

SERVICE COMMISSION REPORT

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Service Commission Chair

December, 2020

The Boxes of Joy Service Project through Cross Catholic Outreach (CCO) for 2020 was a great success. This was my first year with this project.

I initially ordered 300 gift boxes from CCO and then ordered additional gift boxes. I met with the Vicariate presidents during August and September and dropped off their boxes of joy. I met with Rosa Ropers and Jane Grinde in Waunakee when I dropped off the boxes for West Dane Vicariate. I also met with Ellen Dargel, Sauk; Jan Block, Grant; and Mona Matijevich, Columbia North. Jane Grinde wrote an excellent article for the *Catholic Herald*, published in the Oct. 14 issue.

Some parishes and their CCWs elected to send monies for the project instead of distributing and collecting individual boxes. The parishes made out the checks to MDCCW so that we could keep a record. MDCCW Treasurer Katie Crosby will be providing me with one check, payable to COO. Total monies received from donations were \$590, of which approximately \$100 was used for boxes filled but which did not include checks.

Boxes were delivered to our drop-off site at St. Peter Church, Ashton, during the week or on collection weekend Nov. 14 and 15. Michelle LeVeque from St. Peter and I packed the individual boxes in the larger crate boxes per diagram. The tally of boxes through Nov. 15 was 575 boxes. With the addition of the 150 boxes from All Saint Parish in Berlin, whose council took their boxes to the Oshkosh, our total was 725 Boxes.

I will be working with Jane Grinde and Michelle LeVeque to write a project wrap-up and thank you article for The Catholic Herald. I have parishes and groups eager to do this project again next year — so I will continue the Boxes of Joy project at least one more year for the Diocese of Madison. Thank you to all who contributed in any way to make this project a success.

Other Service Projects Ideas

- Prepare birthday bags for food pantries (cake mix, frosting, card, miscellaneous items).
- Adopt a family in need for the Christmas Season or for the new year.
- Set up a contact list of CCW members. Contact them during pandemic to see how they are doing and offer comfort.
- Become a pen pal. Send greeting cards, note cards, etc. to local nursing homes, assisted living, correctional institutions, etc. So many individuals will welcome your notes of kindness.