

ACCW ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS 2011

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF NCCW

Whereas, The National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) was founded on March 4, 1920, "... to give Catholic women of the country a common voice and an instrument for united action ... and to ensure proper representation on national committees and movements affecting religious and moral well-being ... and to stimulate the work of existing Catholic women's organizations to greater service and usefulness in meeting the needs of our times" (*NCCW: The First 75 Years*, Ruth L. O'Halloran); and

Whereas, NCCW has continued to carry this vision forth in its work;

Resolved, That in celebration of the 90th anniversary of NCCW's founding, the St. Paul & Minneapolis Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) encourage its membership to renew their commitment to NCCW's Mission Statement:

The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its members to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service. NCCW programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world.

REORGANIZATION OF ARCHDIOCESE (Church Commission)

Whereas, We are one Body in Christ and can worship Him in any Catholic Church; and

Whereas, We are called to be fiscally responsible;

Resolved, That the Council of Catholic Women will continue to pray for unity and understanding during this process of reorganization in the Archdiocese; and

Resolved, That CCW women will be positive peacemakers in this time of transition, will be considerate of others' feelings and points of view during dialogue, and will strive to build strong CCWs as they welcome additional members during the merging process.

ACCW - ON THE ROAD LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (Organization Commission)

Whereas, Many Deanery and parish Council of Catholic Women organizations are experiencing difficulties in the areas of membership recruitment and retention, as well as the development of future leaders; and

Whereas, Consistent training on the mission of CCW, on methods of recruitment and retention of members, and on leadership development has brought about success in these areas;

Resolved, That ACCW's new leadership training program "ACCW-On the Road" be promoted by Deanery and parish CCW organizations with the goal to help strengthen membership through training and leadership development.

IMMIGRATION (International Concerns Commission)

Whereas, Persons unable to find work in their country have a right to migrate to find work for the survival of themselves and their families; and

Whereas, Immigration laws and policies in the United States have an inadequate process to legalize immigrants and reunite families facing long separations:

Resolved, That members of the St. Paul & Minneapolis Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women, in concert with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, will educate themselves on the issues and realities of immigration reform and seek to educate others;

Resolved, That St. Paul and Minneapolis ACCW members will advocate with direct communication to the Congress of the United States to pass comprehensive immigration reform to keep families together and free from fear of deportation with a fair system based on legal presence and legal entry; and

Resolved, That ACCW members will advocate through prayer for a just and equitable solution to the difficulties encountered by immigrants seeking a better life for themselves and their families.

MARRIAGE (Legislation Commission)

Whereas, The Roman Catholic Church teaches that all individuals have the right to dignity, respect and justice;

Whereas, the United State Conference of Catholic Bishops has affirmed that marriage is the joining of one man and one woman, as defined in our Roman Catholic theology;

Whereas, Procreation is a purpose of marriage; and

Whereas, Minnesota currently has a stronger pro-life and pro-family legislature than it has had in the recent past;

Resolved, That we work with our political leaders to place an amendment on the ballot in the next election to define marriage as the joining of one man and one woman.

POOR AND VULNERABLE (Community Concerns Commission)

Whereas, ACCW's programs respond with Gospel values to the needs of the Church and society in the modern world; and

Whereas, The poor and vulnerable in our communities need our continual support;

Resolved, That ACCW members respond to requests of clothing, prayers and visitations to individuals who are incarcerated in their communities;

Resolved, That ACCW members participate in the "ACCW Mental Illness Prayer Connection" either by praying or requesting prayers;

Resolved, That ACCW members promote the well-being of the elderly in the community and keep abreast of current research and policies;

Resolved, That ACCW members provide and encourage donations to and involvement in food shelves; and

Resolved, That ACCW members support shelters and soup kitchens for families and individuals who are homeless, as well as shelters for those who have been the victims of human trafficking.

FAMILY HEALTH (Family Concerns Commission)

Whereas, The health of our children and families is of great concern today;

Resolved, That ACCW members choose healthy life styles by including exercise in our daily routines, avoiding the use of tobacco, and making nutritious food and drink choices.