



**NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHDIOCESAN  
COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN**

**SAINT PAUL / MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA**

*From the Desk of our President . . .*

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*Past President*  
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*Church*  
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*Family Concerns*  
Mary Alice  
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*Community Concerns*  
Kay O'Keefe

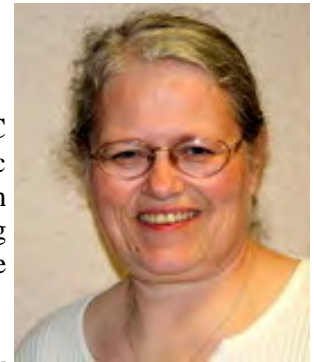
*International Concerns*  
Agnes Dynes

*IMAGE Editor*  
Carol Shukle

Dear Women of CCW:

I can't believe that this is my last IMAGE article...

On the National Level, I was able to go to Washington DC for the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of the National Council of Catholic Women. It was one of the highlights of my presidency. On the local level, the most memorable moment was attending the Northwest Deanery meeting in a tornado. Plus I won the quilt. Go figure!



Minneapolis Deaneries always amazed me by how many women showed up when the weather was bad. I enjoyed hearing about the Saint of the day and I was honored to be their speaker for information day. Southeast deanery treated me to St. Agatha in Coates and St. Mary of Bellchester. I had always wished to see those churches and was excited when I heard they were hosting meetings.

The Southwest Moderator, Father Michael Ince, is my spiritual advisor of my youth. I had great fun when I came to those meetings. It was in that deanery that I first heard Patrick Mader read his children's books. There is something about hearing an author reading their own works. St. Paul Deaneries is in for a treat when he comes for their night of enrichment.

West Deanery is lead by a fellow Totino Grace Alumnus, Carol Shukle. It was humbling to follow in her footsteps as ACCW President. Northeast Deanery is inactive but several women from that deanery have still served on my ACCW board and provided great leadership.

Last but not least is St. Paul Deaneries. It was there that I learned leadership skills that I will take with me for a lifetime. Father Michael Skluzacek is my pastor and he has me to thank for being asked to be the St. Paul Deaneries Moderator. Thank you Father Skluzacek for your support.

I once made the comment about having a favorite deanery and I was told that having a favorite deanery was not possible because it would show favoritism. But I can happily say that is not so. In a unique way, every one of the deaneries is my favorite.

The ACCW needs all rings of Council to function. Keep doing what you are doing. I hope to see everyone at the Convention on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at Risen Savior Church in Burnsville.

Blessings,  
Theresa Marie Cermak, ACCW President

# Moderator's Corner



## Is It too Early to Start Planning for Lent?

As some of us have by now discovered, Easter this year falls one day shy of the latest possible date that it can ever fall in the Church calendar. This means of course that Ash Wednesday (March 9<sup>th</sup>) and the whole season of Lent also shift to a later time as well. Since it seems that we have

just finished packing away all of the Christmas decorations, let me pose a forward looking question. Is it too early to begin planning for the season of Lent? To address my own question, I believe that the answer is NO. Let me explain.

Each year when the two major seasons of self examination and conversion (Advent and Lent) roll around, I usually find myself unprepared because the season seems to creep up on me unexpectedly from the routine of Ordinary Time. Consequently, it takes me a couple of weeks to fully “get into the swing” of the season. This year is different. I have made a resolution to give some forethought to the season of Lent before it occurs. Now seems as good a time as any to begin that thinking process.

Lent by its tone is fairly similar to the season of Advent. However, whereas Advent's primary focus is watchful waiting, looking forward to the celebration of the coming of the Messiah, Lent is more strongly penitential in nature. We are called to enter the wilderness of our lives in order to spend time as Christ did, battling temptations and depending on the Father's love and care for us as the sole source of strength in our lives, rather than placing our dependence on the things that this world offers. Sustained by the strength provided by his forty days in the desert, Jesus was ready to move in to his public ministry, a journey which would eventually lead him to the cross – the ultimate sacrifice in love on our behalf.

Our season of Lent is meant to mirror Christ's time of preparation and “retreat”. In fact, we walk our Lenten journey in prayer along with those catechumens who will be joining us in full participation in the Catholic faith at the Easter Vigil. For them the Church provides a whole structure of prayers and scrutinies during the six weeks of

## **Fr. David Kohner, ACCW Moderator**

Lent to aid in their self examination and conversion experience. For the rest of us, there is no such formula - we are somewhat on our own. Thus any forethought given ahead of time, now before Ash Wednesday, to the upcoming 40 days, can bear fruit in a faster entry into the spirit and practices of conversion that Lent invites.

In our personal planning for the practices in our lives that will help us set Lent apart from other times of the year, perhaps the best approach is to take our cue from the scriptures – specifically the Gospel that is used on Ash Wednesday, where Jesus names the three penitential practices characteristic of this season: prayer, fasting and almsgiving (sometimes more broadly stated as good deeds). A richer Lent can be experienced by choosing one specific action in each of these traditional three disciplines. What sort of prayer will be most beneficial to you – 5-10 minutes per day to pray through the daily Mass scriptures, or a weekly participation in the Stations of the Cross, or a half hour each week in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament? It's a personal choice. Although fasting may to some seem old fashioned, giving up something that we enjoy (not necessarily food), both helps us experience a tiny bit of the sacrifice that Jesus made for us and invites us to bring discipline into our lives on a physical and spiritual level. Finally, the almsgiving or good deeds that we do remind us that our money and time are not our own, but rather gifts from God to be shared with others.

My point is not so much the specific actions that we choose during the Lenten season, but rather that we begin thinking now, ahead of time, to how we will use the upcoming time to journey with Jesus on his way to the cross. Given the particular life circumstances of each person, what will give you the richest Lenten experience that will foster your conversion and spiritual growth? (And yes, doing nothing should NOT be an option!)



# From our Province Director

**Leona Barton,**  
**Province of St. Paul and Minneapolis**

leona.barten@grsb.com

God is good! I think that often as I look back on my activities the past year. I have attended many National Council of Catholic Women meetings learning more about the organization and realizing how much more there is to do to follow our mission.

The National Council of Catholic Women Board of Directors met at the Washington Retreat House in Washington, DC January 21<sup>st</sup> through January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011. Here are some highlights of the meeting.

We discussed the roles and responsibilities we have as members of the Board of Directors: the duty of care; the duty of loyalty; and the duty of obedience. Some of the goals were communication, membership, financial solvency, spirituality, networking and the ultimate goal was NCCW's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Convention will be limited to three resolutions that support the Commission programs for the Campaign for Human Dignity. A Call for Resolutions will be sent out to the membership. Resolutions will specify under which commission – Spirituality, Service or Leadership – they should be considered. The resolutions will then be sent to the respective Commissions for formation into a single resolution to be presented at the 2011 Convention. President Patty Johnson appointed me as the Chair of the Resolutions Committee.

We are developing a partnership with Cross International. This partnership with Cross International is not in competition with Catholic Relief Services. They offer different types of programs. It is the decision of the province, diocese, and/or parish to support Cross International programs. NCCW will continue to support Catholic Relief Services as well. More details can be found on the NCCW website.

President Johnson presented Membership Awards to the Province Directors that had ADCCW's with at least 75 NCCW members. Winona DCCW received an award for 92 members. Additional membership awards were presented to the Provinces with the most NCCW individual memberships. The Province of St. Paul and

Minneapolis was presented a reward. I was a very proud Province Director. We had a Diocese with the most individual memberships and our Province was one of the top six.

**Membership.** It is important to keep contact information current. Statistics were presented that state there are 3210 active affiliations and only 490 presidents are individual members which is 15%. Some have never been an individual member or contributed to annual giving. WE need to change this. Our leaders need to be individual members showing their support for NCCW.

Are we participating in the national education-fund raising program on the Truth of the Eucharist? A/DCCW presidents received this information at the 2010 Annual Convention. Please participate in this fundraiser which brings attention to the importance of the Eucharist. Contact your presidents.

**GO TO CHICAGO!** The 2011 NCCW Annual Convention will be held November 9-12, 2011, at the Chicago Marriott Downtown, Chicago, Illinois. The theme is, Campaign for Human Dignity: Love in Action. Please start making plans to attend.

After the meeting we were able to participate in the March for Life. I attended the Vigil Mass at the Cathedral. Mass was at 6:30 pm but we went to the Cathedral at 2 pm to be sure we could find a seat (last year we had to stand the whole time). It was a moving experience seeing all the people attending the mass and being a part of the vigil. I was not able to participate in the March this year as I had to return home as I had to work Tuesday.

The next NCCW board meeting will be in June 2011. I will be attending the New Ulm DCCW Convention in April. In May I will attend the Archdiocesan CCW Convention (President Patty Johnson will be a speaker), and the Duluth DCCW Convention (Bishop Sirba, Bishop of the Diocese of Duluth will be a speaker). I am representing you at all these events.

Thank you for all your support. Keep checking the NCCW website – new information is posted on a regular basis.

# It's Official!

## Dates to Remember!

### 2011

March 9	Ash Wednesday
April 21-23	Easter Triduum
May 1	Rosary Procession
May 5	ACCW 79th Biennial Convention
June 12	Pentecost Sunday
August 15	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

### PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR DEANERY

Minneapolis	Mary Gunderson	763-576-0928
St. Paul	Rose Marie Barton	651-292-0439
Northwest	Judy Beaudry	763-497-4344
	Mary Helen Swartzner	763-682-3832
Southeast	Olive Hupf	507-263-2705
Southwest	Madonna Russo	507-357-6581
West	Carol Shukle	952-472-6928

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

[www.accwarchspm.org](http://www.accwarchspm.org)



The ACCW Board and staff wish you and your family a Happy Easter!



Follow us on Face book  
St. Paul and Minneapolis  
Archdiocesan Council of  
Catholic Women become a fan  
and suggest to your friends

## SAVE THE DATE!

ACCW 79th Biennial Convention

Thursday, May 5, 2011

**Rejoice and Renew** is the theme of the Convention on Thursday, May 5, 2011 at Risen Savior in Burnsville. Cost for the day is 25.00 if registered before April 26, 2011. **\$30.00 after that date.**

The day will begin with registration at 8:00am; followed by General Assembly at 8:45 am.

Archbishop John Nienstedt will be our celebrant.

Lunch will follow. Our luncheon speaker, Patty Johnson, NCCW President will talk at 1pm. Exhibits will be available for review throughout the day.

Please visit them.

**Please see enclosed flyer.**

### NOMINATIONS FOR ACCW OFFICIERS

\* 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: *Debbie Keller*

\* Secretary: *Dianne Krueger*

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

### NEW ACCW PRESIDENT

Congratulations to Rose Anne Hallgren on her recent appointment by Archbishop Nienstedt to serve a 2 year term as ACCW President from 2011-2013. Rose Anne attends St. Louis, King of France parish. She will be installed at the ACCW Convention on May 5, 2011. She has been active for many years with CCW and currently holds the position of Physically Mentally Challenged.

### Proposed Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions

ACCW Bylaw Amendments and Convention Resolutions are considered for adoption at the Biennial Convention.



# Organization Commission

**Maureen Willenbring, Chair**  
**651-484-3283**

Is it time for your CCW to consider changes in order to make things happen?

**ALL KINDS OF OPPORTUNITIES ARE COMING UP FOR YOU TO CONSIDER . . .**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am to 1:30 pm - "A DAY OF DISCOVERY"**

ACCW invites you and women in your parish to a special day you will not forget ... an opportunity to change the way you look at change, discover how you already make a difference, redefine the meaning of the word leadership, and leave with ideas on how to bring energy to your CCW organizations. This will take place at St. Odilia's Parish in Shoreview, 3495 No. Victoria St., ½ mile south of Interstate 694 - Victoria St. Exit.

*Dr. Frankie Poplau, the featured speaker, is a favorite of ACCW, Deaneries, and parish members. She is well known for her workshops and presentations on generational traits and their importance in understanding each other. On March 10<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Frankie will move us into several other areas that can make a difference in your personal life, the workplace and volunteer ministry.*

We hope all who read this will consider this a special invitation, plan to attend, will invite friends, and spread the word to other women. See the flyer in this issue for details.

With many challenges facing CCW organizations these days, we also hope that your CCW will welcome the opportunity to "discover" ways to address some of those challenges.

**Cost for the day is \$10, which includes lunch.**  
**Reservations are required by Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Send to: ACCW at 328 West Kellogg Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55102** with your name, address, zip code, parish and its location.

Car pool and bring a group from your parish!

**ACCW "ON THE ROAD" - Leadership Training Program**

Will be coming to two more Deanery CCWs  
**Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**  
– Northwest Deanery St. Francis Parish, Buffalo, MN  
9am – 12:00 pm

**Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>** – Minneapolis Deaneries  
Information Day, Holy Name Parish, Mpls.

Programs can address particular training topics depending on the time frame. Samples:

*Do you want your incoming officers to know just what their job includes?*

*Do your members know what their role is?*

*What efforts have you made lately to recruit members, or to keep them?*

*What are "Commissions?" What do they include?*

*How can technology be used to promote what you do?*

Call the ACCW Office for information if you'd like to attend the above programs. 651-291-4545.

**THURSDAY, MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> - THE ACCW CONVENTION**

Our PRESIDENT is coming!!! Patty Johnson, NCCW President, from Fairfield Glade, TN will be coming to Minnesota, to our ACCW Convention! She will be the keynote speaker on May 5<sup>th</sup>, at Risen Savior parish in Burnsville. See the flyer in this issue, SAVE THAT DATE, and plan to be there!



*Rejoice and Renew*



St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women

**Invites you to**  
**A WOMEN'S DAY OF DISCOVERY**  
**...faith...service...community**

**Thursday, March 10, 2011**  
**9 am - 1:30 pm**

St. Odilia's Catholic Church  
3495 No. Victoria St.  
Shoreview, MN 55126  
651-484-6681

(1/2 mile south of I 694 Victoria St. exit)

**Cost for the day is \$10.00**  
**Includes lunch**  
**Reservation required before**  
**March 3, 2011**

Presented by

**Dr. Frankie Poplau**

who has served as a teacher, college program director, finance director, superintendent of schools and is currently consulting in the areas of technology, change management and executive leadership.

She has Bachelor degrees in music and education, a Master degree in technology management and a Ph.D. in educational leadership. Frankie is a frequent public speaker on topics of leadership, understanding people, ethics in action, as well as, technology today and in the future

*Grandmothers, mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends*

*You are invited to a special day you will not forget...an opportunity to...*

- change the way you look at change*
- discover how you already make a difference*
- redefine the meaning of the word leadership*
- leave with ideas on how to bring energy to groups*

*What you will gain will apply to your personal life, the workplace and volunteer ministry!*

Please fill out and return with payment to:

ACCW  
328 West Kellogg Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55102

For more information call: Maureen Willenbring 651-484-3283  
Christine Allie-ACCW office 651-291-4545

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Parish \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

*The registrants attending the ACCW Convention give permission to the ACCW to have their photograph published on the ACCW website*

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## Parliamentarian Report

Pat Reymann 651-454-4702

### RESOLUTIONS:

They're Not Just for New Year's Anymore

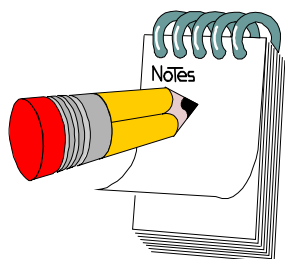
Watch your mail for the proposed resolutions that will be sent to you for your consideration at the ACCW Convention in May. Their purpose is to inspire CCW's and individuals to act on behalf of a particular cause. They are sponsored by the six commissions but may be done by anyone.

From a parliamentary point of view, resolutions are motions that contain a preamble and resolved clause(s). The preamble - or whereas clause(s) - give the rationale for taking a particular action. The resolved clauses specify the action to be taken and are considered first. When the resolved clauses are satisfactory, the Chair opens the floor to discussion and possible amendment of the preamble. If there were any amendments to the resolved clauses, the corresponding whereas parts may need to be amended as well. When the preamble is satisfactory, a vote is taken on the entire resolution, which requires a majority vote to adopt.

You may notice that they are written in a particular form. In the preamble, there is a comma after each "Whereas," and the word that follows is capitalized. Each clause of the preamble ends with a semi-colon; the next-to-last clause ends with "and". Each of the resolved clauses begins with the word "Resolved" in italics or underlined and followed by a comma; the word that follows is capitalized. Just like in the preamble, each clause ends with a semi-colon; the next-to-last clause ends with "and". There is a period at the end (only).

Four proposed bylaw amendments will be mailed to you as well. They will be considered individually and will require a 2/3 vote in the affirmative to be adopted. No other parts of the bylaws are open to amendment at that time, because notice and Board approval are needed before they may be brought to the convention for consideration.

See you at the convention!



## Communications

Stella Lundquist 651-552-9448

As ACCW Communications Vice Chairman, I would be remiss if I didn't write an article about our archdiocesan newspaper on the occasion of its centennial year. This is an opportunity to express how much The Catholic Spirit means to ACCW, the Deaneries and our parish affiliates. The Catholic Spirit has served all of us very well by being the main vehicle to inform those whom we cannot reach. We are very pleased that articles we submit are printed and often inserted in very conspicuous spaces on its pages. It has helped us in our communications of events so we can know what each other is doing all across the archdiocese. This enhances our participation in each others activities.

Because the Catholic Spirit has provided ACCW and all our affiliates with outstanding service throughout the years since our founding in 1933, we extend a most sincere THANK YOU to all who serve on the board: the editors, reporters, photographers and all who work at the Catholic Spirit for helping us fulfill our mission. They really understand our mission, nature and extensiveness of our organization.

In addition, we are proud to be in the same archdiocese as The Catholic Spirit because it has earned the first place award for General Excellence from the Catholic Press Association four times! From our vantage point, it deserves everyone of those awards! CONGRATULATIONS!



Joan McGrath and Mary Ann Kramer, two past NCCW presidents from Minnesota, share the podium at the National Convention.

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## Women's Issues

**Dianne Krueger 763-572-0095**

It seems that when it is time to write an article for the ACCW *Image Newsletter*, another woman has died by her partner. The stabbing of a man by his partner also made the news. It was called a domestic disturbance.

The Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women published their report on "Femicide," a new word for me. In Minnesota, 21 women, 7 children, and 2 men were killed by domestic violence during 2010.

There are things YOU can do to help end domestic violence:

- If you suspect a friend or family member is being battered (physically, verbally, or sexually) contact the Minnesota Domestic Violence Crisis Line at 866-223-1111.
- Contact your legislators and the Governor to let them know that ending domestic violence is a priority to you. Get friends and family to join you. Prevention of domestic violence is our goal. Stop it before it happens and escalates!
- Host the Clothes Line Project or the Empty Place at the Table displays at your school, parish, or even the workplace to raise awareness of domestic violence. Call the ACCW Office 651-291-4545 for contact information.
- Donate to your local battered women's shelter. Most operate with a shoestring budget and have had funding cuts in recent years. Shelters could not keep their doors open without dedicated volunteers.
- Alexander House, near me, publishes a monthly "Needs List" for in-kind donations. Due to limited storage space, they ask you to call before collecting items. A sample list of current "high needs" items includes non-perishable food, canned goods, boxed or "helper" dinners, cereal/oatmeal pasta and sauce, staples (flour, sugar, oil, etc.). Non-food items include toiletries, cleaning and laundry products, and gas cards.

Think about it! We CAN do something to help END domestic violence!



## Secretary

**Lucy Johnson 651-224-7102**

Currently, I am the ACCW Secretary. I've never been a secretary of an organization before because I've always found it hard to talk and write at the same time. Luckily I have role models who give me great advice. One tip that I received and find very helpful is to carry a small bag of "secretary" supplies. I use a zippered pencil container for my bag. In it, I keep red pens for correcting minutes, colored pieces of paper in case a ballot vote is requested, motion forms, and a copy of the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order. Other miscellaneous supplies include pens, paper clips, tape, and a small stapler. The brightly colored bag can be retrieved quickly and is very portable. This organizational tip has saved me time and has proven to be useful.

## Image Editor

**Carol Shukle 952-472-6928**

Today we have more options than ever for communicating with our membership at all rings of council. However, the time-honored printed newsletter still remains an effective communication method. Newsletters can be comprehensive or brief; fancy or simple. Interesting content is the most important aspect but don't forget appearance. The more you can keep your format neat, clean and readable, the better. Use a computer. And don't forget the extra impact of photos and clip art. Even on the parish level a small newsletter can be a wonderful tool for communicating with members and if you can post your newsletter on your parish website, even better.

There are a few things to keep in mind when writing a newsletter. Spelling and grammar is obvious. It is also important that all contributions from officers and committee heads and others are their own original work. Except in unusual circumstances, such as an article distributed by a news service, avoid "lifting" complete columns from other sources. When you do use material from other sources, either in total or in the form of excerpts or quotes, be sure to give credit to your source. The same goes for photos. If they are the work of your own members that is best. If you use a photo from the internet make sure that it is in the public domain — that is free for use. But if you need to use a photo from a specific source, be sure to get the necessary permission and give a photo credit. Newsletters can be printed commercially but many church offices have equipment capable of doing a small printing run. Your parish office staff would be a good source of guidance.

**St. Paul and Minneapolis  
Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women  
Invite you to attend the  
79<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention  
Thursday, May 5, 2011  
Church of the Risen Savior, Burnsville, MN**

ACCW has an exciting and faith-filled Convention planned and ALL women of the Archdiocese are invited to attend. The day will begin at 8:00 a.m. with registration and refreshments followed by a General Assembly meeting at 8:45 a.m. Many exhibits will be open all day allowing an opportunity for all to browse and purchase. The day will adjourn at 2:30 p.m. Please refer to the Convention Registration flyer that is included with this issue of the IMAGE.

During the business meeting, **Rose Anne Hallgren**, who has been appointed ACCW President by the Archbishop for the term of 2011 – 2013, will be introduced. Also, the election of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President and Secretary will be held and voting on Resolutions and Bylaws Amendments will take place.

The assembly will be dismissed at 11:00 a.m. to celebrate **Mass with Archbishop John C. Nienstedt**. Following Mass, the newly appointed ACCW President and elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Secretary will be installed. Greetings will be heard from past and incoming presidents.

Following lunch, our **Keynote Speaker is Patty Johnson, President of the National Council of Catholic Women**. She has an interesting story to tell about her journey through CCW that eventually led to her leadership at the national level and the spiritual benefits she has received from her ongoing love for service to the church and community.

Cost for the day is \$25.00 if registration is purchased by April 26, 2011. Cost after April 26 will be \$30.00. The traveling “Madonna” statue will be presented to the CCW having the largest representation in attendance. Please plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

Having the ACCW Convention in Burnsville, which is located in the Southwest Deanery of CCW, follows the ACCW plan of providing all areas of the Archdiocese with the privilege of hosting the ACCW Conference or Convention. Plans are to hold the 2012 Conference in the Minneapolis area.

For more information regarding the ACCW Convention, please call the ACCW Office, 291-4545, or Shirley Willenbring, Convention Chair, 651-453-0770.

**ACCW – moving forward with faith and joy**

# *St. Paul Deaneries Council of Catholic Women*

*Invites you to an*

## **Evening of Enrichment**

### ***HEARTWARMING STORIES OF THE HEARTLAND***

**Tuesday, March 29, 2011**

**Holy Childhood Catholic Church  
1435 Midway Parkway, St. Paul**

(Take Snelling Avenue to Midway Parkway (which begins at the entrance to the Minnesota State Fair Grounds). Turn east on Midway Parkway about two blocks to Pascal Avenue. Turn left on Pascal, then immediate right into Holy Childhood Church parking lot. )

**6:45 p.m. – Social with Refreshments**

**Speaker: Author, Patrick Mader**

**7:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**Cost: \$5.00 (donation)**

Patrick “Packy” Mader is an award winning Minnesota author of three inspirational and intergenerational children’s books with rural traditions and positive messages about family relationships. Parents and children love his stories because they are universal family stories about love and sharing.

Mr. Mader grew up as part of a family of six brothers and sisters on a dairy farm in rural St. Bonifacius. After graduating from college with an elementary education degree, he worked in both education and business fields. He currently resides with his family in Northfield, and is teaching at a Morristown Elementary School.

For more information, contact Lucy Johnson at 651-224-7102

# International Concerns

## Agnes Dynes, Chair 651-644-9911

An interesting article was published in the Catholic Spirit in the December 16th issue about Bob and Elaine Eberhart. The Eberhart family was involved with the Appalachian Christmas project for about 35 years. The trailer was parked and loaded on their farm, with gifts, clothing, quilts, and many other things to be sent to Kentucky. Their children and grandchildren helped with the packing.



In November 2010 the trailer was brought to the Vern Hupf farm near Randolph, MN. The Eberharts could no longer take care of it because of poor health.

Rose Anne Hallgren, my granddaughter, Kalley, and I went to the Eberhart farm and visited with Elaine on December 14th. We brought a card and a poinsettia plant and sent a donation in their honor to the two priests in Kentucky from the ACCW Board. We had such a good visit and Bob was sleeping. He died on January 16th 2011. If you want to send a card to Elaine the address is 7491 Stillwater, Blvd., Oakdale, MN 55128.

My husband, Buzz, died in April and this was our first Christmas without him. We miss him very much. On December 15th a gift appeared on my back step. It was a gift for the 1st day of Christmas from a true friend. In the afternoon another gift appeared for the 2nd day of Christmas. I waited anxiously each day for a new present. On the 12th day of Christmas I received a beautiful book of the 12 days with no name of who gave it to me. I called the friend I thought it was but it wasn't her, She was too busy working for the post office and thought it was a good idea.

About a week later my neighbor brought over his 2 kids while he took their youngest son to the doctor. When he came back he asked me how my Christmas was. I said "It was wonderful and someone gave me presents for the 12 days of Christmas. Do you know anything about it?" He said "I can not tell a lie; I am a minister. Did the kids say anything about it?" I said "No" When the kids came upstairs he asked them about it. His 6-year-old said "We gave Christmas gifts for the 12 days of Christmas to a widow." That was me. It was so great to be remembered

and to think I am special. I found out last week our neighbors had given gifts to the man across the street last year. The parents said that the children had so much fun doing it and taking the gifts over so I wouldn't see them. This is a great way to make Christmas special for a friend, or neighbor. Here are the gifts they gave:

On the 1st day of Christmas Chex Mix that is tasty  
2nd day A pretty Christmas candle  
3rd A green coffee cup  
4th day A little can of truffles  
5th day Some tea to keep you toasty  
6th day Note worthy papers  
7th day Teeth tingling toffee  
8th day Hand-healing lotion  
9th day Super-cider spices  
10th day Santa's cookie holder  
11th day A journal for the memories  
12th day the Book of the 12 Days of Christmas

## Foreign Missions

### Mary Androli 507-362-4655

The weather in our part of the world has been challenging to say the least but it appears the other parts of the world are suffering more from disasters which are weather related. My friends, Dale and Joyce Grabarkiewicz, are now in Haiti trying to do what they can to help with the continuing situation there. In my last letter from them they said that the house where the Sacred Heart Mission volunteers usually stay has been rebuilt and is now available for some volunteers to stay on the third floor. The two lower floors are now housing the children from the orphanage they serve.

These children had spent nearly a year in a roof only shelter sleeping on makeshift cots and little else. It is next to impossible to get anything into the country since the docks are loaded with containers which were shipped without the necessary paperwork to disperse the contents. The government there is in turmoil since many officials were killed in the earthquake. The cholera epidemic has been a severe problem recently also.

It is frustrating to know what to do to help these people and all the others who are suffering in so many ways. We must pray for God's mercy on them. Of course financial help is always appreciated also. Thank you for whatever you can do to help the poor!

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## Another Successful Year for Appalachia Project CCW Women again lead gift Drives in area parishes

The women of CCW in parishes throughout the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis again led a successful collection of Christmas gifts for the people of Appalachia. This year for the first time the semi-truck was parked at the Vern and Olive Hupf farm near Hampton, MN.

Below is one of the reports and thank yous received after the holidays:

Dear Olive

The truck arrived this morning, Wednesday, 11/17 about 10:15. We got it all unloaded in less than 2 hours. One of the parishioners at St. Francis runs a business and he brought at least 20 men to help with unloading. He does it every year. This year he had to take them out of the field and off the drilling rigs because it came in later than usual. I got all the packages for Paintsville into a U-Haul rental truck. We had a crew down here in Paintsville to help unload. It didn't take too long.

Thank you and all your helpers that took care of things on your end. We deeply appreciate all that you do and I know how much work there is involved having been doing this now for 40 years. Many children and families will have a blessed Christmas because of the generosity of so many people.

Our prayers are with you all and be assured of a special remembrance in our Christmas Masses.

In Jesus & Mary,  
Fr. Hop



# Legislation Commission

**Denise Haaland, Chair 1-507-334-2781**

I have had a mailing on a group called Christian Seniors Association which is an alternative to AARP. With the different legislation on health care, marriage, and family issues out there, we need to look at other organizations we may belong to as Catholics. I realized AARP is not representing the views I have as a Christian. They are not 100% committed to defending and fighting for the traditional marriage-based Family. CSA believes that America's faith in God was a key reason for our greatness and the rejection of God in today's threat to our nations future. CSA would like to restore the moral values we have grown up with. Life means it all to us as Catholics.



Please write or call President Obama, to urge him to keep the family in mind and to support it as we know it from a Christian view. We are not hating our brothers and sisters with same-sex attraction, but acting as our Bishops are directing us on the image of marriage and family. He needs to hear from us who make up the majority in our great United States.

President Barack H. Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW.  
Washington DC 20500  
Phone: 202-456-1414

It would also be advisable to contact your Representative in Congress and the two Senators to urge them to not support the homosexual agenda.

The Honorable (name)  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable (name)  
U.S. Senate  
Washington DC 20510

Phone for both: 202-224-3121 The operator will contact you if you request them by name.

# Community Concerns

**Kay O'Keefe, Chair 651-735-4927**



The NCCW Convention held in Washington DC in November was only the second one that I missed since 1974, and my health prevented me from attending. God's divine energy and enthusiasm combined with my human desire to please God has allowed me to be Chairman of Community Concerns once again. I am truly young at heart and the

following is a formula for each of us to follow.

1. Believe that God's living breath is within us and is at the heart of our enthusiasm.
2. Imagine what God's will is for us in our particular stage of life.
3. Maintain our God-Given gift of humanity in the midst of debilitating aches and pains. (Fr. Eugene Hemrick)

**OLG Cancer Home**  
**Stella Lundquist 651-552-9448**

Every year during the third weekend in January, my parish has a collection after all of the Masses for Our Lady of Good Council Cancer Home. When I stand at the door with a basket for the donations, I am impressed with how grateful many of the parishioners are for the "Cancer Home". I have heard many stories about the positive experiences of their loved ones during their last days. Not only were their loved ones cared for in a very loving way, but they and their families were helped to accept the inevitable death of someone near and dear to them. Many people say that their donation can never express enough of a 'thank you' to the "Home" and they wish they could give a lot more.

I would recommend to those of you who don't have a certain weekend in your parish dedicated for OLG Cancer Home, to do so. Not only is it to help the "Home" to continue, but an opportunity for families and friends to say a "Thank you" for all that it has done to help them through a difficult time in their lives. It is both a Spiritual Work of Mercy and a Physical Work of Mercy.

It might of interest for you to know that two more Sisters

have recently joined OLGC. So, now it has four Franciscan Sisters who live and work there. They love to work with the dying. In fact, they have dedicated their lives to do so, much as Mother Theresa of Calcutta did and her sisters are doing all over the world.

Both Our Lady of Good Counsel Home and the hospice program provided in private homes, called St. Mary's Home, are looking for volunteers. You can apply by contacting Kelly at 651-789-5030 or 651-789-5034. Volunteers are matched with clients to watch sports, talk politics, remembering trips, reading etc. Some volunteers are more comfortable spending quiet time or in prayer with patients. Also, help is needed in the kitchen or bringing trays to the patients. Everyone has gifts to share. Volunteers help improve the quality of life for the patients, their families and friends.



Photos courtesy of OLG Cancer Home.



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## **Physically/Mentally Challenged**

**Rose Anne Hallgren 651-698-0497**

Being mentally or physically challenged is not a negative, yet our society finds it difficult to talk comfortably about its affects on our lives. We do not get through life without being challenged by some illness that affects our motions, emotions, voice, actions, appearance etc. Our illnesses can be scary, debilitating, lonely, painful, expensive, or even a mark of disgrace.

Intrinsically illnesses are not disgraceful, but many times people do not understand the causes of a particular illness or the consequences. At times the ill person is blamed for his or her illness.

Thus stigmas develop, and fears and scorn get in the way of individuals seeking adequate medical attention or solace. Stigma is a significant barrier to public acknowledgement of many illnesses. But stigma usually dissolves when someone we know and love contracts a particular disease.

Jesus taught us to be compassionate and understanding. He often told stories to define and emphasize His teachings.

### **ACCW Mental Illness Prayer Connection**

Call the ACCW office prayer connection  
line to request prayers for yourself  
or a loved one suffering from  
mental illness.

The number is 651-290-1636  
Messages can be left at any time

#### **Change to FAX Number**

Since the ACCW fax number will now be the  
Mental Illness Pray Connection line,  
if you would like to send a fax to the office  
please call first

You are invited to be a part of the ACCW Mental Illness Prayer Connection either by praying or calling in your request. Call the above number for requests or for praying contact the ACCW Office at 651-291-4545.

In the fall issue of Image, I suggested that you contact me with stories of your illnesses.

*{the sad, the bad, the tragic the humor, the struggle, the survival, your faith and your hope}}*

If you would grant me permission, I would like to share them at our Convention in May.

My contact is [rahra@usfamily.net](mailto:rahra@usfamily.net), 651-698-0497, or 2160 Eleanor, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55116.

## **Prison Ministry**

**Barb Breen 763-788-2482**

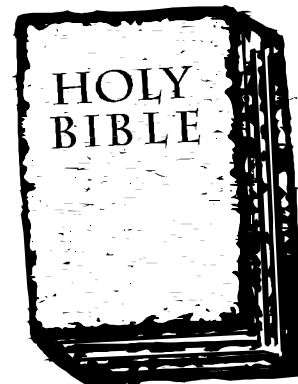
This year has been a successful year of Prison Ministry. I have gotten donations from the CCW ladies at the Women's Recovery Center such as backpacks, yarn, clothes, gift certificates from Target, fancy pillows for the top of beds, money for underwear, quilts...just to name a few. Wow, what a nice year. Thank you all! I have been in prison ministry for eight years and I love it. I go over to the Home of the Good Shepherd to do bible study once a week, I find it very rewarding.

The following was received at the ACCW office from the Recovery Center.

To: ACCW and Deaneries

On behalf of Women's Recovery Center the staff and our clients would like to take this time to sincerely say Thank You for the donations that we received as gifts for Christmas from your organization. Barbara Breen brought each one of our ladies a Back pack filled with a variety of needed incidentals. Because of your gracious spirits and generous hearts our women not only received these gifts, they received the love and hope of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Women's Recovery Center  
MI/CD Treatment Facility  
5100 Hodgson Road  
Shoreview, MN 55126  
651-484-7840  
Nicolette Moor, ADC



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## Human Rights and Dignity

**Jo Petron 763-424-2203**

When we act with compassion we lay the foundation for justice. Compassion compels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our brothers and sisters. We make sure that everyone is treated with justice, equity and respect.

Prayer helps us to be compassionate. "Prayer is forever inviting us simply to BE who God created us to be, as women of faith and members of Council. We will come alive in the way we treat and experience each other when we give ourselves to God in prayer." Patty Johnson, NCCW President.

When we act with compassion we advocate for those in poverty. Innovative solutions may seem hard to come by in these times of budget cuts. However, we must communicate to our legislators that the human condition can not be compromised.

"The promotion of justice through efforts to bring about openness of mind and will to the demands of the common good is something which concerns the Church deeply." Pope Benedict XVI, Deus Caritas Est.

## Rural Life/Conservation/Safety

**Lenore Peine 507-263-2940**

A fascinating aspect of rural life and conservation is organic gardening. Fr. Paul Kubista shared his experiences with organic gardening.

As a priest, it is important to have a hobby. A hobby is something that should help rejuvenate a person; maybe help them have a sense of accomplishment. I find that organic farming does this for me. Farming you might ask? Yes, but organic farming and there is a difference.

Organic farming is a way to work with nature, to work with what God has made and to try to direct it so that I can thrive. At least one of the challenges of organic farming is how does one work within nature, the ecosystem of a farm, so that it is enhanced by what is done in farm work. The organic farmer has to understand these things which are indicators as to what changes or adjustments should be made in the various practices that are used. I like being able to plant a crop, based on the knowledge that I have learned and see how well the crop turns out. Sometimes the crops do not turn out as well but I learn and grow in understanding of organic farming. More

importantly, I gain a greater appreciation of the awesome way that God has made things and that if I work with Him, things will get better.

Trying to enhance the farm so it thrives is fun. . . . It is fun to smell the aroma of corn, soybeans or oats and not have to worry about chemical contaminants. . . It is fun to see fields in which there are not too many weeks without having to use chemicals which attach life by killing weeds and insects and disrupting the natural balance of the soil. It is fun to watch the crop grow; hoping that the things I have done will pay off. It really is a thrill to see the beauty and life, so see the farm ecosystem thriving and to see the entire system working together. It is fun to think that I am trying to be the best steward of the land which has been entrusted to my care. I see the hand of the creator and see how everything is so intertwined and dependent on everything else. I think that this helps a person grow closer to God, at least it helps me.

Not only does growing closer to God refresh me, but also to know that the food I am growing is of good quality, that there are no chemical residues or growing conditions which would question the integrity of the food that I produce. If I am working with nature the way God intended things to be grown then I should not have any fears. The indication of the quality of the food that I produce is in part due to the taste of it and how well it does under natural growing conditions. I myself feel comfortable eating my own crop and I have made corn muffins with corn from my field. They taste good! Food helps us as it nourishes our bodies to producing good food is very important and there is something very satisfying about doing it.

Organic farming is a good hobby for me. It refreshes me and connects me more with God. It is fun to know that there is a purpose in nature for the many different systems which are in operation and to work within them to allow nature to thrive and flourish. I think this is a great way to find God. If you think about it, what was the first profession for humanity? I think it was to take care of the garden. Maybe organic farming is a great way to come to know who we are and who God is. Maybe there should be more organic farmers in our world?



# Church Commission

## Rita Parsons, Chair 507-364-5164

I attended the National Council of Catholic Women's Convention in Washington D.C., November 10 to November 15, 2010 and like everyone else, I was awestruck. I toured the War Memorial on Veteran's Day and I have never been more proud to be an American as I was on that day. Everything from my wonderful roommates to the inspiring workshops and the spirit filled liturgies made me proud to be a member of the NCCW.

The following is a summary of my workshop 'Prayfulness: Awakening to the Fullness of Life' by Bishop Robert Morneau, Auxiliary Bishop, Diocese of Green Bay. Bishop Morneau also serves as Vicar General and pastor of Resurrection Church. He has authored the popular pathways series of books. Bishop Morneau's message includes the tools for our Fullness of Life. The story includes the three A principles of Attention, Adherence and Abandoning our will to God's love. Our life includes many lives like plots in our garden such as our physical, moral, political, social, intellectual, and economic to name a few. God's invitation is to be attentive, intelligent, reasonable and responsible.

## Vocations/Walk with Me

### Carol Rusinko 763-533-8809

Sunday, October 31, 2010 was the fifth annual "Priesthood Sunday." At my parish, to honor our Pastor, Deacon and Assistants, the Vocations Committee wrote a prayer petition, prepared a bulletin announcement thanking our Pastor Fr. Pedersen for his pastoral leadership and inserted a bookmark in the bulletin. On one side of the bookmark was a list of all the Pastors, Associate Pastors and Assistants since the beginning of the parish with the year they started at Sacred Heart. On the other side was written, a Prayer of Thanksgiving. I will keep the bookmark along with the current "Walk With Me On My Journey" prayer calendar in my "Magnificat" prayer book to remind me to pray daily for these vocations.

For National Vocations Awareness Week which was Jan. 9-16, 2011, the Vocations Committee prepared a bulletin insert that listed all the names of the Priests, Brothers and Sisters (living & deceased) who have parishioner affiliation. Ex: Br. Aaron J. Loch, LC, nephew/godson of Andy & Carol Rusinko. They also listed all the Pastors of our

Bishop Morneau also stressed the three big D's which are obstacles to the fullness of life as Disconnect, Drifting and Discouragement. He said we need prayer, which is a union with God, to live a full life. The forms of prayer are WOW! THANKS! OOPS! HELP! and the by-products are peace and joy. The basic principle is what God does in prayer is more important than what we do. The bottom line is to imitate Mary. Listen and love and you won't go wrong. We will be in the Lenten season when you read this.

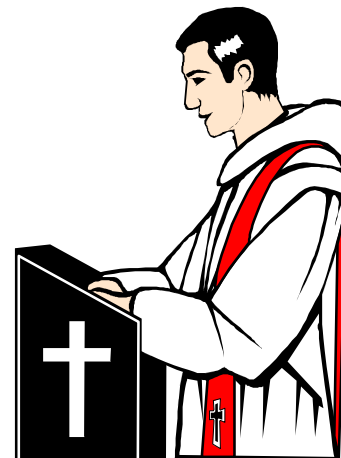


Bishop Morneau states that prayer, fasting and giving alms is all about relationships. Prayer is the relationship with God. Fasting is a relationship with yourself. Giving alms is relationship with others. Hopefully you have mapped out your own spiritual journey to Easter... John 13:15 'I have given you an example: As I have done so also should you do'; BLESSED EASTER TO YOU!

parish living and deceased. There were 71 names on this list. We were asked to remember all of them in our prayers. What a wonderful way to remember these men and women of God who have served/are serving so faithfully.

What is your parish doing?

St. Alphonsus Marie Liguori, Patron of Vocations, Pray for Us.



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## Liturgy

**Debbie Keller 651-787-0266**

The following article was published through the Catholic News Service on February 1, 2011.

### Developers of new app say it could bring Catholics back to confession

By Diane Freeby  
[Catholic News Service](#)

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (CNS) -- Can modern technology help strengthen our faith? Some techno-savvy Catholics from South Bend think so.

In his message for the 2011 World Communications Day, Pope Benedict XVI said it's not enough to just "proclaim the Gospel through the new media," but one must also "witness consistently." The developers of "**Confession: A Roman Catholic App**" for Apple's iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch think their product helps people do both.

Brothers Patrick and Chip Leinen and their friend Ryan Kreager said feedback has been positive. The app, reportedly the only one with an imprimatur, is designed to help people make a better confession.

(A person simply) enters their name, age, their sex, their vocation and their last confession date, and it generates an examination of conscience based on that information.

Centered on the Ten Commandments . . . the examinations were provided by two different priests, the app developers said. You go to the examination of conscience and it literally walks you through, step by step, your confessions as you're in the confessional.

Melanie Williams, a 17-year-old junior at Marian High School in Mishawaka, said going to confession is an important part of her life. A fan of technology, she appreciates the customized examination of conscience.

"It makes me evaluate my personal situation in life," she said, noting how easy it is for her to understand and remember the sins she wants to confess. "My favorite part is definitely the inspirational quote that pops up after you have gone to confession. It is a great motivational tool after a good confession!"

. In addition to customizing each user's list, everything is password-protected for privacy. "Once you go to confession, all that information is wiped out," said Kreager.

The three developers of the confession app named their company Littleiapps. Little "i" as in "I must decrease and He must increase," explained Chip Leinen.

"I think it has the potential to bring many teens back to the faith and confession," said Williams. "I think this app will be a wonderful helper for teens to encourage them to go to confession. They won't have the excuse that they don't know how to go to confession anymore!"

For information on downloading the confession app, go to [www.littleiapps.com](http://www.littleiapps.com).

(According to a spokesperson at the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, the app could be a tool for preparing for confession but does not replace actual confession.)



## Scripture/Retreats

**Muriel Failor 651-405-0459**

This season of Lent along with sacrificing we can choose positive actions. The beatitudes and Christian virtues are two instruments we can use to come closer to God. The Beatitudes describe the life of Jesus. Do they describe us? They are: 'Blessed are those poor in spirit – those who mourn – the meek – those seeking righteousness – the merciful – the clean of heart – the peacemaker – those persecuted for their belief in God – for their reward will be great in heaven.' Blessed means to be happy.

The word virtue means to be fully human. The four cardinal virtues are – prudence (to make good decisions), temperance (to be moderate and have balance in our lives), justice and fortitude (strength in and for the Lord). Our human qualities become fully alive when we put them into action, which can create a sense of happiness for us. The practice of examination of conscience every night in Lent can help us strive to be better the next day by seeing how we might have fallen short that day. "Christ made my soul beautiful with the jewels of grace and virtue. I belong to Him who the angels serve. (A quote from St. Agnes.)"

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## Ecumenism/Evangelization

Natasha Cramer 651-787-0266

Natasha's Assignment at the NCCW Convention in November was to report on the Gala 90th Birthday Banquet. Here is her report:

The festivities began at 8pm under ballroom chandeliers amid crushed blue tablecloths; flower pot center pieces with sticks of red, white and blue stars; where sparkly black was the dress of choice. The vast room was warm with fellowship and feminine compassion. After most of the pre-set salads had been innocently consumed, President Patty Johnson welcomed attendees and lead a prayer in thanksgiving for the food and weekend's blessings. She then introduced and awarded the deaneries leading in number of new member conference attendees: Superior in first with Knoxville and Madison tied for second; and total new members: Knoxville and Palm Beach. Entrees were a well-crafted Chilean sea bass with saffron-tarragon cream and sides of basil-mashed potatoes and asparagus; or a pasta-less spinach, eggplant and bechamel lasagna. The accompanying dessert was fudge-drizzled, candied pear on a vanilla-cream cheese mousse, topped with fresh whipped cream. In the final stage, the "Capitol Steps" kept laughter roaring with their political satire-infused skits, song and dance. President Patty Johnson then said a final thanks in closing; and women slowly filtered out of the building after group camera shots, kisses and hugs, and thronging the professional event photo display - seeking mementos from the action-packed weekend.



ACCW Members  
From the  
St. Paul and Minneapolis  
Archdiocese  
Enjoy NCCW's

90th Anniversary  
Gala Banquet

At the National Convention  
In Washington, D.C.

# Family Concerns Commission

## Mary Alice Hargarten, Chair 952-473-9266

Mary L. Ball, President and Executive Director of The Holy Family Catholic Adoption Agency, was a speaker at the Minneapolis Deanery Third Quarterly Meeting. The Holy Family Catholic Adoption Agency has been in existence for nine years, she said. Their purpose is to provide an option other than abortion for young unmarried girls who are pregnant and cannot keep their babies. When a girl goes to an abortion clinic, she is not told about adoption; they think their only option is abortion. They are told their baby is nothing but a mass of tissue. Abortion clinics are all about making money, according to Ball. Holy Family Agency keeps their fee as low as possible, \$350.00 for each adoption. Some agencies charge large fees and that keeps some girls away from adoption. She showed us two videos of girls who decided that they wanted to put their babies up for adoption. They are asked to spend an hour a week in adoration and volunteer outside abortion clinics. One girl was pregnant and told no one about it. She was afraid that someone would try to talk her into having an abortion. These girls love their babies and just want a good home for them.

They are in a position where they can't raise the baby alone. One of the birth mothers in the film, came with her parents to the agency. They chose the family they wanted to adopt the baby and then they meet with them. They were all she wanted as parents. She had a baby boy, Michael. The adoptive parents were so happy. It was comforting to the mother to know that Michael had a loving family.

The second girl wanted to remain anonymous. She and the baby's father didn't feel they could have a life together, so she didn't feel she could keep the baby. The father wanted her to have an abortion. She first thought of abortion, but after talking to her mother, she decided she would have the baby. Her mother stated that the baby was a gift from God. She interviewed families and found a family with good moral values. All the adoptive families must be Catholic. Adoption is the greatest act of love. You love your baby so much, you want the best family for him or her.



The baby is happy with the new family and is doing well. He is now five years old and is doing well. The adoptive parents took him to Rome and he was baptized by the Pope. If you wish to know more about the Holy Family Catholic Adoption Agency, their address is 525 Thomas Ave., St. PAUL, MN 55103. Phone # is 651-298-0133.



## Respect Life Mary Ann Maggi 651-771-9976

Seems someone always wants me to write about the abortion issue! Here are my thoughts! I am not a believer in abortion ~ my thoughts are such as this~ if you have an abortion you will live with it all your life. As one person told me, it is not very pleasant, you have to seek the understanding God for forgiveness, then perhaps you will feel better.

As a working woman when a young lady has a problem 'abort' or 'not'. I am always there to help her realize God will always help her with her baby. Her baby girl is due in March and happily looking forward to the day.

The issue is an old one. How many people voted our current President into office, knowing he was pro-abortion. I can say I didn't! Can You?



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## Media Resources

**Joellyn Soler 763-767-0563**

As I begin this report on the "Challenge of Attacking Porn, in our Secularized Society, "we must realize it is everywhere--and we must do more to stop it.

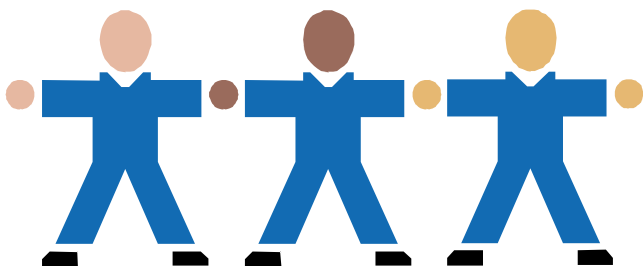
We must decide daily to make choices about holiness. Not just in wearing holy medals, and sprinkling holy water around, but as Christian Catholics, keeping our minds, hearts and bodies, holy. How do we do this? Attend Mass often and go to Confession on a regular basis. Our priests are available daily at our church, at Epiphany to hear confessions after every Mass, where we have three a day. I heard a priest say once if you have a certain sin that continually attacks you, go to confession once a week until its gone and it will leave you. Since our priests are doctors of our souls, they know what to prescribe .

If we see "every" person as made in the Image of God, we would never want to shame or humiliate anyone. We should dress modestly, and speak the truth with love.

I heard a speaker at the NCCW Convention in Washington DC, Rick Schatz, Executive Director of PURE-HOPE.org, spoke and he gave us a lot of information about how we need to put filters on the internet for young kids, as the average age that children view porn is around age 8. He said parents must be constantly involved in their kids' lives to notice if they begin to change friends, etc. Porn is the number one addiction-today. It creeps into lives very slowly. It is a huge problem and we all need to speak out more and boycott companies that promote it.

For help contact:

[www.PornNoMore.com](http://www.PornNoMore.com)  
[www.ThePornEffect.com](http://www.ThePornEffect.com)  
[www.UnityRestored.com](http://www.UnityRestored.com)  
[www.LovesFaithful.com](http://www.LovesFaithful.com)  
[www.e5men.org](http://www.e5men.org)



Military Memorials visited by ACCW members in Washington, D.C.



## Military Resource

**Mary Ann Maggi 651-771-9976**

The Veterans Home in Hastings had a few mishaps that seem to be solved or are in the process. Roy Bressler, who I worked with and who kept my finances on the straight road, retired on Jan. 4, 2011. He will be a hard act to follow!

Our cracker barrel fund has increased so we can plan for 3 more months – we're hoping some kind soul or organization will come up with more money. We'll take any amount to help out! All the men (170) are happy we come. A light snack and homemade goodies are what we bring. It makes them very happy. We will continue because these men fought for our country, to continue the peace here, and I feel they deserve everything we can do for them. Remember Freedom is not free!

# Around the Deaneries

## St Paul Deaneries

**Rose Marie Barton, Pres. 651-292-0439**

The second quarterly meeting of the St. Paul Deaneries Council of Catholic Women was held Nov. 18, 2011 at St. Pascal Baylon Church. Our speakers were Sr. Helen Marie Plourde whose topic was "Raising Awareness of Victims of Trafficking" and Dr. Karen Shragg who spoke on "The Importance of Critical Thinking – Because People are Being Paid to Lie to You". The third quarterly deanery meeting was held Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> at St. Mark Church in St. Paul. The speaker was Fr. Paul Fruth, speaking on the aftermath of the Archbishop's Strategic Plan.

Our first Evening of Enrichment this year was held Tuesday, November 30 at St. James Church in St. Paul. The speaker was Dr. Frankie Poplau whose topic was : "Understanding One Another: One Generation at a Time" She talked about the Traditionalists, the Baby Boomers, the Xers, the Ys and Millenials and their differing values and how they can communicate with each other. Our next Evening of Enrichment program will be Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at Holy Childhood Church and our speaker will be Patrick Mader. The program will again have a theme of inter-generational communication as he reads from his children's books – the stories of Opa and Oma.

The fourth quarterly meeting will be held at Nativity of Our Lord in St. Paul on Thursday, April 14. Our scheduled speaker is Theresa Collette sponsored by the Family Concerns Commission.

The 56<sup>th</sup> annual Ramsey Home Bingo Party sponsored by the Deanery will be held Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> and 2:45 p.m. Thanks to Betty Herzog for continuing to organize this event which brings an afternoon of bingo and then ice cream and cookies to the residents. We salute St. Peter's of North St., Paul, St. Pascal Baylon, St. Casimir and St. Michael's on the West Side who continue to be involved in the project.

We continue to contact the non-affiliated churches in the Deanery with information on our programs in the hopes that some of them may re-connect or that we may obtain some individual memberships.

## Southeast Deanery

**Olive Hupf, President 1-507-263-2705**

At our last meeting we voted to eliminate our January meeting as it was usually some bad weather and so many of our faithful followers are down south or on vacation. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 8, which will be our Day of Recollection. It will be held at St. Pius V Catholic church in Cannon Falls. Our speaker for the day will be Mr. Bill Betcher and he will speak on his trip to the Holy Land. Our agenda for the day will be 9 to 10 a.m. meeting . Our speaker will talk from 10 to 11 a.m.. Our Rosary will be at 11:30 with mass to follow.

Our April meeting will be at St. Michael's in Pine Island on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>. We will start with our board meeting at 9 a.m. and our speaker for the day will be Fr. Jim Gorman talking about his Journey with Cancer. The Rosary will be at 11:30 with Mass to follow.

We will be inviting all the congregations from the Cannon Falls area to attend. We bring a bag lunch that day and will conclude our day with our Board meeting.

I want to express great thanks to all the people that donated to the Appalachia Christmas Program. We had at least 3/4 of a 53 foot semi packed to the top. They were very appreciative of the nice gifts that were sent too. I contacted the Catholic Spirit and they did a story on this program. We have a very detailed story on the web site. I also had a small article about this year and thanks to the Eberhards.

We are planning on having the semi at our place this coming year, if the Lord is willing, and we hope to be able to contact more parishes to participate in the program.

Thanks again to the Eberhard family for all the years of service that they rendered to this great program. There is much more work to this than you really can imagine but it is a labor of love for our poorest of the poor in our own country.

God Bless all of you and your families. Thank you for all the work that you do for ACCW.

## Northwest Deanery

**Mary Helen Swartzner 763-682-3832**

**Judy Beaudry 763-497-4344, Co-Presidents**

The NW Deanery CCW sponsored an Advent Day of Recollection at the King's House of Retreats in Buffalo, MN on Thursday, Dec. 2. About 25 women participated this day with talks, Mass and reconciliation, and reported on the warmth and depth achieved with a smaller group.

Northwest Deanery will host ACCW on the road on Saturday, March 26 at St. Francis Church in Buffalo. A Lenten retreat is being planned in April 2011.

## West Deanery

**Carol Shukle, President 952-472-6928**

The West Deanery no longer has a winter meeting due to potentially severe winter travel conditions and the number of "snowbirds."

Plans are underway for a Lenten day of Spiritual Enrichment and the spring meeting which will be at St. Mark's in Shakopee.

## Southwest Deanery

**Madonna Russo, President 1-507-357-6581**

These past few months the Southwest Deanery has had "down time" with no scheduled meetings. In November, our Fall newsletter was put together and mailed with the able assistance of Geri Mages, St. Patrick, Cedar Lake. Geri's volunteer efforts were very much appreciated! We had a SWD board meeting on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of the Prairie, Belle Plaine.

The annual Spiritual Day is slated from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at Most Holy Redeemer in Montgomery. Their pastor, Fr. Cory Rohlfing, will be the guest speaker. The day will include Stations of the Cross, rosary, Holy Mass, a silent auction to benefit pro life and lunch. Rita Parsons, SWD Church Commission Chair, is in charge of this spiritual event.

My term as President of the SWD will end with the April Open meeting on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at St. Mary/St. Henry in Le Center. We will conduct installation of officers and feature Ann Zemke as our guest speaker.

## Minneapolis Deaneries

**Mary Gunderson, President 763-576-0928**

Our Second Quarterly meeting was held at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Hopkins on Monday, Nov. 22, 2010. Speakers included Christine Abel, **Vaccine Awareness Minnesota** and Terry Twardowski, **"Rehabilitation After Prison Programs"**. The Volunteer Award was given to Myra Underdahl. We collected food for the local food shelf.

Our Third Quarterly meeting was held at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, Brooklyn Center on Monday, Jan. 17. Speakers included Mary Ball founder and director of **Holy Family Catholic Adoption Agency**; and our own Harriet Taus who gave a personal account of her father **"The Gunflint Trailblazer"**. The Volunteer Award was given to Benitia Peterson. We collected new baby items for the North Side Life Care Center, Minneapolis.

For our Catholic Culture Day, we are hosting a guided tour of **St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church**, 515 University Ave. NE, Minneapolis on Thursday, March 3 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Lunch will follow at Elsie's, 729 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis, Dutch treat.

Our Spring Quarterly meeting, a "Retreat" day, will be held at St. Hedwig Catholic Church, Minneapolis, on Monday, March 28. Our retreat master will be Fr. Robert O'Donnell, CSP. We will be collecting food items for the local food shelf.

Our final event will be the **"MCCW Information/Leadership Day"** on April 13 at Holy Name Catholic Church, Minneapolis. The program will be presented by the ACCW "On the Road" team.

All are welcome. Share the day--invite a friend.



*You're Invited to a Women's Retreat!*

**Saturday, March 19, 2011**

**"Woman, Go and Flourish:**

**On the Dignity and Vocation of Women"**

**Presented by Liz Kelly, Catholic author and jazz singer**

(Visit her website at [www.emkbooks.com](http://www.emkbooks.com))

Where: Immaculate Conception Church

Fellowship Hall (basement)

4030 Jackson Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Registration: 10:00 AM to 11:15 AM

Rosary: 10:30 AM

Salad Luncheon: 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Speaker Liz Kelly: 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM

Admission: \$10.00

Reservation required. Mail by March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Sponsored by IC's Council of Catholic Women

For more information, please call:

Diane Tieden 763-788-1897 or

Lorraine Knoll 763-788-1701

Pope John Paul II noted that when a woman enters an environment, she humanizes it. "God entrusts the human being to (woman) in a special way." In this complicated time in human history, the unique giftedness of women has never been more critical to the flourishing of all human life.

This seminar examines of the particular gifts of women in building and protecting healthy, life-giving relationships, the common struggle of loneliness, and ways that we can celebrate womanhood and better avail our gifts to those who need them. We will also examine the specific ways in which Jesus speaks directly to us of our gifts.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ # of tickets at \$10 each \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: IC – CCW

Mail to: Diane Tieden

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Columbia Heights, MN 55421



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