

Seeds for Planting

(Activities which contribute to diversity building: these activities are starting points which can be adapted to each affiliation's needs)

1. International Tea

At this social event, each table would be sponsored/dedicated to a specific country by women of that heritage; table decorations, attire and food would reflect the customs of that country,

2. International Dinner

INTERNATIONAL DINNER FOR EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC STUDENTS

Fr. Tim Daly met me at the Spirituality Center for mass at ERAU and asked if the CCW ladies would like to feed approx. 70 hungry Catholic students following one of their 7:00 pm Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist on Feb. 13, 2022. I informed him this would be a project for the POP/MOM of POP.

We were asked to use an international theme when planning the menu. We decided on a meal that would include chicken curry with rice mixed with vegetables, salad, Naan (flat bread) and a unique GULAB JHAMUN desserts (made from flour, melted butter, a bit of baking powder and warm milk cooked and fried).

The Prince of Peace POP/MOM depend on contributions as it is not a funded project but moving forward we will try to fundraise for this project.

We cooked, cleaned and fed the hungry students. Fr. Tim even helped serving the students. Our student Karl, the youngest Knight helped us tremendously.

Why do we do this????

We are always bombarded with the same question since the kids come from affluent homes why bother????? Yes, some students come from very affluent families but not all. Some can barely pay their tuition - work, study in the wee hours of the night; a few get scholarship and others have huge loans. All have one goal to be educated and secure jobs, which they usually do.

The sharing of ideas and dining bring the rich, poor, black, white, together as one body with Christ. That's the theory for this dinner to make them aware Christ lives in each other.

This is how we plant a seed of goodness and love. This is where we pass on the light to grow in faith.

To pay it forward the students help our sister diocese to build homes, provide clean water and assist in tutoring local students in Physics, Chemistry and Math. They also help in gardening and teaching members of our community to help grow vegetable and fruits. This helps the community to get fresh fruits, veggies etc. free of charge. This is being done in Derbyshire, Holly Hill by our Professors who also assist in this project.

It's a delight to talk to these students whose imaginations hits high above the usual understanding. There is always a lesson to be learned. We are blessed with two seminarians and a Priest from ERAU.

Many of our parishioners through word of mouth helped us but this being a difficult period, could not connect.

Should any affiliations be open to this idea, we could bring it back and request our members to participate in contributing their nation's cuisine. We could be helping hands and praying together as we are doing at the ODCCW convention.

This is a great way to add membership and bring our parishioners together with Christ as our Leader.

3. May Crowning of Madonnas from Different Countries

Invite women of your parish to participate in a May Crowning event honoring the Madonna of their heritage. Organize a procession of statues as part of the start of the program, each woman placing their Madonna on the altar. The program includes praying each decade of the rosary by women in their native language. Flowers are brought up to the altar by the attendees, surrounding the Madonnas. An international reception can follow with participants sharing the story of their Madonnas with the ladies. Of course, International food can be included.

4. Getting to Know You Bingo

The Bingo card below can be altered in any way you wish for your particular group. The 'prize' is that everyone gets to know more about their Sisters in Christ, maybe even a little more about themselves!

B I N G O

Has traveled to another country in the last year	Has worn traditional attire from another country	Have eaten food with their hands as the culture dictates	Is a vegetarian	Puts ketchup on most of their food
Likes Indian food	Speaks more than one language	Needs a Starbucks run	Has family who live in another country	Can name at least three different religions
Puts hot sauce on most of their food	Has a friend with a disability	Free!	Celebrates holidays that are different from theirs	Has lived in more than one country
Ate dinner with their family as a child each night	Has a name with a religious or cultural significance	Enjoys the outdoors	Has had their name mispronounced (first or last)	Can speak 3 or more languages
Born outside of Canada	Has a pet	Knows how to break dance	Has a favorite sport	Is involved in more than one social justice activity/cause/club in the local community

5. Intergenerational Story Telling

‘This is My Story’ is a very simple thing to do and can be done at your meetings or it could be a planned event with the children/youth of the parish with refreshments served.

At your meeting ... One woman each month shares her story of her heritage

At an event ... Several women share their stories of their heritage.

6. International Game Day

Create an event that promotes the diversity represented within your affiliation, parish or wider community by offering attendees opportunities to play the games that are unique to the nations, ethnicities or cultures represented by the demographics of your affiliation, parish, or wider community. For example, invite families for free or a small fee to cover your costs to come and play board and card games, dominos, chess, bocci, cricket, soccer, field hockey, lacrosse, etc. Here you'll find ideas for board games: <https://www.fodors.com/news/photos/around-the-world-in-9-board-games>. Here are 5 great outdoor games from around the world: <https://off.com/en/inspiration/family-fun/5-backyard-games-from-around-the-world>. Select indoor and/or outdoor games unique to your particular diverse community within the limitations of your facilities or of the facilities available at local parks. This is a great way for people of all backgrounds and ages to mingle, have fun, get to know each other, and possibly to recruit new, diverse members to your affiliation.

8. International Rosary

Plan a parish wide Rosary where each decade is prayed by women from different countries in their native language. If you have access to screens, project the images of the Madonna of the country during the decades.

9. Family Game Night

This event could spark interest in younger women of the parish who can have a night out with their children.

10. Religious from Other Countries

Invite priests, deacons, religious sisters, etc. from other countries to share their story and the differences between their country and ours (e.g. holidays, traditions, their journey to answer their call, etc.).