



Saint Paul & Minneapolis
 Archdiocesan Council of
 CATHOLIC  WOMEN

From the Desk of our President . . .

ACCW OFFICERS

- President*
Debbie Keller
- Past President*
Florence Schmidt
- 1st Vice President*
Judy Beaudry
- 2nd Vice President*
Betty Berge
- Recording Secretary*
Laurie Otte
- Treasurer*
Karen Vanney
- Parliamentarian*
Pat Reymann

COMMISSION CHAIRS

- Leadership Organization*
Lucy Johnson
- Legislation*
Denise Haaland
- Spirituality Church*
Carole Hedlund
- Family Concerns*
Jane Rosner
- Service Community Concerns*
Mickey Nickelson
- International Concerns*
Marcia Simon

IMAGE Editor
Carol Shukle

With Lent upon us, we begin observances of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The USCCB's *Penitential Practices for Today's Catholics* states, "In prayer, the Holy Spirit, always active in our lives, shows us those areas where we are not free – areas that call for penance – as well as those people who are in need of our care. Through *fasting*, our spirit becomes more open to hearing God's call and we receive new energies to perform works of charity. *Almsgiving* puts us in contact with the needy, whom we then bring back to God in prayer." (usccb.org) Sometimes this means stepping way out of our comfort zones. It is then I turn to Scripture for reassurance, "Be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)



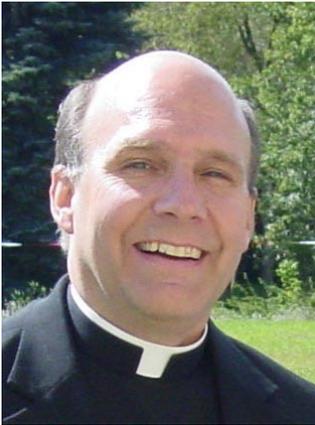
This brings to mind the ACCW president prayer card I was encouraged by my pastor Fr. Joe Bambenek to design. Two saintly women surfaced, both of whom possessed courage, trust and great faith. The front of my prayer card cites Esther 4:14, "For who knows that you have been created for such a time as this", and the back, a quote by EWTN's foundress Mother Angelica, "For your holiness relies not on what you do but on what you allow God to do through you. Have courage. God will protect you. God wants you to be in the world, but so different from the world that you will change it. **Get cracking!**"

And now, here's a synopsis of what's been and is about to be **cracking, for such a time as this** with ACCW . . .

Mark your calendars for **May 3-4's ACCW Convention on Missionary Disciples Reflecting God's Joy** at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Eagan! Our slate of presenters include **Rebecca Koenig Roloff** (*The Joy of Mission-Based Leadership*), **Anne Attea** (*Embracing our Immigrant Brothers and Sisters*), **Amanda Virnig** (*And the Truth Will Set You Free*) and **Carrie Bertran** (*Finding Life's Purpose*). Following Friday evening Mass with **Archbishop Bernard Hebda** will be Installation of Officers and an Italian dinner banquet. Saturday's Mass celebrant **Fr. Charles Lachowitzer** will present Lay Women Volunteer Awards and Emcee our Salad luncheon. Enjoy Marketplace, Silent Auction, and much more! To register, go to www.archspm.org/accw2019conv.

On Jan. 15, over 200 from the Archdiocese embarked on the **March for Life pilgrimage to Washington DC**. Bill Dill and Katie Duncan of the Archdiocesan Office of Marriage, Family and Life, led the group with a schedule of daily Mass and prayer, faith-sharing activities and DC area tours. Archbishop Bernard Hebda celebrated Masses, including at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Our delegation then joined over 600,000 other pilgrims for the Rally on Capitol Mall and the March down Constitution Ave. on Jan. 18. (Continued on Page 5)

Spiritual Advisor's Corner



By the time that you read this article we will already be launched into that beautiful season of reflection, renewal, and conversion that we call Lent. What a gift which the Church offers to us each year as we are invited to essentially enter into a 40-day retreat with Christ in the desert of our hearts.

Lent is about deepened insight, a thirst for increasing holiness and a willingness to see the world and ourselves through God's eyes with the aid of the Scriptures, devotions and penitential practices including prayer – all of this as we hold before our eyes the sacred image of the Cross. For me during each Lent the Cross, although it may appear to represent death and defeat at the hands of Satan and the powers of evil, is actually a reminder of God's love for us in that from the Cross Jesus conquered death and sin and rose to new and eternal life for the salvation of each one us – and for all of his precious children. We are encouraged to join in allowing Him to guide us to a change of heart, attitude and perspective so as to be like His.

I can think of no more concrete example of how far we as a nation have drifted from the heart of Christ than the drama that played out in the U.S. Senate chambers on Monday February 25th. By way of background, it follows on the heels of laws recently passed in the State of New York and the State of Virginia that allow abortion virtually up until the moment of birth. The Catholic Governor of New York led a triumphal celebration after he signed the law and directed that the city's landmarks be lit in pink to celebrate this victory. In response to these new laws a bill was introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senator Ben Sasse of Nebraska officially called the Born-Alive Abortion Survivor's Protection Act (commonly referred to as the "anti- infanticide" bill). It would have decreed that if an infant survived a "botched" abortion, that child must be afforded all of the medical care and protections of any other newborn U.S. citizen.

Radical proposal? I think not. However, it so infuriated the pro-choice faction of the Senate that they began a filibuster to prevent the bill from even being voted upon. It required 60 votes to break the filibuster and allow the bill to proceed. There were only 53 votes in favor of the bill moving forward and 44 opposed with 3 senators not voting. I truly believe that the Heart of Christ was broken at the moment that our country now had failed to protect the life of even newborn infants.

Fr. David Kohner ACCW Spiritual Advisor A LENTEN GOAL: TO CHANGE HEARTS

The President tweeted from Air Force One when he heard the news, "...this will be remembered as one of the most shocking votes in the history of Congress."

Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann, chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Pro-Life Activities, issued the following statement in response to the vote:

"There should be no bill easier for the Senate to pass than one that makes clear that killing newborn babies is wrong and should not be tolerated. That even one senator, let alone 44 senators voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, is an injustice that should horrify and anger the American people and commit us to decisive political action. A vote against this bill is a vote to extend Roe v. Wade's license for killing unborn children to killing newborn babies. The American people, the vast majority of whom support this bill, must demand justice for innocent children."

Perhaps this Lent we might focus our prayer at least in part that our country will return to a union with the Heart of Christ – a heart that poured out his love and his life for each precious human being – especially the children.

In the meantime, I would like to commend to our deepest gratitude those Senators listed below who voted for this bill to protect newborn life.

Notice any names missing from this list? Let us pray for our senators to be enlightened with Godly wisdom in formulating our laws.

Alexander (R-TN)	Fischer (R-NE)	Paul (R-KY)
Barrasso (R-WY)	Gardner (R-CO)	Perdue (R-GA)
Blackburn (R-TN)	Graham (R-SC)	Portman (R-OH)
Blunt (R-MO)	Grassley (R-IA)	Risch (R-ID)
Boozman (R-AR)	Hawley (R-MO)	Roberts (R-KS)
Braun (R-IN)	Hoeven (R-ND)	Romney (R-UT)
Burr (R-NC)	Hyde-Smith (R-MS)	Rounds (R-SD)
Capito (R-WV)	Inhofe (R-OK)	Rubio (R-FL)
Casey (D-PA)	Isakson (R-GA)	Sasse (R-NE)
Cassidy (R-LA)	Johnson (R-WI)	Scott (R-FL)
Collins (R-ME)	Jones (D-AL)	Shelby (R-AL)
Cornyn (R-TX)	Kennedy (R-LA)	Sullivan (R-AK)
Cotton (R-AR)	Lankford (R-OK)	Thune (R-SD)
Crapo (R-ID)	Lee (R-UT)	Tillis (R-NC)
Cruz (R-TX)	Manchin (D-WV)	Toomey (R-PA)
Daines (R-MT)	McConnell (R-KY)	Wicker (R-MS)
Enzi (R-WY)	McSally (R-AZ)	Young (R-IN)
Ernst (R-IA)		

It's Official!

Upcoming Deanery Events

See pp. 18-20 for details

MARCH

- 9 SW Spiritual Day, St. Wenceslaus, New Prague
- 14 SE Lenten Reflection, St. Pius V, Cannon Falls
- 22 NE Stations of the Cross, St. Michael, Stillwater
- 25 Mpls. Deanery Day, St. Patrick, Edina
- 28 NW Lenten Retreat, King's House, Buffalo
- 30 West Lenten Retreat, St. John Baptist, Excelsior

APRIL

- 5 NE Stations, St. Genevieve, Centerville
- 11 SE Dean. meeting, St. John Bapt., Vermillion
- 11 SW Dean. meeting, Imm. Conception, Lonsdale
- 25 St. Paul Dean. Meet., Holy Childhood, St. Paul

**Don't Forget - We are
on the web!**

www.accwarchspm.org



Follow us on Facebook
St. Paul and Minneapolis
Archdiocesan Council of
Catholic Women
and invite your friends



ACCW Mission Statement

As a member of NCCW, ACCW acts through its affiliated organization to support, empower and educate women in spirituality, leadership and service. Our programs respond with gospel values to the needs of the church and society in the modern world.

SAVE THE DATE!

ACCW 87th Convention

Friday, May 3 and Saturday, May 4

Missionary Disciples – Reflecting God's Joy

St. John Neumann, Eagan

Excellent Speakers, Daily Mass, Friday Banquet,
Saturday Luncheon, market place,
entertainment and more!

See the flyer inside for complete details.

WELCOME NEW ACCW PRESIDENT

Congratulations to *Betty Berge* on her recent appointment by Archbishop Hebda to serve a 2 year term as ACCW President from 2019-2021.

Betty attends Divine Mercy Parish, Faribault. She will be installed at the ACCW Convention on Friday May 3, 2019.

NOMINATIONS FOR ACCW OFFICERS

- * At the ACCW Convention elections will be held for 2nd Vice President and Secretary. The ACCW Nominating Committee has submitted the following candidates for the office of:
- * 2nd Vice-President:
Cindy Prior and Jane Rosner
- * Secretary:
Doreen Hogan and Marcia Simon

Additional nominations may be made for the floor of the convention, provided the consent of the candidate and approval of the ACCW Spiritual Advisor has been obtained.

Convention Sponsorship Ads Now Available

Sponsorship ad forms for the Convention booklet can be found on the ACCW website

www.accwarchspm.org

or by calling 651-291-4545. Sizes range from business card to full page ads. It's a great way to feature your business or recognize someone for faithful service.

Leadership

Organization Commission

Lucy Johnson, Chair

As an organization, CCW is connected from the “pew to the Pope”. Most of us belong to a parish CCW and are familiar with the Deanery and ACCW levels. Some have attended the Province Conference which is held every two years and includes women from all of Minnesota and the Dakotas. A good number of CCW members have even attended the NCCW annual convention at least once. But it is the international ring of Council that I think is the most exciting and the least known – WUCWO or the World Union of Catholic Women’s Organisations. As members of CCW, we are all members of WUCWO!

WUCWO was founded in 1910, ten years before NCCW and 23 years before ACCW. It is international, representing 100 Catholic women’s organizations and has its office in Rome. Every four years, WUCWO has a General Assembly which anyone can attend. I was fortunate to attend my first General Assembly in 2010 in Jerusalem. This past fall, I attended the 2018 General Assembly in Dakar, Senegal, Africa. Of the almost 500 participants, 20 of us were from the USA.

The theme was *WUCWO Women, Carriers of “living water” to a world which thirsts for Peace*. The meeting began with Mass at the Cathedral of Dakar and opening ceremonies which featured the President of Senegal in person. The General Assembly consists of study days and business meetings. During the study days, there were six speakers. After hearing the speakers, we broke into work groups according to our native language to discuss the speakers and to write resolutions.

The work groups provide an opportunity to interact with women from around the world. My English-speaking group had representatives from Australia, Canada, and the



African countries of Cameroon, Nigeria, Malawi, Ghana, Tanzania, and Swaziland. We listed the similarities and differences that each country has in response to the issues raised by the speakers. We also identified the challenges and priorities in carrying out solutions to the issues. In the end, our work group proposed a resolution which represented the opinion of the group. Each work group submitted reso-

lution to the assembly for a vote.

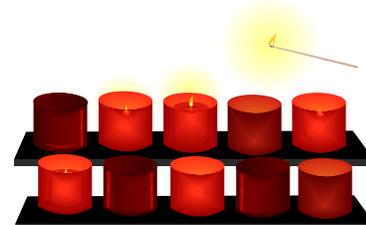
The four resolutions, chosen to guide WUCWO and its member organizations until the next General Assembly in 2022, address a healthy planet, care of the family, eliminating discrimination and violence against women, and responding to the call to holiness. The complete wording can be found at www.wucwo.org.



Lucy Johnson, center, with other delegates to the WUCWO General Assembly in Senegal, Africa.

Executive Committee

President: Debbie Keller, 612-801-0510
Moderator: Fr. David Kohner
Immediate Past President: Florence Schmidt
1st VP: Judy Beaudry
2nd VP: Betty Berge
Secretary: Laurie Otte
Treasurer: Karen Vanney
Parliamentarian: Pat Reymann
All Commission Chairs



President's Message (Continued from page 1)

On Jan. 22, many Council of Catholic Women attended the **Prayer for Life service at the Cathedral** and the **MCCL March for Life** at the Minnesota State Capitol. Thank you for your presence and voice. Let us continue to pray for our legislators to formulate laws upholding the dignity and sanctity of life from conception to natural death.

On Jan. 31, a **Kenyan Tea in honor of Archbishop Anthony Muheria** of the Nyeri Archdiocese was hosted at our home, following his visit to Panama's World Youth Day. Over 40 braved the sub-zero temps from around the Archdiocese to greet this delightful Kenyan Archbishop. As former Bishop of the Kitui Diocese, Archbishop Muheria was instrumental in launching the **Kitui Women's Dormitory project** with the Catholic Women's Association (CWA) and Caritas International. ACCW has stood in solidarity with CWA since 2014, supporting this project prayerfully and financially. We were pleased to send \$20,000 to Kitui before Christmas and have hope to reach our goal of \$50,000 in due time. Please continue your good efforts in raising funds for the Kitui Women's Dormitory project. Thank you!

ACCW was among the many sponsors for the **Minnesota Catholic Conference's (MCC) Catholics at the Capitol** on Tuesday, Feb. 19 at the St. Paul River Center. (photo at lower right). Many stopped by to visit the ACCW booth and learn about our organization. As a sponsor, we were pleased to have our ACCW logo featured on the "big screen", viewed by over 1000 attendees. In the afternoon, ACCW volunteers worked at MCC's Information and Check-in table, answering questions and directing constituents to legislator meetings. Thanks to Legislation Chair Denise Haaland and Vice Chair Joan McGrath for coordinating this effort. From left in the photo are Mary Jo Sherwood, your president, Yen Fasano who spoke at our 2018 ACCW Convention, Joan McGrath and Denise Haaland.

Leadership

Organization Commission

Chair: Lucy Johnson 651-224-7102
Membership: Deanery Presidents
Communications: Open
Historian: Judy Beaudry
On the Road: On the Road Team
Promotional Displays: Elaine Monitor
Image Editor: Carol Shukle (Resource)
All Executive Officers

Legislation Commission

Chair: Denise Haaland 507-334-2781
Religious Affairs: Joan McGrath

Parliamentarian Report Pat Reymann

Convention Voting Refresher

The ACCW Convention is right around the corner, as you know (May 3 and 4). We hope you and your delegation are planning to attend for the business meeting (on Friday), the inspirational speakers, the Lay Women Awardees, and the opportunities for prayer with your sisters in Christ.

Since we'll be selecting the ACCW Secretary and Second Vice-President for the coming term - and there are two candidates for each office - we need to make sure that everyone who is entitled to vote picks up a Voting Card from the Credentials Table after checking in on Friday.

According to our ACCW Bylaws, those who may make motions, debate and vote (i.e., serve as delegates) are:

- Members of the ACCW Board of Directors
- Members of the Deanery Boards of Directors
- President and two delegates from each affiliated parish or unit (those who have paid ACCW affiliation dues)
- Two ACCW Individual Members from each unaffiliated unit (those who have not paid ACCW affiliation dues)

All members of affiliated units may have a voice but not necessarily a vote - unless they are the designated delegate. (CCW Presidents, it would be helpful if you could decide in advance who will be receiving Voting Cards.)

Please note that the rules for voting at the ACCW Convention are different from the rules for voting at the NCCW Convention.

You'll be heartbroken to learn that there are no Bylaw amendments to consider this year; the committee reviewed them but found that no changes were needed. The exciting contests for the officer positions should more than make up for that!

See you at the Convention Credentials Table on May 3.



Legislation Commission

Denise Haaland, Chair

I read a “letter to the editor” of our local newspaper recently. Sometimes as I look at these, they complain of things that can be so far beyond, but this one struck me.

The title was “Where has the love gone?” The author of the letter received her doctorate in her mid-60s and I never knew her stand on abortion. In our bit of friendship, we never talked of these things and now I have read a few of her editorials and see she is very Pro-life.

With some states in the news recently pursuing legislation for late-term abortion, she talked of the pain that the baby feels during a late pregnancy termination. She wanted to let people know of this horrific thought -- how could we see this child suffering so? After just a few years of talking about safe and legal procedures, many are now able to accept this repugnant and immoral act to a person who has no voice. As much as some feel it is the woman’s right to choose, there are two lives at stake here.

She went on to state that if the law would let late-term abortion happen, would euthanasia be next? With the many senior citizens in our world, would they also be treated with no love? I have been doing hair for residents at two assisted living facilities and each has memory unit facilities. It makes me realize that we do need to love and care for these people as well as the not-yet-born person that those parents should love. How can we let this happen?

So keep your ears open to our legislature as they are in session and give a voice to the most vulnerable. It is our call as Catholic women that we need to do and the courage we need to have to talk to the ones we put into office.

One last thing: the person who wrote the letter is Dr. Linda Moore, a Faribault women who is willing to use her title as she knows she gets a bit more attention that way. But people know she is Catholic and proud of it. Thanks to her for her courageous stance on this issue. 6



Province News

Irene Schmidt, Province Director.

I recently attended the NCCW Board Meeting that coincided with the March for Life at the national Capitol in Washington DC. The first event was the Opening Mass for the Vigil for Life at the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. NCCW president (Mary Beth Stewart) and president-elect (Jean Kelly) were invited to sit in the sanctuary by the side of many priests, bishops and cardinals and NCCW was recognized from the altar. The Basilica was packed, including the crypt below, with families, religious, organizations and many youth delegations from around the country. The procession in took over a half hour! The next day we gathered at the corner of Constitution and 12th and marched with our banner (below) to the Supreme Court Building. It was a balmy 40 degrees.

The Board meeting began Saturday morning and we heard a report from the treasurer on current finances and the proposed budget; a report from the president-elect on the 2019 convention plans, and an update from the NCCW president. Other reports included work on outreach to younger women, NCCW website updates and the report of the nominating committee. It was noted that NCCW will celebrate its centennial in 2020 and at the same time NCCW Associates will mark its 50th anniversary.



ACCW Leadership Day

Saturday Feb. 23, in spite of snowy weather causing an hour-later start, the **ACCW Leadership Day *It Only Takes a Spark*** was a well-attended event at Immaculate Conception Church in Columbia Heights. The morning featured entertaining and educational monologues by Queen Esther (played by Florence Schmidt), Biblical heroine Judith (played by Mickey Nickelson) and first NCCW President and Minnesota-born Gertrude Hill Gavin (played by Joan McGrath). Jean Stolpestad of the Office of Marriage, Family and Life gave an insightful presentation on “Everyday Saints” citing how women in her familial lineage possessed strength of character, courage and great love as they persevered against odds in their day. Thanks to the CCW women of Immaculate Conception for hosting and serving a delicious breakfast and to Organization Commission Chair Lucy Johnson for chairing this event.



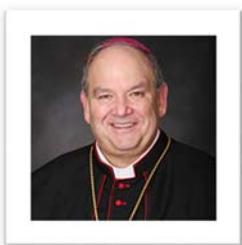
The ACCW Leadership Day featured, at left, Flo Schmidt as Queen Esther and Mickey Nickelson as Judith and, above, Joan McGrath who with a few changes of costume pieces, portrayed Gertrude Hill Gavin, the daughter of James J. Hill and the first National Council of Catholic Women president in 1920; her own grandmother, Theresa, who was a cook in the Hill house; and finally herself, the second woman with roots in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis to serve as NCCW president (1995-1997).





Saint Paul & Minneapolis
Archdiocesan Council of
CATHOLIC & WOMEN

*Missionary Disciples
Reflecting God's Joy*



Archbishop Bernard Hebda
Friday Mass Celebrant

87th ACCW Convention
St. John Neumann Catholic Church
4030 Pilot Knob Rd, Eagan

Friday, May 3
11:30 am - 7:30 pm

Saturday, May 4
8:00 am-2:00 pm



Father Charles Lachowitzer
Saturday Mass Celebrant



Rebecca Koenig Roloff
President
St. Catherine's University



Anne Attea
Latino Ministry
Ascension Church



Amanda Virnig
Clinical Lab Scientist
Abbot Northwestern



Carrie Berran
Coach of the Year
Junior NBA

Convention Happenings!

Silent Auction, Marketplace, Annual Meeting,
Friday Evening Banquet, Lay Woman Volunteer
Awards, Saturday Luncheon, Musical Entertainment,
First Timer's Orientation, Naomi-Ruth
Prayer Partners, & more!

Lodging Blocked under 'ACCW':

Best Western Plus
3450 Washington Drive, Eagan

651.452.0100
2 queen beds— \$89.99

To Register:

www.archspm.org/accw2019conv

More details www.accwarchspm.org

All Registrations are final.

Spirituality

Church Commission

Carole Hedlund, Chair

I would like to thank all the women who took a precious Saturday morning out of their week to attend the Advent Morning of Reflection at Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church in Medina/Wayzata on Dec. 8, 2018. A wonderful morning was had by all who participated. The evaluations have been calculated and we received a score of around 85 percent or better. The speakers, Fr. Michael Daly and musician/songwriter, Dan Kantor, were very much enjoyed, based on the feedback we received. Dan Kantor opened with his new song "Radiant Mary", which he paired with "Immaculate Mary". Kantor actually released "Radiant Mary" THAT DAY!!! Fr. Daly spoke on Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The Mass that day, celebrated by Archbishop Hebda, was beyond everyone's expectations. We had cantors and they were terrific to say the least. The church was packed, as the Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception was opened up to the Holy Name parish in addition to our attendees. Carol Shukle, one of the Vice Chairs of the Church Commission, planned this liturgy. I think she can be very proud of the outcome.

The first few months of the year tend to be quiet months compared to other months. Why not take some time to reflect on what you are going to do this present year to praise God? THINK ABOUT THIS (answer is at end of article). HOW IS THE BLESSED TRINITY AND THE ACCW ALIKE? Spend a few minutes praying to the Lord. He really does not mind that we ask him for something over and over. You can also ask Jesus for things through his mother. Who can say "no" to your mother? Your prayers may not be answered in the way you requested, but they will be answered. God does know what is best for us. He may be giving you a new opportunity when he answers your question. In the words of Padre Pio, "Make particular effort to practice sweetness and submission to the will of God, not only in extraordinary matters, but even in the little things that occur daily. And if you fail in this, humble yourself, make a new proposition, get up and continue on your way." Jesus really likes to be praised. Attend an extra daily Mass, do some spiritual reading and/or take me up on the challenge to have a Novena said in your parish. These ideas can also be used for something extra to do for lent.

The Parish of Saints Joachim and Anne, which happens to be my home parish, will be putting on the Passion Play again this year. It will be held April 4 through 6. I suspect the April 5 performance will be in Spanish!

This play will be in music, word and light. A free will offering is requested. It will be held at the site of St. Mark's Church, 350 South Atwood Street, Shakopee. This play is put on annually and each year I am just as impressed. Many have never had the opportunity to attend a Passion Play. Get a bus load together to attend this.



Remember Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fast and Abstinence. May you have a blessed lenten experience and a Happy Easter. Answer; *The Blessed Trinity has three persons and one God - The ACCW has seven deaneries and one ACCW.*

Eastern Rite Catholics Sue Nasseff

Holy Family Maronite Catholic Church in Mendota Heights, MN has a new addition to its "Vision of Faith." A stained glass window has been created in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Holy Family Church. Abouna Emmanuel Nakhle designed it with suggestions from Chorbishop Sharbel, St. Maron Church of Minneapolis. (continued on the next page).

Members of the ACCW and the Knights of Columbus (helping with our banner) were among those participating in the March for Life at the State Capitol Jan. 22.



Eastern Rite Catholics Continued

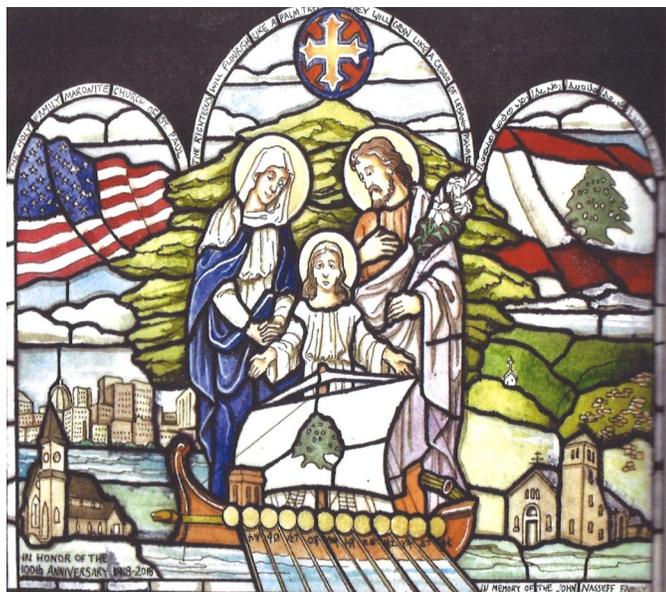
It would take many pages to describe the entire window so I will just give the highlights. The central section of the window includes a design of the Holy Family that has been used for decades by the church. The Cedar of Lebanon in the background is the symbol of Lebanon and the Virgin Mary. Joseph is holding a white lily, which symbolizes him and the Child Jesus. Below the Holy Family is an Ancient Phoenician Lebanese ship representing emigration and expansion. The ship is also the symbol of the Virgin Mary “The New Ship that held the Great Treasure, Jesus Christ.” There are 12 oars for the 12 Apostles sailing the world to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For the first time ever on a stained glass window, the Phoenician Alphabet is shown between the oars.

The right side of the window includes the Valley of Qadeesha, in Lebanon, which is the heart of the Maronite Valley of Saints, the Maronite Patriarchal See and most of the small towns our families immigrated from. The flag of Lebanon crowns the valley. Below the valley is the second Holy Family church built in 1950.

The left side of the design includes a view of the city of St. Paul, the Cathedral by the Mississippi River and the first Holy Family church from 1918 to 1950. The American flag waving in the sky crowns the city.

The three-arch frame shows the Holy Family name on the left. The right arch shows the Holy Family name in Syriac Aramaic. The center arch shows a verse from Psalms 92:12. The Maronite Cross is placed in the center above the Cedar of Lebanon.

Again, it would take many more pages to tell the story of the window which shows history, religion, symbolism, immigration and the love of the faith of our ancestors.



Liturgy/Scripture/Retreats Carol Shukle

As strange as it may seem to most of us who have grown up accepting the authenticity of the Gospel texts and the Divinity of Christ, there are those in academia who challenge these beliefs. Last year my Lenten reading included a book I intend to pick up again this year for a refresher. The book is titled “The Case For Jesus. The Biblical and Historical Evidence for Christ”. The author, Dr. Brant Pitre, earned his PhD in New Testaments Studies at the University of Notre Dame after completing a Master’s program where he encountered professors who contended that the four Gospels had been written anonymously, with the authorship of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John added later to lend authenticity, and that in the first three Gospels, the Synoptic Gospels, Jesus had never claimed to be God.

In an effort to examine these concepts in depth, Dr. Pitre learned ancient Greek and Hebrew and studied Old Testament prophecies so he could examine the earliest papyrus scraps of the Gospels and read the texts in a way a first century Jewish person would have heard and understood Jesus. The result is a fascinating read.

As a history buff and former journalist I have always liked research and evidence, which may be why I was drawn to this book. Although Dr. Pitre is a scholar and quotes many scholars, he maintains his book is written for the average person trying to sort out his or her faith, or in the case of many of us, wanting to be able to understand and explain why we believe what we believe.

Introducing his conclusions in the first chapter, Dr. Pitre explains he will show that no anonymous versions of the Gospels can be found and that evidence points to the texts being written during the first century and by eyewitnesses or based on eyewitness accounts. As for who Jesus of Nazareth claimed to be, he said “To be sure, Jesus didn’t go around shouting ‘I am God!’ But this doesn’t mean He didn’t claim to be divine. . . . Jesus reveals His identity using riddles and questions that would have made sense to a first century Jewish audience. In fact it was precisely because His audiences understood that Jesus was claiming to be God that some of the Jewish authorities charged Him with blasphemy. . . In a first century Jewish context it wasn’t blasphemous to claim to be the Messiah. But it was blasphemous to claim to be God.”

As we embark on this 40 days of Lent, let us resolve to become better educated Catholic Christians and find Jesus even more deeply in scripture.

If you are interested in singing with the Sounding Board at the ACCW Convention Masses May 3 and 4 email carolshukle@frontiernet.net.

Dues Paid as of 2-6-2019

A= Archdiocesan D= Deanery

MINNEAPOLIS DEANERIES

All Saints, Minneapolis		
Annunciation, Minneapolis		
Ascension, Minneapolis		
Assumption, Richfield	A	D
Basilica of St. Mary, Minneapolis		
Christ the King, Minneapolis	A	
Comunidad Sagrado Corazon, Minneapolis		
Epiphany, Coon Rapids		
Gichitwaa Kateri, Minneapolis		
Good Shepherd, Golden Valley		
Holy Cross, Minneapolis	A	D
Holy Family, St. Louis Park	A	D
Holy Name, Minneapolis	A	D
Holy Rosary, Minneapolis		
Immaculate Conception, Col. Hts.	A	D
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Minnetonka		
Incarnation, Minneapolis		
Nativity of the BVM, Bloomington		
Our Lady of Grace, Edina		
Our Lady of Lourdes, Minneapolis		
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Minneapolis		
Our Lady of Peace, Minneapolis		
Our Lady of Victory, Minneapolis		
Pax Christi, Eden Prairie		
Sacred Heart, Robbinsdale	A	D
St. Albert the Great, Minneapolis	A	D
St. Alphonsus, Brooklyn Park	A	D
St. Anne/St. Joseph Hien, Minneapolis	A	D
St. Anthony of Padua, Minneapolis		
St. Austin/St. Bridget, Minneapolis	A	D
St. Bonaventure, Bloomington		
St. Boniface, Minneapolis		
St. Charles Borromeo, St. Anthony	A	D
St. Clement, Minneapolis	A	D
St. Edward, Bloomington		
St. Francis Cabrini, Minneapolis		
St. Gabriel the Archangel, Hopkins	A	
St. Gerard Majella, Brooklyn Park		
St. Hedwig, Minneapolis	A	D
St. Helena, Minneapolis	A	D
St. Joan of Arc, Minneapolis		
St. Joseph, New Hope		
St. Joseph the Worker, Maple Grove		
St. Katherine Drexel, Ramsey		
St. Lawrence, Minneapolis		
St. Leonard Port Maurice, Minneapolis		
St. Margaret Mary, Golden Valley	A	D
St. Mary of the Lake, Plymouth		
St. Olaf, Minneapolis		
St. Paul, Ham Lake		
St. Patrick, Edina		D
St. Peter, Richfield		
St. Raphael, Crystal	A	D

Minneapolis Deaneries Continued

St. Richard, Richfield		
St. Stephen, Anoka		
St. Stephen, Minneapolis		
St. Thomas the Apostle, Minneapolis		
St. Timothy Blaine	A	D
St. Vincent de Paul, Brooklyn Park	A	D
St. William, Fridley		
Ss. Cyril & Methodius, Minneapolis		

NORTHEAST DEANERY

Guardian Angels, Oakdale		
Sacred Heart, Rush City		
St. Bridget of Sweden, Lindstrom		
St. Charles, Bayport		
St. Francis of Assisi, Lake St. Croix		
St. Francis Xavier, Shafer		
St. Genevieve, Centerville		
St. Gregory the Great, North Branch		
St. John the Baptist, Hugo		
St. Joseph, Lino Lakes		
St. Joseph, Taylor Falls		
St. Jude of the Lake, Mahtomedi		
St. Mary of the Lake, White Bear Lake	A	
St. Michael, Stillwater	A	
St. Peter, Forest Lake		
St. Pius X, White Bear Lake	A	

NORTHWEST DEANERY

Immaculate Conception, Watertown	A	D
Mary, Queen of Peace, Rogers	A	D
St. Albert, Albertville	A	D
St. Anne, Hamel		
St. Francis Xavier, Buffalo	A	D
St. Henry, Monticello	A	D
St. Ignatius, Annandale	A	
St. John the Baptist, Dayton	A	D
St. Joseph, Delano		D
St. Luke, Clearwater		
St. Mary, Waverly		
St. Mary of Czestochowa, Delano		
St. Maximilian Kolbe, Delano		
St. Michael, St. Michael	A	D
St. Thomas the Apostle, Corcoran		
St. Timothy, Maple Lake	A	D

SOUTHEAST DEANERY

Holy Trinity, Goodhue	A	D
St. Agatha, Coates	A	D
St. Columbkil, Goodhue	A	D
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Hastings		
St. John the Baptist, Vermillion	A	D
St. Joseph, Miesville		
St. Joseph, Red Wing		

SOUTHEAST DEANERIES CONTINUED

St. Joseph, Rosemount		
St. Mary, Bellechester	A	D
St. Mary, New Trier	A	D
St. Mathias, Hampton		
St. Michael, Kenyon		
St. Michael, Pine Island		D
St. Paul, Zumbrota	A	D
St. Pius V, Cannon Falls		

SOUTHWEST DEANERY

All Saints, Lakeville		
Annunciation, Northfield	A	
Divine Mercy, Faribault	A	D
Holy Trinity, Waterville	A	D
Immaculate Conception, Lonsdale	A	D
Immaculate Conception, Madison Lake	A	D
Mary, Mother of the Church, Burnsville		
Most Holy Redeemer, Montgomery	A	D
Most Holy Trinity, Veseli	A	D
Nativity of Mary, Cleveland	A	
Our Lady of Good Help	A	D
Our Lady of the Prairie, Belle Plaine	A	D
Risen Savior, Burnsville		
St. Andrew, Elysian	A	D
St. Anne/ St. Thomas, LeSueur	A	D
St. Canice, Killkeny	A	D
St. Catherine, Jordan		D
St. Dominic, Northfield		D
St. Henry, LeCenter		D
St. John the Baptist, Jordan	A	D
St. John the Baptist, Savage		
St. John Neumann, Eagan		
St. Mary, Le Center	A	D
St. Michael, Farmington		
St. Michael, Prior Lake		
St. Nicholas, New Market	A	D
St. Patrick-Shieldsville, Faribault	A	D
St. Patrick-Cedar Lake, Jordan		D
St. Thomas Becket, Eagan		
St. Wenceslaus, New Prague		D

WEST DEANERY

Ascension, Norwood/Young America		
Guardian Angels, Chaska		
Holy Name, Wayzata		
Our Lady of the Lake, Mound	A	D
St. Bartholomew, Wayzata		
St. Bernard, Cologne		
St. Boniface, St. Bonifacius	A	D
St. George, Long Lake	A	D
St. Hubert, Chanhassen	A	
Ss. Joachim & Anne, Shakopee	A	D
St. John the Baptist, Excelsior		
St. Joseph, Waconia		D

St. Nicholas, Carver
St. Therese, Deephaven

ST. PAUL DEANERY

Assumption, St. Paul		
Blessed Sacrament, St. Paul		
Cathedral of St. Paul		
Corpus Christi, Roseville		
Holy Childhood, St. Paul	A	D
Holy Spirit, St. Paul	A	D
Holy Trinity, South St. Paul	A	D
Lumen Christi, St. Paul		
Maternity of Mary, St. Paul		
Nativity of Our Lord, St. Paul	A	D
Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Paul		D
Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Maplewood	A	
Sacred Heart, St. Paul		
St. Adalbert, St. Paul	A	D
St. Ambrose, Woodbury		
St. Andrew Kim, St. Paul		
St. Augustine, South St. Paul		
St. Bernard, St. Paul		
St. Casimir, St. Paul	A	D
St. Cecilia, St. Paul		
St. Columba, St. Paul	A	D
St. Francis de Sales, St. Paul	A	
St. Jerome, Maplewood		
St. John, St. Paul		
St. John the Baptist, New Brighton	A	D
St. John the Evangelist, Little Canada	A	D
St. John Vianney, South St. Paul		
St. Joseph, West St. Paul		
St. Louis, King of France, St. Paul		
St. Mark, St. Paul	A	D
St. Mary, St. Paul		
St. Matthew, St. Paul		
St. Odilia, St. Paul	A	D
St. Pascal Baylon, St. Paul		D
St. Patrick, IGH		D
St. Peter, Mendota	A	
St. Peter, North St. Paul	A	
St. Peter Claver, St. Paul	A	
St. Rita, Cottage Grove		
St. Rose of Lima, St. Paul		
St. Stanislaus, St. Paul		
St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Paul Park		
St. Thomas More, St. Paul	A	
Transfiguration, Oakdale	A	D

If you have questions regarding this report. Contact the ACCW Office.

651-291-4545 accw@archspm.org

Family Concerns Commission

Jane Rosner, Chair

The Family Concerns Commission has a long and traditional role in Councils of Catholic Women and focuses on quite a few areas of interest including Media, Respect Life, Family Life and Education, Religious Recognitions and perhaps the newest area, Grandparent Ministry. Our vice chairs for Respect Life and Grandparents Ministry both have excellent and informative articles in this issue of the Image and our Media Resources vice chair has been hard at work with a committee of board members who are updating our ACCW website

After a break of a few years a long-time ACCW board member and vice chair with a special passion for Religious Recognitions has returned to that position. It is the Religious Recognition program I would like to take some time to highlight.

Religious Recognitions are available for Catholic girls and adults who are involved in youth organizations including, but not limited to, Girls Scouts, Camp Fire and American Heritage Girls.

Several of these girls organizations use a series of religious awards for each age group that include God is Love, Family of God, I Live My Faith, Mary the First Disciple, Spirit Alive and Missio. A Pillars of Faith pin has been added for girls who complete the Family of God, I Live My Faith, Marian Medal and Spirit Alive. Adults working with these groups can earn the St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton and St. Anne medals.

Spirituality

Church Commission

Chair: Carole Hedlund 952-445-3061
Liturgy/Scripture/Retreats: Carol Shukle
Vocations: Cathy Healy
Eastern Rite Catholics: Susan Nasseff
Naomi-Ruth Prayer Partners: Cathy Evans
Ecumenism/Evangelization/Adoration: Jean Buchmann

Family Commission

Chair: Jane Rosner 651-261-2534
Media Resources: Cindy Prior
Respect Life: Carol Ruskino
Family Life/Education/Health: Open
Religious Recognitions: Theresa Cermak
Grandparent Ministry: Colleen Dobie

Our Archdiocese also has a series of unique Catholic Identity Patches that can be earned including the Archbishop's Patch, the Naomi-Ruth, the Martha and Mary, the Miriam, the Year of Mercy and the St. Mother Theresa Patches and others. Look for full information, how to order materials and submission forms on the ACCW website, accwarchspm.org.



Grandparent Ministry Colleen Dobie

Catholic grandparents of children with disabilities, ranging from mild to severe, may be concerned about the inclusion of these children in religious education and preparation for the sacraments. The United States Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has declared that disability in itself never disqualifies a person from the sacraments. Persons with physical, developmental, or cognitive impairments do not have spiritual disabilities. With proper instruction, all can learn to participate in the Mass and sacraments according to their capacity.

In the book, "How to Welcome, Include, and Catechize Children with Autism and Other Special Needs," Lawrence Sutton presents a guide for creating a religious education program for children with a wide range of disabilities. The author is particularly qualified to address the needs of these children as he is a deacon in the Catholic Church and a psychologist who works with people with autism. The program incorporates the use of trained teenage faith mentors to work one-on-one with individualized religious education and sacramental preparation plans which are adapted to each individual child. Sutton recognizes that "Every child's impairment is different, as are his or her strengths and abilities." Each child has a different learning style and will respond to instruction differently. The program utilizes the "Adaptive Finding God Kit" (www.loyola.press.com) which provides materials that break down the Catechism of the Catholic Church into simple, concrete lessons, using different tools and activities for different levels and learning styles.

Although Sutton's book is geared to implementing an adaptive religious education program through teen mentors, (continued on next page)

Respect Life Carol Rusinko

LIFE IS A PRECIOUS GIFT--DEFEND IT

"Let's not take life for granted. . . . As a nation we have a long way to go in respecting life and creating a culture of life. The unborn are sadly under renewed attack by the state government in New York. Many other proposed laws in other states seek to take away what little protection exists for unborn children in the third trimester of life. Some officials have even advocated the right to infanticide! Our respect for life also must include the elderly, the disabled, the migrants who need humanitarian assistance regardless of whether they will ultimately stay in our great land or return to their native place, and for those whose lives have been forever changed by violence perpetrated by criminal aliens, gangs, drug smugglers, or human traffickers. These human traffickers take advantage of young girls, teen girls, young adult women, boys and vulnerable adult men as well. These criminal elements in our society have shown us that "slavery" still exists. Greed is the root cause of these evils. As we see the sacredness of life under assault, we as a united people must work for the common good and be converted to the Gospel of Life. Our respect for human life must be total and complete." (Source: Fr. Bryan J.B. Pedersen, February 10, 2019, Sacred Heart Catholic Church Bulletin, p. 2)

Please promote and participate in the following events sponsored and led by Pro-Life Action Ministries. Additional details can be found at www.plam.org. or call 651-771-1500. All events take place at Planned Parenthood, 671 Vandalia St., St. Paul, MN 55114

40 Days for Life Twin Cities ~ Lent, March 6 – April 14, 2019 — 3 p.m. Daily hour of prayer led by **Pro-Life Action Ministries**. You are also encouraged to come out to pray anytime each day.

What hour will you/your parish pray? There are 187 parishes in our archdiocese. If every parish prayed just one hour, there would be 4.68 parishes per day interceding for those who cannot defend themselves -- the baby in the womb!

Jericho March, April 8-14, 2019, 3 p.m.

During Lent, our Jericho March around Planned Parenthood begins by marching around the block in silence once a day for six days. The seventh day, we march around Planned Parenthood six times in silence and the seventh time make a lot of noise!

36th Annual Good Friday Prayer Vigil, April 19, 2019, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Join with us in prayer on Good Friday at Minnesota's highest volume abortion facility. Fifteen area pastors will lead those gathered in the reading of scripture and prayers, one each half hour throughout the day.



Please complete and return the "**LIFE LINKS**" form for the 2018-2019 fiscal year by June 30, 2019. It can be found in the **Forms Booklet 2018** distributed at the April 2018 ACCW Convention or online at www.accwarchspm.org under FORMS.

Grandparent Ministry continued from previous page.

its emphasis on development of relationships and individualized instruction appears to also lend itself perfectly to grandparents in the role of faith mentors, either informally or in a formal program. Grandparents are in an ideal position to observe their grandchildren and have undoubtedly learned, since the children were infants, to adapt many tasks of daily life to each child's unique abilities. Grandparents generally have developed a special relationship with their grandchild, and therefore are able to readily recognize the child's communication abilities and coping strategies. They know what works and what doesn't!

Teenage grandchildren without severe impairments, who attend a church with an established program for children with special needs, should be encouraged to consider volunteering as teen faith mentors. This experience may offer opportunities to develop great empathy and understanding for others and may even lead them to consider careers in working with persons with disabilities, or in other roles of service.

Loyola Press also offers adaptive sacramental preparation kits for First Eucharist, Reconciliation, and Confirmation for children with special needs in both English and Spanish. An additional helpful resource is the book "Faith, Family, and Children with Special Needs: How Catholic Parents and Their Kids with Special Needs Can Develop a Richer Spiritual Life" by David Rizzo, a physical therapist and parent of a child with Autism.



More From President Debbie Keller:

"I am pleased to announce that Archbishop Hebda has appointed **Betty Berge** as our next ACCW President! Betty comes to us with a wealth of Council experience, having held several CCW board positions at her parish, the Southwest Deanery and the ACCW. She and her husband Gene live in the Faribault area and belong to Divine Mercy parish, where she is very active in a variety of ministerial work. She states, "I love people and want to help those less fortunate, to make our world a better place. I believe ACCW promotes these values while giving women opportunities to serve unselfishly." Please join me in welcoming our 2019-2021 ACCW President, Betty Berge!"



On Dec. 8 our annual **Advent Morning of Reflection** was held at Holy Name of Jesus in Medina. Over 200 women enjoyed composer and pianist Dan Kantor and his wife, vocalist Sara Kantor who performed several original pieces including "Night of Silence". Fr. Michael Daly of St. Odilia's shared mystical accounts and insights surrounding Our Lady of Guadalupe's appearance in 1531. Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Hebda, and divinely cantored by vocalists Emma and Monica Shukle, concluded the inspirational morning. Thanks to Church Commission Chair Carole Hedlund and West Deanery President Mary Jo Sherwood for co-chairing this event.

Above and at right are some photos from our Advent Morning of Reflection including speaker Fr. Michael Daly, some of the attendees and the CCW women who help serve the morning treats.

Service

Community Concerns

Mickey Nickelson, Chair

FIAT – “May it be done to me according to your word.” Luke 1:38

This is the time of year when we are more apt to be indoors rather than out; a time when we look forward to warmer and longer days. So when you are invited to travel to warmer climates how could you say *no*?

Many of our decisions are easy and make our lives “easier.” Others take reflection, compassion, and self-sacrifice.

In late January, World Youth Day was held in Panama City. The theme was Luke 1:38. I am always encouraged when I read what attending meant to the young people who attended. With internet capabilities many more were able to have the “experience” even if remotely.

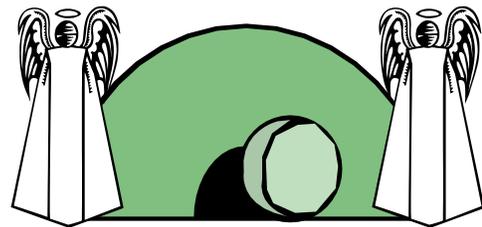
Bishop Robert Barron – a favorite of mine – was one of the speakers. I have found he has a way of presenting that makes me ponder and reflect on what I heard and then, I want to share his message.

His audience was young people but his message was for all of us. He spoke about Peter’s fiat – follow me, leave your boat. His boat was everything – his very livelihood. When we allow God “in our boat,” God is in our lives’. He commands self-sacrifice, compassion, a whole life

style of love. We go from living in shallow water to living in deep waters – sometimes scary and unknown. With the invasion of grace (Bishop Barron’s words) we have self-confidence to put our nets back in even when we have been fishing for a long time and have caught nothing.

How does this help when dealing with our own community concerns? For me it is a reminder that before I invest in a fishing license, I need to spend time in prayer; need to know I will be asked to sacrifice, and to express compassion and love. It is a reminder to me to go “fishing” even when I have not seen the results; God is in my boat.

Keep doing the good work that you do and remember God is in your boat.



Dignity and Vocation of Women

Madonna Russo

There was a time when women were regarded by law as property of either their husband or their father. In 1920, nearly one hundred years ago, women were given the right to vote. Since that time women have enjoyed greater freedom in society. Unfortunately, there were some women who actually wreaked havoc on the status of women’s inherent dignity and brought them untold pain.

Margaret Sanger, the founder of Planned Parenthood and Simone de Bouvier, a proponent of legalized abortion and of abolishing the traditional family, were women who embraced ideals that some thought would liberate women. Instead women were being enslaved by men who could use them for their own gratification without having any

respect for their life-giving role or for the consequences of their children.

Pope Saint John Paul II had a great love and devotion to Mary, the Mother of God. She was his constant companion in life and he sought her help in all his needs. The dignity of women became a focal point of his pontificate. In 1998 he wrote the document *On the Dignity and Vocation of Women (Mulieris Dignitatem)*.

God chose to come to earth and take on our human nature. God’s revelation in Jesus Christ came about through a woman. This unique and singular event raises the dignity of woman to heights that could never be achieved naturally. In all her femininity, a woman bore the Savior. Through her free will, Mary said “yes” to become the Mother of God. Mary thus represents the entire human race in her acceptance of divine grace.

International Concerns

Marcia Simon, Chair

Here's an update for Kitui Dormitory Project: The ACCW Board had put a challenge to raise \$50,000 by December, 2018. I would like to inform you that we sent \$20,000 to them in December from all of your donations. So at this time I would like to thank each person, church or group that donated to the current dormitory project. We always welcome donations for the Kitui Dormitory Project.

June 30, 2019, is coming very quickly. That is the deadline for money to be turned into the ACCW Office for the Madonna Fund. As of January 31, 2019 we have collected only \$4,800.43. I pray that each person, church or group pray about donating to help our brothers and sisters in need.

I was cleaning my Mom's and In-law's houses and found this book: The Kitchen Sink Prayer Book written by Bernadette McCarver Snyder. With Lent approaching I thought this was a good piece of advice from the book. It is called "2 cents each".

"I've got to get a better handle on my life, Lord! I've finally become resigned to the fact that I don't have any pull and certainly not enough push. But, Lord, you and I both know that I should at least be able to get a handle on what I do have. Help me, Lord.

"Help me clean out my linen closet, my garage, and my mind. Help me pitch out all those hems-and-haws and put in some get-with-its. Help me replace the 'what ifs?' with some bright new 'why not's?'"

Service

Community Concerns Commission

Chair: Mickey Nickelson 651-698-3708
Our Lady of Peace Home: Kathy Halverson
Environmental Concerns: Open
Dignity & Vocation of Women: Madonna Russo
Domestic Violence: Marge Sehnert
Physical and Mental Health: Rose Anne Hallgren (Resource)

International Concerns Commission

Chair: Marcia Simon 507-649-1051
Works of Peace/World Peace: Open
Foreign Missions: Mary Androli
Ethnic Understanding: Open
Appalachia: Olive Hupf (Resource)



"Help me see that your love can give me enough push to handle anything. Help me remember that I DO have a friend in high places! You are my friend, Lord. And who needs more pull than that?"



Appalachia/Domestic Missions Olive Hupf

After another successful year supporting the ACCW Appalachia Christmas project in 2018, I am happy to announce the ACCW will again be sponsoring the Appalachian Christmas Mission next fall. The semi, donated by the Terminal Transport Inc. of Roseville, will again be at the Hupf farm in Randolph, MN from Saturday, Oct. 26 through Thursday, Nov. 7. Terminal Transport has donated their semi at our place for these 16 days, and will pick it up and take it to Kentucky at absolutely no cost to us. I talked to the owner and asked permission to print their address for us to send a Thank you to them. This is the address: Terminal Transport, Inc, care of Lisa Klatt, 2982 Cleveland Ave, Roseville, MN 55113. I would appreciate it very much if you could just drop them a line to thank them. They have also said that they would furnish the semi as long as we want it. What a generous donation and without them we could not support this mission!

Going forward, please use my cell phone to contact me, 507-581-2808, or e-mail me at olivehupf@gmail.com, as I will soon no longer have a landline. You can message me on my cell also. Please, when you e-mail or message put Semi or Kentucky in the subject line.

Many, many thanks to all of you who have participated in these missions and we welcome anyone else to participate. The donated articles must all be new and clothing for any age from babies to seniors. They make very good use out of everything. Small household items are also welcome, as are toys for children.

Our people in Kentucky thank you and pray for us always. They are so grateful for our great generosity here in Minnesota. God Bless you always.

Around the Deaneries

Northwest Deanery Betty Thomes, President

The fall was a busy time for our CCW groups. The St. Henry's CCW in Monticello hosted our NW Deanery Fall Gathering. With over 60 women, we learned about human trafficking from Rachel Hrbeck, the Plastic Mat Project from Carole Hedlund, and the Kitui Girl's Dormitory Project from ACCW President, Debbie Keller.

The NW Deanery had nine parishes that participated in the Appalachia Christmas Project. Donations were delivered to St. Albert's Parish Center on Oct. 25, and then trucked to Olive Hupf's farm. Parishes and families were very generous in their giving to our brothers and sisters in Appalachia.

The NW Deanery CCW participated in an Advent Retreat sponsored by the King's House Retreat Center in Buffalo. About 60 women took advantage of this retreat. The theme was "Be Patient in Affliction". Two morning presentations were followed by lunch, Reconciliation, Scriptural Rosary and Closing Liturgy.

The Buffalo St. Francis Xavier CCW group had a Baby Bottle Campaign for Respect Life organizations and raised \$3,491.00. The proceeds went to MCCL, Corner Stone Women's Center, and Human Life Alliance.

Here are some upcoming events in the NW Deanery.

- St. Timothy CCW in Maple Lake is hosting a Quilt BINGO on March 24 at 1 p.m. at St. Timothy Catholic School. They will have 15 Bingo games with beautiful quilts as prizes.
- A Lenten Retreat is planned for Thursday, March 28 at the King's House.
- The St. Henry CCW in Monticello, along with the Youth Ministry, hosted a "Baby Shower" for Options for Women/Cornerstone in St. Michael during the month of February. We collected baby items, clothing and diapers.
- The Church of St. Henry CCW and K of C will be holding a Quilt Bingo on Sunday, March 31, from 1 to 4 p.m. at Little Mountain Elementary School, 9350 Fallon Ave. in Monticello, MN. Bag lunch and snacks will be available for purchase.

We are very blessed in our deanery. We are loving women of service making a difference in our parishes - changing lives.

At right, past Northwest Deanery President Judy Beaudry welcomed Betty Thomes at her installation.

Minneapolis Deaneries Kathy Williams, President

The Minneapolis Council has been planning events and dates for the coming year. We are also updating the standing rules of our organization.

The February edition of INSIGHT was edited and sent out recently with news about our Deanery and articles by our commissions.

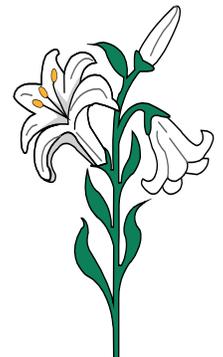
On Wednesday, Feb. 20, we had a tour of the St. Paul Seminary. We attended the 11:35 Mass in the chapel. After Mass, third year seminarian Paul Hedman gave us a tour the Seminary. Then we had lunch at the Cleveland Wok Restaurant on our own.

Saturday, Feb. 23, Immaculate Conception CCW hosted a Leadership Day put on by Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women. The keynote speaker was Jean Stoplestad who is the Director of Marriage, Family and Life for the Archdiocese.

A Board Meeting was set for Wednesday, March 6.

Our next Deanery Day is Monday, March 25, at St. Patrick's in Edina. The Church Communities Commission will have Dr. Don and Deanna Wessel speak on Blessed Solanus Casey. There will an election of officers and installation following Mass. Fr. Al Backman will celebrate Mass at noon. We are having a silent auction fund raiser as well.

Finally, the Executive Committee has decided to have a pot luck picnic for all our CCWs sometime in early July. Date and time to be announced.



St. Paul Deanery

JoAnn Vertetis, President

Archbishop Anthony Muheria, visiting from the Kutui diocese of Kenya, kept his sense of humor, when the weather dipped 104 degrees colder than in his homeland. I spoke with him at an impromptu Kenyan tea hosted by ACCW president, Debbie Keller. He shared hopes and dreams for the Kenyan Church and inspiration received from youth encountered at the World Youth Day in Panama.

On the homefront, our Saint Paul Deanery canceled our Feb. 21 meeting at St Peter's in North St. Paul due to the inclement weather. We'll convene on **April 25** for our spring meeting at **Holy Childhood Catholic Church in St Paul**. Speakers will address topics of Catholic Rural Life in Minnesota and Rachel's Vineyard Healing Ministry.

The **Catholics at the Capitol** was held on Feb. 19 and following is legislation the Minnesota Catholic Conference encourages us to support:

Traffic Fees/Fines and Driver's License Protection: Fines and fees from traffic, parking, and minor criminal violations strip assets from low-income communities. Minnesotans unable to pay these fines can face license suspension, additional fees and job loss.

Strengthen the Safety Net for Low-Income Families and Children: The Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) provides work support and temporary cash assistance for children and their parents. Current maximum amount of \$532 per month has not changed since 1986.

Child Care: The Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) is the state's largest program serving infants and toddlers. It offers financial support for child-care expenses based on family income, allowing parents to work and go to school. Currently over 2,000 families are on a waiting list in need of assistance.

For more information about these bills and others, go to www.mncatholic.org. Make your voice heard!

Lenten Book Recommendation: *Well-Read Mom's Catholic book club* just finished reading *Reed of God* first published in 1944. Through beautiful prose and meditations, the British Catholic writer Caryll Houselander depicts the intimately human side of Mary, Mother of God, as an empty reed waiting for God's music to be played through her. Consider picking up a copy!



Cathy Healy, left, and JoAnn Vertetis with Archbishop Anthony Muheria, formerly of the Kitui Diocese, Kenya.

Northeast Deanery

Northeast Deanery Parishes will host Mary's Way of the Cross Friday March 22 at 7 p.m. at St. Michael following their fish fry and April 5 at 9 a.m. at St. Genevieve following 8 a.m. Mass.



NE Deanery CCW women stand near their banner featuring photos of each deanery church following a special Valentine's day meal they served to their Deanery of priests. From L to R: Margaret Simmet of St. Michael's, Stillwater, Patty Bradway and Debbie Keller of St. Pius X, White Bear Lake and Jaana Nystrom, St. Michael's, Stillwater.

West Deanery Lenten Retreat

The West Deanery is having a Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 30 at St. John the Baptist Church in Excelsior. 680 Mill Street. The theme will be Mary's sorrows. Fr. James Kubicki from Relevant Radio will be the speaker.

The retreat will start at 9 a.m. with registrations beginning at 8:30 and Mass at noon. A light breakfast will be served. The early bird cost is \$20 per person at www.archspm.org.

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
PERMIT NO 2767

777 FOREST ST. N.
SAINT PAUL, MN 55106
Phone: 651-291-4545
Email: ACCW@archspm.org
Web: www.accwarchspm.org

*Please advise the ACCW Office
if there is an error in your address
or if you are receiving duplicate copies.
Thank You.*

Southwest Deanery **Doreen Hogan, President**

The Southwest Deanery held its board meeting on Feb. 19 at Our Lady of the Prairie Church in Belle Plaine. Plans were made for our Lenten Spiritual Day which will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 9 at St. Wenceslaus Church in New Prague. The day will include Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Mass, as well as a Silent Auction and lunch. Our guest speaker will be Sharon Wilson. She works to bring others the fullness of God's mercy.

On April 11 our Open Meeting will be held at Immaculate Conception Church in Lonsdale. This night features a speaker from our Community Concerns Commission. At this event, parishes drop off cash donations that will go directly to the Cancer Home. The evening will conclude with the installation of our new President, Treasurer and Secretary.

This past year, I shared with our local parishes a national program I wanted to support called the Vocation Purse Club. This program was established in 2016 as a way to help young women drawn to religious life. Starting in July, a collection jar was set out at all deanery events for donations for this program. The donations we received are amazing! We will continue to take donations until the April Open Meeting. At that time, a grand total will be

revealed. I am looking forward to share our group efforts toward this project. Thank you for your generous donations.



Southeast Deanery Events

The Southeast Deanery will have its Day of Reflection March 14 at St. Pius V Church in Cannon Falls beginning with registration at 8:30 a.m. The main speaker will be Yen Fasano, an active member of the Vietnamese Community in the Archdiocese. She was a delegate to the Convocation of Catholic Leaders in 2017 and recently traveled with a delegation to World Youth Day in Panama. We look forward to hearing her stories. April 11, we will host our spring Deanery meeting at St. John the Baptist Church in Vermillion. The meeting is open to all women in SE Deanery parishes.