem. There will be refreshments served and a short business meeting following the program.

Being involved in just a few activities at church can help you to meet fellow parishioners you would otherwise not meet. If you have children depending on the activity they may enjoy helping out also

I look forward to working with each one of you over the next year. Please feel free to contact any of the Altar Society officers if you have questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Estelle DeJonge