

About the St. Bridget Altar and Rosary Society:

Every January, we are greeted inside the church doors by ladies collecting dues for the Altar and Rosary Society. We thought it would be helpful to explain what the Altar and Rosary Society actually is, and what it does for our parish. Here's a hint. It is NOT a social club.

Altar and Rosary is the women's service organization for St. Bridget's. Its purpose is to cultivate and promote devotion to the Blessed Sacrament on the Altar through Our Lady as Queen of the Most Holy Rosary. In practice, Altar and Rosary furnishes and maintains the sanctuary and shrines in our church. Members of the Altar and Rosary also maintain the outdoor gardens and planters and organize and serve the funeral luncheons.

We buy and clean altar cloths and linens, corporals, purificators, vestments owned by the parish and server robes, flowers for the altar and outdoor planters, wine and hosts, candles, oils, palms, and whatever else is needed. We restored the vigil light stands before the statues and we restock the candles. We also donate to community and church charity appeals. We have purchased special gifts for the parish: our nativity scene, the medical equipment cupboard with defibrillator and blood pressure cuff, and gifts for newly baptized, first communicants and confirmands. Over the past ten years, we have spent in excess of \$57,000.00.

As for the income to buy all these things, that comes those \$10.00 dues we collect every January, from a few fundraisers like our Country Store and quilt raffle at the church supper and the Old-Fashioned Christmas luncheon, offerings for votive candles, greeting card sales, gifts and donations made by families after funeral luncheons. We are definitely a non-profit organization.

Every adult woman in our parish is automatically and member of the Altar and Rosary. All are encouraged to attend our meetings. They usually follow a Mass and Rosary, around 9:00 AM, and last about an hour. These are business meetings. We vote on what to buy and how much to spend. Your level of active involvement is completely voluntary. Your suggestions and ideas are welcome. We understand that work and family obligations limit many members' availability to attend, but please work it in when you can.

Altar and Rosary serves a very important role in the daily function of this parish. When asked for that \$10.00, please comply. If we missed you at Mass, please send your dues to Altar & Rosary, % St Bridget's Church.

We are here to serve God through you.