

ACCW Final Resolutions

April 29, 2022

Universal Synod and National Eucharistic Revival

Purpose: To study and promote participation in events surrounding 1) the Holy Father's call to a Universal Synod and 2) the USCCB's call to a National Eucharistic Revival.

Whereas, Pope Francis has called the entire People of God to journey together in a two-year Synod process entitled, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission", convoked October 2021 and culminating in Rome, October 2023 (synod.va/en.html); and

Whereas, The Bishops of the United States are calling for a three-year grassroots Eucharistic Revival of devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, to be launched on June 19, 2022, Feast of Corpus Christi and culminating on June 8, 2025, Pentecost Sunday (usccb.org/synod);

Resolved, That all Council of Catholic Women members pray for, support and assist their pastors and parish staff in the missions of the Universal Synod and the National Eucharistic Revival as they are carried out in their parishes; and

Resolved, That members at all levels of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) make concerted efforts during the Universal Synod and National Eucharistic Revival processes, to remain informed and up--to--date, to communicate information to members and to encourage active participation in related endeavors such as study groups, webinars, adoration and prayer opportunities.

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End Of Life

Purpose: To educate members of the Catholic viewpoint of the immorality of imposed death, in other words euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Whereas, Catholic doctrine states that life is sacred from conception to natural death;
and

Whereas, The Minnesota Catholic Conference and Human Life Alliance anticipate that euthanasia and assisted suicide will be on the Legislative agenda in 2022;

Resolved, That the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women work to educate our membership so they become informed about the immorality of imposed death; and

Resolved, That ACCW members become informed in order to contact and influence their legislators.

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Membership and Mentoring

Purpose: To attract new members and retain current ones to enable our organization to remain active and strong.

Whereas, A Parish Council of Catholic Women provides opportunities to grow; and

Whereas, Many women in parishes are not aware of the mission of the Council of Catholic Women, nor the longevity and history of the organization, or the personal value to themselves; and

Whereas, Archbishop Hebda has asked that all parishes have an active women's group;

Resolved, That the ACCW Organization Commission through the Membership and Mentoring committees will work with individual parishes to inquire of their needs and to assist them accordingly;

Resolved, That ACCW will work to educate women by offering to mentor those showing a specific interest; and

Resolved, That ACCW will continue to offer leadership training through the "On the Road" program and that the ACCW will make parishes and Deaneries aware of resources available to them through ACCW and NCCW.

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Healing Racism

PURPOSE: To reduce racism by acknowledging it and praying to heal the wounds caused by racism.

WHEREAS, Racism occurs when – either consciously or subconsciously – a person holds that his or her own race or ethnicity is superior, and therefore judges persons of other races or ethnicities as inferior;

WHEREAS, When this attitude leads individuals or groups to exclude, ridicule, mistreat, or unjustly discriminate against persons based on their race or ethnicity, it disrespects human life and dignity. (USCCB); and

WHEREAS, Racism can cause emotional, mental, and spiritual harm to both the person expressing this belief and those experiencing the effects of this belief;

RESOLVED, That ACCW members will pray and promote the NCCW Prayer to Love: Healing Racism (www.nccw.org – Explore NCCW Prayer) and encourage others to do the same;

RESOLVED, That ACCW members educate themselves and others by studying current Racism directives from USCCB and by utilizing NCCW resources; and

RESOLVED, That ACCW members be encouraged to invite women of all races and ethnicities to become involved in Council and to embrace our diversity, as well as, our connectedness as members of God's family.

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Daily Rosary and First Saturday Devotions

PURPOSE: To encourage and promote the practices of praying the daily Rosary and the First Saturday Devotion.

Whereas, Our Lady has led nations repeatedly out of situations of pestilence, violence, spiritual and moral decline such as in the remarkable approved 1531 apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe, known as the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the Americas, www.ewtn.com/catholicism/saints/our-lady-of-guadalupe-424 and in the victory of the Battle of Lepanto in 1571 where Pope Pius V “credited the Lord and the intercession of the Blessed Mother, in the dual roles of Our Lady of Victory and Our Lady of the Rosary.” www.ewtn.co.uk/article-remembering-the-battle-of-lepanto-450-years-ago/; and

Whereas, In light of Pope Francis’s New Year 2022 homily, where he states, “At the beginning of the New Year, then, let us place ourselves under the protection of this woman, the Mother of God, who is also our mother. May she help us to keep and ponder all things, unafraid of trials and with the joyful certainty that the Lord is faithful and can transform every cross into a resurrection.”

www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/homilies/2022/documents/20220101_omelia-madredidio-pace.html

Resolved, At this critical time for our Church and our nation, that it is imperative for ACCW members to say the life-giving daily Rosary and practice the First Saturday Devotion, as able, that were requested by Our Lady of Fatima to invoke her intercession and graces for peace in the world; and

Resolved, CCW members recognize this urgent need and engage others by sharing their knowledge of these devotions, and, where possible, form cenacles of prayer before Masses, on First Saturdays, or at times of Eucharistic Adoration in parishes making use of tools such as online groups and programs to find approaches that will help to motivate and sustain prayer.

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Family and Domestic Church

Purpose: To strengthen the family, domestic church and basic cell of society.

Whereas, The family, domestic church and basic cell of society, is under cultural pressures causing confusion, decrease in faith, instability and breakdown through lack of knowledge, understanding, or a turning away from virtue and true, noble freedom found in Catholic Church teaching and a balanced way of living (Pew Research: Just one-third of U.S. Catholics agree with their church that Eucharist is body, blood of Christ);

Whereas, there is a need for CCW groups and members to collaborate with apostolates that focus on strengthening families, through engagement and accompaniment of parents, the primary teachers of the faith, in continuing catechesis on topics such as the vocation of marriage, the call to holiness and family prayer to equip them to pass on the faith to future generations. <https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/who-we-teach/children>; and

Whereas, the absolute need for family catechesis emerges with particular force in certain situations that the Church unfortunately experiences in some places: "In places where anti-religious legislation endeavors even to prevent education in the faith, and in places where widespread unbelief or invasive secularism makes real religious growth practically impossible, 'the Church of the home' remains the one place where children and young people can receive an authentic catechesis." ([126] John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation Catechesi tradendae, 68: AAS 71 (1979), 1334).

Resolved, To establish through Family Consecration (Apostolate for Family Consecration www.afc.org) a greater understanding of our identity within the family and what it means to grow in holiness as a chosen, beloved child of God.

Resolved, That CCW members, councils, and deaneries, will pray, encourage and invite parents to engage in *The Cana Experience* (www.canafamilyinstitute.com); and support the establishment of parish and school sponsorships; and,

Resolved, That ACCW continue to be proactive in their care of families by collaborating with proven apostolates, and so supporting the Cana Family Institute and the Apostolate for Family Consecration to journey with and build up families through sound doctrine and resources, and that CCW members and councils contribute by inviting, praying and participating in this evangelization mission.

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Appalachia

Purpose: To commemorate Father Terrance Hoppenjans on his retirement and to acknowledge those who began the ACCW Appalachia Christmas Project.

Whereas, Robert and Elaine Eberhard responded personally to the request from a Kentucky priest, Father Terrence Hoppenjans, who attended seminary in St. Paul, to provide for families in his poor Appalachian parish;

Whereas, The Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women has helped in this for 50 years as the word spread of the need as Father continued to preside at more churches in Kentucky; and

Whereas, The project grew, and the mode of transporting the gifts changed from a cattle trailer to a semi;

Resolved, That as Father Hoppenjans has retired from parish duties, members of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) are encouraged to continue giving Christmas gifts to Appalachia families;

Resolved, That the ACCW retain this project as a charge under Domestic Mission in the International Commission; and

Resolved, To pray for Father Hoppenjans in his retirement; to thank the Terminal Transfer Company for donating the use of a semi and driver every year to deliver the gifts to the Appalachia area.

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Environmental

Purpose: To increase Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) awareness and understanding that plastic bags are recyclable.

Whereas, There is a need to promote the fact that plastic can be melted and reclaimed into pellets that are used to make new products, and

Whereas, The list of stores that collect plastic bags can be found on www.earth911.com

Resolved, That ACCW members will continue educating themselves regarding the recycling and repurposing of plastic bags and;

Resolved, That ACCW members decrease the use of plastic bags by reusing or recycling them or providing their own bags.