



A W A R E

A NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF THE
DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN
An Affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women since 1928

WINTER 2024 ISSUE

DCCW PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Barb Kerouac — Saint Martin de Pores, Taylorsville
Barb0235@msn.com

Peace to each and every one of you. May the Joy of Christmas fill your New Year. It is hard to take down the decorations and put them away as they always lift the spirit. Christmas lights and Nativity displays are always a reminder of our Saviors birth and what it means, a hope for salvation. The Christmas season also lifts the heart and spirit to new beginnings and a desire to be better. New Year's resolutions that include tasking ourselves for improvement in our physical and spiritual growth. I hope to keep a few which I have made time will tell.

2024 ANNUAL DCCW CONVENTION



Are you ready for the new year, adjusting the direction of your life, and new beginnings? The 2024 DCCW Convention theme is **“Path of Renewed Encounter.”** I hope it will inspire you to take a new path or readjust the encounters you have. Pope Francis’ Encyclical, “Fratelli Tutti” is to be read and pondered. It is a call for fraternity and social justice in how we treat each other, especially the immigrant, incarcerated, and underprivileged. A call to change the politics of the world and that of our own hearts, to be more welcoming and understanding of our differences. The line up of speakers and topics are diverse and have engaging perspectives on our path of encounters. We have Yen Fasano from Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis as our keynote Speaker, who gave a beautiful presentation at the 2022 NCCW Convention in Minneapolis. The title of her presentation is “Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum.” (either look this up or come find out the English translation at Convention). It will be inspirational.

Our featured commissions are Service and Spirituality. Katherina Holzhauser, CCS Board President, will be presenter for the Service Commission. She is a successful professional who began life in the US as an immigrant child of seven, fleeing communism in Eastern Europe. Her story is compelling and wonderful to hear. The Spirituality Commission speaker will be Marie Mischel, *Intermountain Catholic* Editor. She will examine “Fratelli Tutti’s” section titled “The Illusion of Communication” (FT42-50) and offer some tips on how to effectively dialogue with other people, create a welcoming attitude and have a positive encounter. We also have Deacon Joaquin Mixco, St. Martin de Porres, Diocesan Jail Ministry, who will present on “Restorative Justice, A Look At the Salt Lake County Jail Ministry.” What directions are needed for this underserved ministry?

Wow, what a line up! Plus, the usual benefit of inspirational prayer, confession, Adoration, Mass at the Cathedral, and honoring the Woman of the Year at our award Banquet. I know you are in for a great convention. Bring someone new with you, and let them get a taste of what Councils of Catholic Women are really about. Once in the door you are hooked, and want to keep coming back for more, year after year. What a fabulous gift of sisterhood shared at convention. All are welcome!

Your “Call to Convention” packet will be emailed the end of January to every board member and affiliate president, as well as to pastors/parish offices of unaffiliated parishes in the Diocese. There is a tremendous amount of information, (including all necessary deadlines, which are early, as to avoid interference with Holy Week) please read and don’t delay. It will also be posted on the DCCW website, www.dccwutah.org, for your access.

I am excited to see you at convention, and of course the board members at the January 27th board meeting being held at St. Olafs, Bountiful. Remember to be focused on the purpose of Lent and Easter, Jesus dies and is risen for you, He wants each of us as His own, in Heaven.

Until we meet again...
Humbly yours,
Barb

“All the answers are in the tabernacle.” -Matthew Kelly



Come join us April 27-28.2024!

A weekend of spiritual renewal and encounter

Engaging Speakers

Yen Fasano, Retreat leader and speaker from Minneapolis, MN

Deacon Joaquin Mixto, St. Martin de Porres, Jail Ministry

Katherina Holzhauser, CCS board

Marie Mischel, Intermountain Catholic Editor,

Spiritual reflection

Rite of Reconciliation / Eucharistic Adoration/ Mass at the Cathedral of Madeleine

Come join the *Catholic Women* from all over the *SLC Diocese* of Utah

at our annual convention and Woman of the Year Award Banquet.

For more information and registration forms go to our website www.dccwutah.org

Or contact: _____ YOUR PARISH CCW PRESIDENT, PASTOR, OR PARISH OFFICE _____

Register Early: Deadline is March 20, 2024



95th Convention April 27 - 28, 2024 Little America Salt Lake City

Tentative Agenda

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024

- 07:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 08:30 a.m. Opening Prayer
- 09:00 a.m. General Session
- 09:45 a.m. Guest Speaker: Deacon Joaquin Mixto, "Restorative Justice,...."
- 10:30 a.m. Break/ Confessions
- 11:00 a.m. Service Commission Speaker: Katherina Holzhauser, CCS Board President
- 11:45 a.m. Break
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch, Our Lady of Good Council, Affiliate, Golden Rose, & Attendance Awards
- 1:15 p.m. Break
- 1:30 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Yen Fasano, "Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum."
- 2:45 p.m. Call to 2025 Convention (Salt Lake Deanery)
Closing Prayer Recess
- 4:15 p.m. Bus boarding (buses will leave hotel by 4:30 pm)
- 5:00 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Madeleine
 - WOY Group Photo at Cathedral immediately after Mass.
 - Bus boarding immediately after Mass (Last bus for WOY leaves at 6:30)
- 6:15 p.m. Banquet Social Opens
- 7:15 p.m. Women of the Year Banquet & Awards

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

- 07:00 a.m. Adoration
- 07:30 a.m. Rosary
- 08:00 a.m. Registration
- 08:30 a.m. Prayer Service
- 09:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 09:45 a.m. Break: Hotel checkout
- 10:00 a.m. Spirituality Commission: Marie Mischel, IC Editor, "Creating an Encounter:"
- 11:00 a.m. Break
- 11:15 a.m. Resume General Session, Resolutions, and Installation of New Officers
- 12:00 p.m. Closing Prayer
- 12:15 p.m. Raffle and Silent Auction
- 1:30 p.m. Adjournment



UGLY PURSE AUCTION

CENTERPIECE DRAWING



CONVENTION 2024 SUPPORTS THE MISSION OF THE DIOCESE OF SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN ...



To unite Catholic women's organizations and individual Catholic women in the state of Utah, Diocese of Salt Lake City, in purpose, through **support, empowerment, and education** in the areas of **spirituality, leadership, and service** and respond with Christian values to current issues in the church and society.

**2024 CONVENTION DEADLINES
MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

- Scholarship Applications March 1, 2024
- Affiliate of the Year/Golden Rose March 1, 2024
- Ads for Convention Program March 1, 2024
- Woman of the Year (Bio & Picture) March 1, 2024
- All Convention/Banquet Registration March 20, 2024
- Convention Hotel Registration March 20, 2024
- Confirm Raffle/Silent Auction donations April 6, 2024

DETAILED INFORMATION & ALL FORMS WILL BE ON THE DCCW WEBSITE, WWW.DCCWUTAH.ORG, OR CONTACT YOUR CCW PRESIDENT OR PASTOR

DCCW DIRECTORS OF MEETINGS

Becky Hicks, Chair
Blessed Sacrament, Sandy
rfhicks50@gmail.com

Marcie Downs, Co-Chair
Cathedral of the Madeleine
marciedowns51@gmail.com



Happy New Year to each of you! We all know that each new year allows us to turn over a new leaf . . . make changes in our lives – choose a specific goal, know that change is a process and start with small steps. Along those thoughts, the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) Board of Directors made the tough decision to change the location for the April 27-28, 2024, DCCW Convention. If you have not heard, this year's convention will be held at the **Little America Hotel, 500 South Main Street in Salt Lake City, UT.**

Why change . . . responses to our survey questions over the last several years have suggested making a hotel change. Personally, I have been in Salt Lake City for over 55 years and have attended a lot of breakfasts, lunches, dinners & seminars at the Little America Hotel – I have never been disappointed in any of their services. I've noticed that functions organized by the Diocese of Salt Lake City, as well as the Catholic Women's League, have been held at the Little America or Grand America Hotels. During the years of Covid, Little America spent millions of dollars in renovating and updating the entire hotel and guest rooms. In the two years spent in researching hotels in the area, the Little America Hotel kept coming to the top, and I can share with you they are excited to host the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's Convention!!

For those of you who may have not been at this Hotel (yet), it offers 850 spacious luxury guest rooms, surrounded by acres of beautifully landscaped grounds with fountains, flower gardens, and over 300 trees. If you are planning to spend nights at the Hotel, you will have the choice of staying in a hotel tower room, a premium garden room in the hotel, or an outer lying courtyard guest room. An awesome option the hotel is offering us - the price for a room night stays the same whether you have 1-4 individuals, no additional fees. The ballrooms hold more than 800 individuals – plenty of space for us to grow, now and in the future. We are planning new options for our convention meals. For the banquet on Saturday evening, you will be able to make a dinner choice. (Check out their website – saltlake.littleamerica.com—but be sure to book your room through us.)

We look forward to taking this next step with each of you – see you there!

Blessings to each of you,
Becky and Marcie

A FEW DETAILS TO HELP YOU PLAN FOR A GREAT, INSPIRING WEEKEND...



Complete convention details & all needed forms, including financial assistance scholarships, are being emailed to CCW affiliate presidents and pastors of unaffiliated parishes and will also be available on the DCCW Website : www.dccwutah.org.

- Package A - \$235 2-Day, Saturday and Sunday registration, convention bag, all meals both days (including banquet) and bus to Mass
- Package B \$105 Saturday only registration, convention bag, continental breakfast, Lunch and bus to Mass
- Package C \$85 Saturday night Woman of the Year Banquet only – **No On-Site Registration!**
- Package D \$65 Sunday only registration, convention bag and Breakfast

Banquet Meal is a Choice of Prime Rib or Halibut!

Hotel DCCW rates — **Up to 4 people/room** — Garden Room \$169, Garden Premium \$179, Tower \$199.
All rooms have queen beds.

Scholarship deadline March 1. Registration & Hotel Reservations Deadline is March 20.



DCCW CONVENTION SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Kathy Fazio, Chair
Christ the King, Cedar City
tommycreek2@infowest.com

Mary LeBaron, Co-Chair
St. Paul Catholic Center, Hurricane
mflebaron@yahoo.com

FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE



95TH DCCW CONVENTION
APRIL 27-28, 2024
LITTLE AMERICA HOTEL

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!

Would you like to attend the convention but are concerned that you can't afford it this year?

Here's some good news – there are DCCW scholarships available!

Don't let inflation get you down or keep you from a truly spiritual adventure at the DCCW annual convention. A scholarship will provide confidential financial assistance, making it possible for you to attend the convention.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Go to the DCCW website www.dccwutah.org and refer to the Scholarship Guidelines posted there to see if you qualify.

The application and submission guidelines are available on the DCCW website, or from the president of your parish women's group, or by contacting one of the Convention Scholarship Committee Chairs listed below.

Don't put this off – the deadline for receiving applications is March 1, 2024.

Kathy Fazio, Chair
tommycreek2@infowest.com
435.463.2785

Mary LeBaron, Co-Chair
mflebaron@yahoo.com
435.632.1572



DCCW CONVENTION WOMAN OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

Lydia Farnel
St. Peters, American Fork
lilyfar@q.com

Susan Neilson
St. Francis of Assisi, Orem
susan.neilson@hotmail.com



With all the weather lately, it's hard to imagine springtime in Utah, but April will be here before you know it! And, so will our DCCW Annual Convention 2024!

Date: April 27-28, 2024

Place: Little America Hotel, 500 S Main Street, SLC, UT

Important: WOMAN OF THE YEAR SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2024

So, parishes and Councils of Catholic Women (CCWs) start considering who you would like as your Woman of the Year for 2024. The Woman of the Year award is given in recognition to a woman who has gone over and beyond in service to her parish. A Call to Convention information packet will be emailed to affiliate presidents and unaffiliated parishes very soon with more details about Convention 2024 and the Woman of the Year Program. Information will also be available on the DCCW website: www.dccwutah.org.

A "BRIEF 100 WORD" BIO of your Woman of the Year is required. This needs to be sent in a word document to: Lydia Farnell (lily.farnell@gmail.com). A photo of your Woman of the Year needs to be sent to: Carol Harley (lorac_411@yahoo.com) for use in the Woman of the Year presentation.

ONE IMPORTANT CHANGE that you need to be aware of: the Woman of the Year group photo, which is published in the *Intermountain Catholic*, will be taken AFTER the Saturday Mass at 5:00 PM on April 27 at the Cathedral of the Madeleine. **THE GROUP PHOTO WILL NOT BE TAKEN IN THE CONVENTION BALLROOM, as in years past!**

We are looking forward to honoring your Woman of the Year at our DCCW Convention Banquet on Saturday evening, April 27. Now, it's up to your CCW's and parishes to make this wonderful evening happen.

See you at Convention 2024!

For more information, contact: Susan Neilson (801-367-0510) or Lydia Farnell (801-368-5596).



~Announcing ~

**The Diocese of Salt Lake City
Council of Catholic Women**

GOLDEN ROSE AWARD



Beginning with the 2024 Annual Convention, The SLC Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will recognize one young woman from a statewide search of parish applicants. Each Parish will be invited to submit 1 (one) young woman's name who exemplifies the following criteria:

- A young woman ages 14-21 who attends Sunday Mass regularly.
- A high school student active in school activities (sports, student government, clubs, class officer).
- A young woman who is an active member of a parish involved in activities (youth group, ministries, volunteer).
- A young woman who is spiritual and reflects the Gospel values in her everyday life.
- A young woman who shows leadership and goes, above and beyond in service to her parish or community..

The complete nomination packet: (application form, applicant profile, a letter of recommendation from her pastor and a letter of recommendation from her local Parish CCW President) should be E-mailed to **Barb Kerouac - barb0235@msn.com** by March 1, 2024

www.dccwutah.org

AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR AWARD COMMITTEE
Patricia Voorhes, Committee Chair, St. Vincents Parish, Murray
patricia.nccw@gmail.com



ANNOUNCING

*SLCDDCW Our Lady of Good Counsel
Affiliate of the Year Award-2024*

Nominations open February 1, 2024, & close March 1, 2024, at 11:59pm.

**The Salt Lake City Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's
*Our Lady of Good Counsel Affiliate of the Year Award-2024***

recognizes significant and outstanding contributions made by an affiliate in the areas of service: to the Church, the Council of Catholic Women, the parish, and the community at large, during the past year.

AWARD CRITERIA:

- The affiliate must be a DCCW affiliate in good standing, actively involved in affiliate work.
- An affiliate who has made a significant contribution on the diocesan, deanery, or local parish level.
- An Affiliate who has served as an outstanding role model of service to others.
- An affiliate who has shown exemplary leadership and made significant contributions to the mission, vision, and programs of DCCW.
- An affiliate who reflects the Gospel values of justice and peace.
- An affiliate who supports the gifts of a multi-cultural church and who enables others to share their gifts in their affiliate work.
- An affiliate who serves as a model of collaboration with others in the diocese and parish.
- **Nominations may be updated and re-submitted in subsequent years if the affiliate has not been chosen as the winning Affiliate of the Year for two years.**
- **Second & third place may reapply.**
- **If you have been chosen the winner, after two years, your affiliate may re-apply within the new time frame with new accomplishments, such as, increased membership, developed new programs, new community involvement, etc.**

The **entire application, submission, and selection process** will be done **online**.

Application packets were emailed to each **affiliated parish** on the DCCW Roster on January 2, 2024. If you are an affiliated parish and did not receive an application, please email Pat Voorhes.

The application will be available on the DCCW website <http://www.dioslc.org>

Please submit the completed application to the Chair of the Selection committee, Pat Voorhes, patricia.nccw@gmail.com beginning February 1, 2024, with SLCDDCW Affiliate of the Year in the subject line. Deadline to submit via E-mail is March 1, 2024, 11:59pm.

DCCW FIRST VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT

Carol Harley — St. Mary's, West Haven

lorac_411@yahoo.com

So, 2024 and halfway through the first month already! Happy New Year everyone. Our Annual DCCW Convention is a little over four months away, it will be here before we know it. Much of it will be new and different this year with the change in the hotel. Many attendees have asked for a change, and I think you will be thrilled with the accommodations at Little America. I was honored to be able to tour the hotel in September with Barb, Becky Hicks, and Marcie Downs. It is going to be genuinely nice, and they are delighted to have us there. They will do everything in their power to make it a pleasant experience for everyone and we will do everything in our power to make it a pleasant experience for them.

There is significant work to be completed by many people. My biggest job is compiling the programs, and I could not have done it without your help and the generosity of our advertisers last year and will not be able to do it this year without your help! I continue to be surprised and gratified by the number of people who work on getting advertisers and the number of advertisers we have. Submission forms are in the Call to Convention information packet emailed to parish affiliate presidents and unaffiliated parishes and are available on the DCCW website. Thanks in advance for all your help!

Things have been quiet for me since the last convention. Time now to start gearing up. I am looking forward to the DCCW Board Meeting at St. Olaf on January 27th. I am also honored to have represented the DCCW board by participating in the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children" Mass at the Cathedral on Friday, January 19 and the Ceremony of Lights on the steps following the Mass. The proceeds from the Mass collection benefited St. Martha's Baby Project. Hope many of you were able to attend.



We couldn't do it without you.



DCCW SECOND VICE PRESIDENT/WAYS & MEANS CHAIR

Patricia (Tisha) Ramos-Yarber — St. Olaf, Bountiful

t.ramos801gmail.com

As we have entered this New Year, may we remember all our blessings with being a part of such a wonderful organization of amazing women and the lifelong friendships we have created along the way. While reaching such a great milestone of 95 years, let us rejoice. This year will be very different, and I'm excited to have our convention at The Little America. I'm sure it'll be a great experience.

As DCCW has done annually, we will be conducting our fundraisers: the silent auction, general raffle, ugly bag raffle, table centerpiece door prize & \$100 raffle. I currently have a quilt, handmade and donated from Pat Voorhes, but any others will be appreciated.

I will soon be sending requests to each affiliate to donate two items: one for the raffle and one for the silent auctions. Please let me know if there will be any additional items so I will know what accommodations everyone will need at the new venue. I will also be sending requests to several local and some out state vendors for their generous donations that support us. I will keep you updated on the progress.

As always, the success of our fundraiser depends on the support, creativity, and generosity of our affiliates and attendees which enables us to support the mission of DCCW, our commissions, programs, convention speakers, and sponsorships.

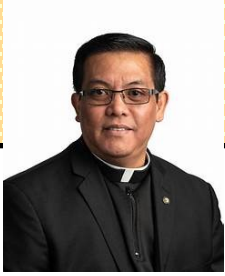
Thank you for your continued support. Many blessings to each and everyone.

"Remember to celebrate milestones as you prepare for the road ahead" - Nelson Mandela

DCCW SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Father Ariel Durian- St. Peter, American Fork

arieldurian@outlook.com



INVITEE, INVITED...

Every time we begin a new year, it brings us a new beginning to live our life with hope and perseverance. We hope that those chaotic events that took place last year will be resolved, and those inspiring events will continue in our midst. This new year calls us to persevere in fulfilling our responsibilities and duties toward the people that we serve with humility and sincerity of heart. As John was baptizing, in the last Sunday's gospel, he pointed to his disciples the Lamb of God, Jesus, the One whom they have all been awaited to come. The two disciples began following Jesus until they have seen where He lives and what He does. These two disciples, who were followers of John, became followers of the Christ. Jesus said to them: "Come and see." This one simple invitation of Jesus did make a big difference in the lives of those whom He invited. Those who answered to His invitation were transformed and became witnesses to the glory of God that was at work in the person of the Christ.

Come to think of it, each one of us were led to Jesus by someone we knew, and we are called to extend this same invitation to others not only in words but also by our actions as well. Are we ready to pass on the hat? Come on, we can do it!

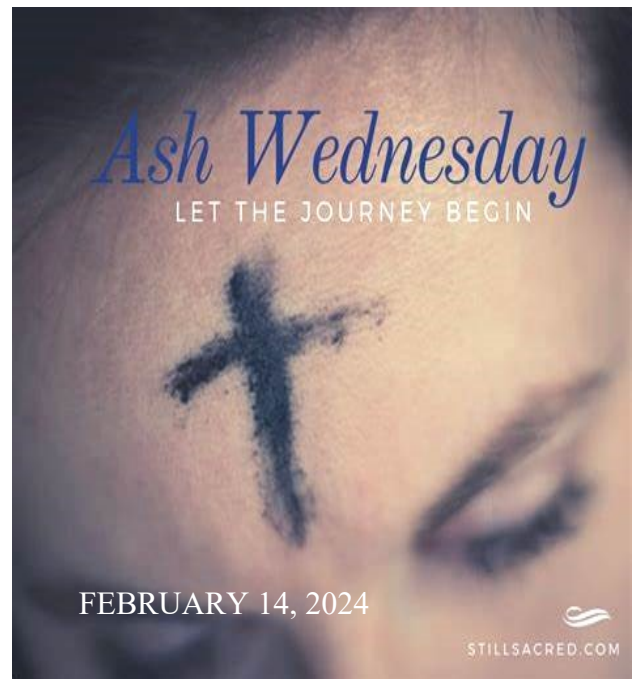
REMINDER: ANY UPDATES TO DCCW BOARD, DEANERY AND PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION, MUST BE EMAILED TO THE DCCW SECRETARY, JAMIE BEERT, ASAP!

dccw.sec@gmail.com

JAMIE WILL FORWARD UPDATES TO NCCW

*Don't Miss Important Year-Round
Communication from DCCW & NCCW*

INDIVIDUAL NCCW MEMBERS NEED TO MAKE CHANGES TO YOUR PROFILE ONLINE OR CONTACT NCCW DIRECTLY



Inviting ladies to join your parish Council is offering them an opportunity to enhance their lives while giving service to their church and community. It can be life changing. Our attitude, enthusiasm, and love of Council is contagious and encourages the stranger to attend a meeting or event. Think about all the wonderful things council does and all it accomplishes. We love Council, love spending time together and find our accomplishments fulfilling and meaningful! *Jeannie Illian, Former NCCW LTD Program Consultant*

BRING A FRIEND TO CONVENTION. WHAT A WONDERFUL WAY TO HAVE HER EXPERIENCE COUNCIL!!!

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (NCCW)

Amy Kennedy — President-Elect
Cathedral of the Madeleine, Salt Lake City
amy.kennedy@comcast.net

Top Ten Reasons to Become an Individual Member of NCCW

A common question in response to inviting someone to join the National Council of Catholic Women as an individual member is, "What's in it for me?" In addition to the tangible things – a subscription to *Catholic Woman* magazine, NCCW store discounts, and access to member-only resources – fully belonging to the NCCW family brings a host of other benefits as you become more engaged in our community. Here is my Top Ten list of additional benefits of your NCCW membership:

1. **Spiritual Growth:** NCCW offers a nurturing environment for your spiritual growth. You can deepen your faith and develop a more profound relationship with God through ready-made retreats and access to prayer spiritual resources.
2. **Community and Fellowship:** Being an NCCW member means being part of a supportive community. You can connect with like-minded women who share your faith and values. The friendships you forge within NCCW can be some of your most meaningful and enduring relationships.
3. **Leadership Development:** NCCW provides an excellent platform for honing your leadership skills. Whether you are a seasoned leader or just starting, you can benefit from leadership training, workshops, and mentorship opportunities within our organization.
4. **Advocacy and Outreach:** NCCW members have a voice in advocating for important issues such as social justice, pro-life causes, and supporting families in need. Your membership allows you to be an active participant in these critical efforts.
5. **Educational Resources:** Stay informed and engaged with access to a wealth of educational materials and resources on several topics, including Catholic teachings, family life, and community involvement. NCCW helps you stay connected with the Church's teachings and apply them to your daily life.
6. **Service Opportunities:** As an NCCW member, you will have the chance to participate in service projects that benefit your local community and have a national impact. Our commitment to service is a testament to our faith in action.
7. **Advancement of Women:** NCCW has been a champion for the advancement of women in the Catholic Church for over a century. Your membership contributes to this legacy by supporting initiatives promoting women's roles in our faith community.
8. **National Conventions and Gatherings:** Join us at our national conventions and gatherings to connect with members nationwide, discuss vital issues, and celebrate our shared mission.
9. **Spirit of Unity:** NCCW brings Catholic women together from diverse backgrounds, fostering unity among us. Our strength lies in our ability to work together, supporting one another and promoting Catholic values in our society.
10. **Personal Growth:** Finally, being an NCCW member is an opportunity for personal growth. You will learn, grow, and be inspired by the incredible women you meet and your impactful work together.

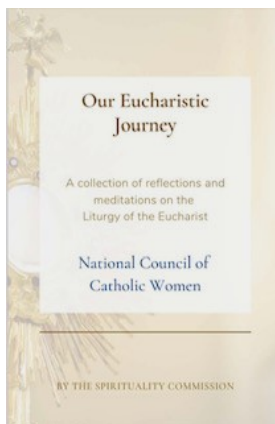
I invite you to join us if you are not an individual member. Together, we can continue to make a difference in the Church and society while experiencing the rich rewards of faith, fellowship, and service. Together, we can be a powerful force for good in the world. To become an NCCW member, visit www.nccw.org.

Check out this Featured NCCW Resource at www.nccw.org

Our Eucharistic Journey

"We invite you to join us in prayer and reflection as we partake in a Eucharistic journey. We hope this journal will help you to be open to the loving graces of the Most Blessed Sacrament." NCCW Excerpt

This is a sample of resources available as an NCCW member. Check the NCCW homepage now before it moves to the members only" section.



ANNOUNCING: NCCW 2024 CONVENTION



August 13-17, 2024
Omni Oklahoma City
Hotel
100 Oklahoma City Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73109

Registration will be open on
April 1, 2024

NCCW SAN FRANCISCO PROVINCE CCW

Jeannie Audiss, Province Director
Saint Joseph the Work, West Jordan
jaudiss1234@yahoo.com

Greetings to all of you!

After the wonderful National Convention in August, the Oklahoma DCCW has a very tough act to follow. Our Salt Lake DCCW and all the ladies involved did an incredible job of “showing off” the tremendous Council that we have, the pride we have in how active, dedicated, and involved we are with our community. I have received so many compliments from women on the NCCW Board of Directors and many others that I meet on the Monthly Member and Monthly Rosary Calls. You were amazing. I am so very proud of you all. The speakers were all wonderful and the Masses kept me in awe! The spirituality in the room took my breath away.

Since that time, the National Office has not been quite by any means. There have been major staff turn over for various reasons, but they are now fully staffed and running very efficiently with the help of the NCCW Officers.

We had a NCCW Board Training in October via Zoom, and monthly Province Director Trainings. By the time you read this we will have met in Washington DC on January 19th – 21st. I am so very honored to be serving with Immediate Past President Pat Voorhes and Vice-President/President Elect Amy Kennedy. They are both so very dedicated to the mission of NCCW and the Council.

In November I was humbled to represent NCCW at the Funeral of Mary Ann Schwab in San Francisco. She was 103 years young and had served as the NCCW President between 1983-1985. Mary Ann was President at the first National Convention that I attended. I was so impressed with how she handled Roberts Rules of Order. It’s because of Mary Ann that I was initially “hooked”. The California ladies were very hospital during my stay there.

I have been working with the Sacramento Council in an attempt to get them reactivated.

We are currently preparing for our 2024 Province Meeting/Gathering in February, the 23rd to the 25th. The speakers are focusing on various NCCW Resolutions passed since 2017. Please contact me if you have questions. The Call to Meeting Letters went out in December with the full agenda listing the speakers on the Dark Side of Technology, Restorative Justice, Life After Foster Care, St Vincent’s Kitchen Academy, Mary and the Eucharist, Opportunities for Healing Generational Trauma using Indigenous Culture, and Prayer with Lectio Divina.

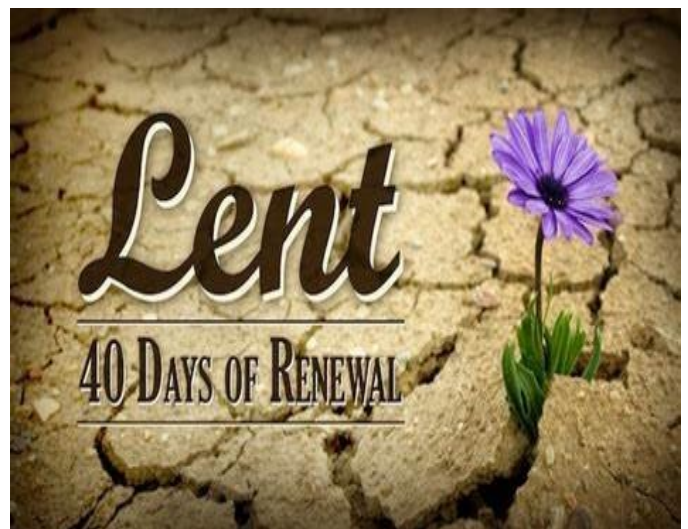
May the Peace of Christ be with you Always!

Jeanne Audiss

Your Province Director

“Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am,
who I want to be, and what I can do, and use it
for a purpose greater than myself.”

– Martin Luther King, Jr.



DCCW IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Becky Colombo — St. Anthony, Helper

beckyc144@gmail.com

I am wishing everyone a Happy New Year and hoping you are all healthy and warm amid all the snow storms!

This April is an election year for our DCCW executive board and the nominating committee is assembled and searching for women who are anxious to serve in positions on the board. As you know, our First Vice President/President Elect, Carol Harley, will be installed as DCCW President at the convention in April. Do you have a talent you would love to share by serving on the board? Do you enjoy working with numbers (treasurer)? Taking minutes and sending out notices (secretary)? Sharing leadership skills and ideas for our council (First Vice President)? If so, we are looking for YOU! The satisfaction of working with our wonderful women is felt when you dedicate yourself to a position on the board. It sounds corny, but it really is true! You make lasting friendships and feel a sense of bonding with work, meetings, and laughter shared.

The Nominating Committee consists of one woman from each Deanery, and an at large member from the DCCW board. These women are: Michael O'Shea (Eastern), Karen Fawbush (Northern), Marcie Downs (Salt Lake), Mary Skomal (Southwest), Lydia Farnell (Wasatch), and Angela Martinez (Member at Large). When these women search and contact any of you, please be open-minded and pray about your decision before dismissing the thought of serving in the DCCW. It truly is rewarding!



On another note: Our San Francisco Province Director, Jeanne Audiss, has a fabulous line-up of speakers for the Province Meeting to be held in Salt Lake City February 23-25, 2024. She has graciously asked me to chair the Silent Auction for the Province meeting, and I am thrilled to do so.

I contacted our list of Past Presidents to ask for donations to the auction, but I am throwing out the invitation to any of you interested in donating. Last year, several women told me they would have been happy to donate to the silent auction to help fund Jeanne's obligation to the Province. She is required to raise a certain amount of monetary values for the Province, and this auction helps raise those funds. You may contact me at my email or phone listed below. Consider attending this meeting, which was EXCELLENT last year, and I am sure this year's will be just as informative and not disappoint!

The Nominating Committee members and forms are listed on our website, and my contact information is: beckyc144@gmail.com or 435-650-6392. Please think about serving on the DCCW Board and/or donating to the Province meeting silent auction. Thank you ladies!!

LEADERSHIP COMMISSION

Dawn Haberkorn, Chair
Christ the King, Cedar City

joda1029@msn.com

Happy New Year! How can it be 2024 already? I feel like I was just writing the report for the 2023 winter AWARE newsletter and that was one year ago. I hope everyone had a healthy and blessed Christmas!

When a new year comes, it is a wonderful time to reflect, slow down for a minute and reexamine our lives. Maybe it's time for some changes or maybe life is good the way it is, and we can be thankful to God for the goodness in our lives. I read a quote from Deepak Chopra. It was simple yet it says it all: "The healthiest response to life is joy." May your year be filled with joy and peace. "Only in God there is fullness and joy." Psalms 16:11.

The Leadership Commission had a few changes which we made to the Convention Guidelines. The changes included the change from name Sponsorship to Scholarship throughout the document. We also added the \$500 bus transportation to the Cathedral Mass donation check to the treasurer's duties. There was a change to the verbiage specifying the makeup of the Affiliate of the Year Committee being past DCCW Presidents. (pg.15) Thank you to my committee: Kathy Fazio, Becky Columbo, Kirsten Mele, Karen Fawbush, and Cheryl Johnson. I would never have been able to do this job without a lot of help from these women.

It is now time to prepare for the annual DCCW Convention. This year's theme is "Path of Renewed Encounter". April 27-28th, 2024. I hope to see many of you there. May God continue to bless us!

DCCW LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION

Donna Murphy, Chair
St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Hts.
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Brandy Farmer, Co-Chair
St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Hts.
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The 2024 Legislative Session started on January 16, 2024. This was the day after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's birthday as a national holiday. Let us remember the civil rights leader with gratitude for all the dedication and hard work he did to advocate for civil rights and freedom in our country. The Legislative General Session will end on March 1, 2024.

I am honored to serve as President of the Women's State Legislative Council of Utah (WSLC) for the 2023-2025 Biennium, which marks the 104th anniversary of the council. I serve as a delegate member of DCCW in collaboration with WSLC. Generally our role is to educate our members on specific bills being sponsored during this session. We strive to be diligent with presenting both a pro and a con side of the various bills on Capitol Hill. If the study committee decides it is of a significant impact on Utah citizens, the Director will write a resolution either in favor or in opposition of the bill. We present the resolution to the general membership for a vote. After the membership vote, we send a copy to Governor Cox, 75 representatives in the Utah House and 29 senators in the Utah Senate to inform them of our position. This gives us credibility in being politically engaged and having our voices heard. Over the years, the Council has earned the reputation of being a nonpartisan organization, without any special interest groups.

Our new Speaker of the Utah House of Representatives, Mike Schultz, presented to us in the last few weeks. He spoke about important issues this session. His basic message was how important it is for parents to take an active role in being involved to assure their children are safe and educated, attending school, going to college or technical school, and becoming successful adults.

This week we heard from Representative Susan Pulsipher, Republican (R) District 45, about education priorities and appropriations, how teachers have earned a salary increase yet retention is still a problem. Another side of how politics affect professions is the number of teachers or educators we have lost in the public school setting due to laws and restraints placed on educators regarding the curriculum taught. It is a different era in which educators are afraid of what they may say or teach which could cost them their job. Therefore, we have a shortage of educators willing to take that risk and consequently leave teaching. This situation puts our children at a disadvantage without an adequately sized classroom for a conducive learning environment. All-day kindergarten started last year, which has been a huge success with working parents; however, now we need more kindergarten teachers. The hope is to have a better ratio of students to teachers. They hope to cap the ratio to twenty-five students per teacher.

Representative Carol Spackman Moss, (D) District 34, is one of the longest serving representatives and is a retired teacher. She is sponsoring House Bill (H.B.) 264 Health Education Amendment, which is a program parents need to opt-in to help students learn about preventing sexual abuse and know the difference between Good Touch vs Bad Touch. As per her presentation she said: one in six girls nationally are sexually abused by the time they turn 18 years old.

Rep. Brian King, (D) District 23, is sponsoring H.B. 131 Clergy Child Abuse Reporting Requirements related to Clergy being held to the same standard as doctors with Utah Medical Association and nurses under the Nurse Practice Act being mandatory reporters when they are told about abuse or neglect. Representative Mike Petersen, (R) District 2, is sponsoring H.B. 269 requiring public schools to display a poster or framed copy of the Ten Commandments. These two bills do not have a Senate sponsor yet.

It has been over a year and a half now since Roe Vs Wade was overturned. This was a celebration for all pro-life citizens including Catholics in opposition of abortion. The Supreme Court Dobbs Decision has turned over this federal legislation back to the individual states to make decisions. It has created much conflict for some voters who feel it is a private health care decision which should be made between the patient and doctor or the health care provider involved in her care, and that politicians should not be mandating those personal decisions. The other issue is this has created a shortage of OB/GYNs in half of the U.S. counties. Some doctors and health care providers are afraid to practice or perform any type of procedures which may be mistaken for an abortion, such as when women have miscarriages. We need to have a better solution to protect the unborn child as well as the mother so they can both receive safe and reliable health care. The reality of politics is that many decisions are made by politicians without the consultation and expertise of professionals who specialize in specific areas.

We, as citizens, need to help politicians make the best decisions to help the whole community. Even though it may be easier for us to be apathetic and not engage in the political process, it is important for us to engage as constituents. It is our civic duty as Catholics to get involved to help politicians learn how we feel about bills they are voting on. We need to assure their decisions on bills which directly affects us are based on citizen and expert input.

The Utah Legislature has meetings you may listen to online. If you are interested in knowing what the latest issues are please go to the website www.le.utah.gov. To learn the Catholic Diocese viewpoint please go to www.dioslc.org. Please remember both our Bishop Solis and Pope Francis have encouraged our civic engagement as Catholics to elect officials who align with our viewpoint. However, it is essential we keep notifying them to please vote in a way that upholds our Catholic standards. Please take time to develop relationships with your elected officials so they understand how you feel about certain bills which may become law.

SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION

Susan Espinoza, Chair
St. Joseph the Worker, West Jordan
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Gracemarie Belvedere, Co-Chair
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NEW YEAR PRAYER

God, as we continue into this new year, when thoughts turn again to beginnings, starting fresh with hopes and dreams, opportunities for service, challenges and uncertainties, please take our fears and turn them into strengths. Take our lack of faith and empower us through the Holy Spirit, who breathes life into this world, whose presence is reflected in the icy chill of winter's breath, as well as the comforting warmth of a summer breeze. Be by our side, as we walk into this new year of opportunity. Amen.

7 REASONS WINTER REMINDS US TO HOLD ON TO HOPE

Difficult seasons, like winter, have a way of refocusing our attention and helping us appreciate what is truly important. May these reminders help you hold on to hope.

1. Seasons Come and Go. Winter Will Give Way to Spring — These words can give us hope that God is faithful in all seasons. Even though the seasons will eventually change, God is unchanging. “Let us hold unwaveringly to our confession that gives us hope, for he who made the promise is trustworthy” (Hebrews 10:23). He is the constant in all of the uncertainty and change that we face.

2. There Is Purpose and Hope When All around Seems Dark — When we have a view that is confined to what we see all around us, it can be very easy to feel a sense of hopelessness. Whatever circumstances we find ourselves in, we can know that the Lord has a purpose and the ultimate view.

3. Store Up Truth All Year Round, Which Sustains in Winter Seasons — It is only the Lord who can meet the deepest longings of our hearts. Even when we lament and cannot lift up our voices, the cries of our hearts reach Him. Through it all, we need to yield to Him as both Savior and Lord of our life.

4. New Life Will Come Again. Yet, There Is Still Life in Winter — The spring reminds us that there will be new life as the flowers begin to bloom and baby lambs are born. God's mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23). We do not have to wait for winter to end to know that there is life abundant, even in this seemingly barren season.

5. Darkness Does Not Have the Final Word — Jesus declared “It is finished” on the cross (John 19:30). He has overcome the power of sin and death in the world (John 16:33). Death could not hold the Son of God, and He rose victorious. With all of the suffering and sin in our world, we must remember that Jesus has won the war.

6. Look Beyond What Can Be Seen, to What Is Happening in the Unseen Places — Do not underestimate how the Lord is at work in and through us in winter seasons. As we trust, surrender, and walk in obedience to Jesus, His Spirit continues to work. He can sanctify us in those dark, hard seasons.

7. Even What Is Dead Will Be Raised to Life — The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands (Psalm 19:1). Every unique snowflake and the stars which are numbered and named (Psalm 147:4). Every season points to our Creator, our Savior and our Lord.

— Excerpts from Ruth Clemence @ Bible Study Tools

*** Let's embrace hope, one of the most powerful forces on earth. ***



SERVICE COMMISSION

Ruth Penderghast, Chair
St. John the Baptist, Draper
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With weather like this, I feel like it is still Christmas! When I said this to a friend of mine recently, she told me that her family keeps the tree and the Nativity set up until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (February 2)! I think that's a wonderful tradition! Do you have any special holiday traditions that extend past the typical 'Christmas is over on December 26'? In my home, we do the 12 days of Christmas from December 26 to the Epiphany. With my kids grown and out of the house, this year we changed from giving them gifts to doing small acts of service for others each day.

First, our DCCW Convention will be in April 27-28, 2024, and we will continue to collect our usual items: rosaries, eyeglasses, cancelled stamps (not Forever Flag Stamps), pull tabs from soda cans, mini hygiene products. Please collect and bring these to the DCCW convention. There will be collection boxes for these items.

Our **DCCW Service Project** is one that focuses on a group that is dear to my heart – our youth. Children and young adults are the future of the Church. Every opportunity we have to minister to their material needs is an opportunity to minister to their spiritual needs as well. When we see Jesus in others, they see Jesus in us! **Volunteers of America Youth Resource Center** is the beneficiary of our service project this year. VOA YRC ministers to youth between the ages of 15-22, who have no support system in their lives and in many cases, are homeless. During the day, the center serves as a safe space to connect with medical and mental health professionals, receive counseling, access resources for assistance, clothing and hot meals. At night, the center converts to a 32-bed facility.



Our service project is to collect backpacks for the YRC to hand out as needed to these kids. Using this link go to the Amazon website: [VOA YRC DCCW Backpack List](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1TXHPVXM55N6K?ref=wl_fw_le). This direct link will take you to their Amazon page (https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1TXHPVXM55N6K?ref=wl_fw_le) where you can purchase the backpacks (or see what kind of 17-19" backpacks they are asking for). If your CCW members are able, they can also make personal donations of items shown on the wish list labeled DCCW BACKPACK PROJECT LIST.

February is a great month to support your local food banks and food charities! Ash Wednesday falls on St. Valentine's Day. Why not encourage people to fast and abstain from meat (required for of-age healthy Catholics) by hosting a soup night and ask attendees to bring shelf-stable items to the dinner? Host a "Love-Thy-Neighbor" event for home-bound parishioners and create small gift bags to be dropped off. Join up with your parish youth and bring love to the seniors in the care center with treats and a sing-along of songs they know and love ("Bicycle Built for Two" and "My Darling Clementine").

In **March**, let's remember to continue offering support to mothers-in-need. Moms in need struggle to make housing payments and supply their children's basic needs. In fact, limited financial resources is one of the main reasons a woman facing an unexpected pregnancy chooses the abortion path. Do families in your parish know where to get help if they need it? Create a pamphlet listing resources available to families. Maybe create hygiene kits for men, women, and children that can be handed out as needed. NCCW still advocates for supporting mothers who choose life. There are many resources and organizations that would love to partner with your parish. One thing we can do is make sure that your parish has resources listed (try <https://singlemotherguide.com/state/utah/> or <https://www.lowincomefinancialhelp.com/money-assistance-utah/>) to be able to direct those in need to services that can help.

April is always a great time to take your service projects outside! Beautify the parish and rectory grounds with new spring flowers. Gift a disabled parishioner with a day of cleaning and a meal.

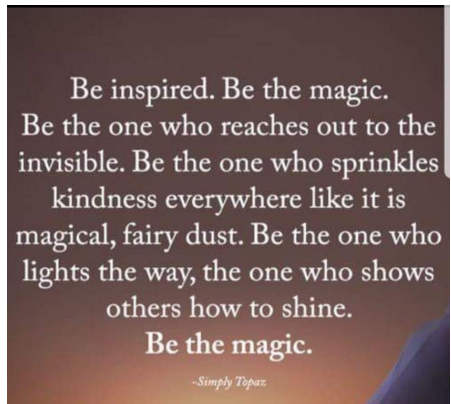
Other national initiatives include (more information at <https://www.nccw.org/commissionscommittees/>)

- ◆ The fight against domestic violence ("Mending the brokenness with real love")
- ◆ Friends with Pens Prison Ministry (Order of Malta Pen Pal Program)
- ◆ Walking with Moms in Need
- ◆ Anti-Trafficking Project

It is in the small acts of daily living and interacting with each other that we can best be true followers of Christ and do as He did – being kind, smiling, making eye contact, and making sure that everyone who crosses your path feels seen and loved.

I appreciate all that you do and aspire to do in your parishes! I am excited to hear about what's happening in your communities. I appreciate any feedback and welcome your thoughts and suggestions for the coming year.

May God continue to bless you and your families as we head into the spring!



May Catholic parish communities strive to provide compassionate, tangible support to expectant moms needing assistance.



NORTHERN DEANERY
Jessica Jurkowski, President — St. Mary's, West Haven
 jazzfan63@hotmail.com

Hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season. I can't believe another year has come and gone. Our ladies in the Northern Deanery have been busy! Below are the latest Parish reports.

Holy Family

- ◆ We are continuing to collect hygiene items for CCS.
- ◆ We tied 48 blankets that were made with love and fun with our ladies. They were distributed to the Youth Shelter, Children's Justice Center and eight for our senior residents.
- ◆ We are getting ready for our annual Spaghetti Dinner to be held on February 3rd in our Social Hall.
- ◆ We will be doing Mary's Way of The Cross at our March meeting.
- ◆ We will soon be putting together our agenda of our speakers, etc for our retreat on March 2nd.

St James

- ◆ Held our annual St. James CCW Christmas Fair & Bake Sale in December. Earned \$3500. We engaged parish members this year to donate a gift basket for silent auction. It was a hit! Over 40 baskets donated. Plus homemade baked goods.
- ◆ Our CCW members voted to donate 20 percent of all annual fundraising to our DDD (Diocesan Development Drive) to assist in helping Father Dave and our parish with a revenue source in order to reach our obligation.
- ◆ Year-end survey was sent out by the CCW Board of Directors to survey members on current programs, new programs and other feedback to improve 2024 outcomes.
- ◆ Currently planning a spring CCW Membership Drive

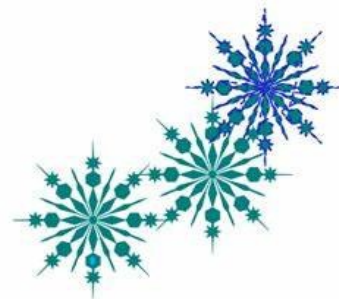
St Mary

- ◆ In October we held a Wendover Fun Bus Fundraiser.
- ◆ We also started a Rosary followed by an hour of Adoration after. This will be recurring on every 4th Tuesday of the month.
- ◆ In November we had our annual Basket drawing fundraiser. We also assisted with the Parish DDD fund drive.

- ◆ In December we sold Poinsettias to decorate the church for Christmas. We are also in charge of their upkeep (cleaning and watering).
- ◆ We brought Advent Bingo back to the Parish. It was a great success with 100+ attendees. A great time was had by all.
- ◆ We had our first Advent visit to the homebound members and donated lap blankets to each of them (28)
- ◆ We also had our annual Advent dinner, with 30 members in attendance.
- ◆ On January 16th, we will be holding our Annual Baby Jesus Shower. All gifts will be donated to CCS in support of St. Martha's Baby project.

St Rose of Lima

- ◆ In October Saint Rose of Lima, was selected to host the relic of the soon to be a saint, Carlos Acutis. A mass and reception were held at Saint Rose. Cookies and such were served to those attending.
- ◆ A few of the ladies have been furnishing cookies for the youth group meeting on Fridays.
- ◆ The latter part of December a few of the ladies got together and they made raffle baskets to sell as a fundraiser. With the holiday we were unable to sell on many of the Sundays. Bad timing.
- ◆ In December, we decided to forgo our regular meeting and meet in January with a meal and baby Jesus' collection. Because of the weather, that meeting was postponed until January 16.



DCCW MEMBERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCE TEAM

Michael O'Shea, Chair
St. Anthony of Padua, Helper
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Bonnie Siegrist, Co-Chair
Blessed Sacrament, Sandy
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Lent is February 14th. Yes, Valentine's Day. A Catholic conundrum? It doesn't have to be. If your tradition includes plenty of food and drinks, just celebrate Valentine's Day on Tuesday. After all, it's nicknamed Fat Tuesday! Then you can still fast on Ash Wednesday. It can still be a day showing and celebrating love through acts of kindness, yet focus on sacrifice and repentance.

Have you ever visited the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) website? Among other resources for you and your council, it has some free online/printable items to help you "Reflect, Repent, Restore" this Lenten season. <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/lent>. They have a **2024 Daily Lenten Calendar in English and Spanish**, articles such as: **10 Things to Remember for Lent, Why Ashes? Why is Lent 40 Days** and much more. We encourage you to check the website out, and hope you have a blessed and meaningful Lenten season.

How to Live Lent This Year

Here are three tips to deepen your relationship with God during the 40 days of [#Lent](#). 1) Participate in the sacraments. 2) Help those in need around you. 3) Sacrifice something that's hard for you.

EASTERN DEANERY

Pat Musich, President — St. Helen's, Roosevelt
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As I reflect on this past couple of months and see what has been accomplished by each of our affiliates during this time, they have reached out and helped so many people and children with their generous acts of kindness. As we look to this new year, I ask that we continue to look around us for those who may need a helping hand, not just during the holiday season. We look forward to hearing all the new plans for the Call to Convention, and I have urged each one to start making plans to attend.

St. Anthony of Padua's CCW had a great time ending out the 2023 year. They started out November volunteering in multiple roles throughout their annual church carnival. Serving dinners, working booths, baking sweet treats, etc. They also donated to the local food bank. The ladies celebrated Christmas with their annual dinner at the Carbon Country Club. They made and donated stockings to the local Children's Justice Center. They are excited to see what 2024 has in store.

St. Helen CCW: In November, decorated and donated a Christmas tree representing St. Helen and the Roosevelt Interfaith Council for the local Enchanted Forest fundraiser. A local business purchased the tree along with five businesses making donations to St. Helen's CCW. They also donated cookies for the Enchanted Forest community Nativity play. They hosted an Interfaith Council activity making and delivering Thanksgiving food boxes to several families. In December they hosted the Annual Christmas Bazaar, Bake Sale and Taco Soup Lunch. Harvest Fellowship Church and Thompsen House of Hope also participated selling craft items. Their St. Nick's Helpers program provided Christmas gift cards and food cards for families. This year 14 families and two adults received food cards along with gift cards for 28 children. They ended the year by hosting the Parish Christmas potluck dinner with a homemade pinata and visit from Santa.

St. James CCW: In November they had their annual Bingo night, which was very successful and well attended by the whole community. The CCW worked the event and donated a wooden rocking chair filled with a blanket, books, hot chocolate and goodies, honey and other items you might want while sitting in your rocking chair.

*Box of Joy gift boxes – 22 boxes were put together by the youth group and CCW paid the postage.

*December Craft and Bake Sale -All women donated three craft items and three baked goods.

*During November and December they gathered items for children and adults in the Juvenile Justice and Youth Services Center. Many different food/snack items, games, coloring books, puzzles. Also donated 20 sound machines to help children sleep or block out noise.

*Decorated the church for the Advent season. Many ladies gathered together and made the church look beautiful.

*Christmas Giving Tree. We helped a family in need with presents for the children and food for their holiday meal.

*Several ladies split up in twos and visited elderly folks in the community. This is an ongoing project...the people visited are so grateful and can't wait for another visit.

*CCW ladies are furnishing meal for people attending the Knights of Columbus Bingo night. They play bingo every Friday night for six weeks. CCW and St James Youth Group trade off every Friday providing refreshments and serving.

SALT LAKE DEANERY
Stacey Oliveto, President — St. Olaf, Bountiful
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The Salt Lake Deanery has begun the New Year giving of their time, treasure, and talents to their parishes and communities.

The Cathedral of the Madeleine Women's Society hosted a tour of the historical Cathedral of the Madeleine, with information on its originally completion in 1909 and the various restorations that took place in the 1970s, 1991, and 1993. In January, Susan Eaton will talk on her pilgrimage to Mexico. She will give a presentation of the story of Our Lady's appearance to Juan Diego, as well as the symbols and images of the pilgrimage, and how she is the patron saint to the Americas.

Our Lady of Lourdes Magna Council brought in the New Year by hosting a New Year's Eve party with the Knights of Columbus. They continue to help with Bingo and have donated 1,000 dollars to help with the cost of putting LED lights around the front of the church's property.

Saint Ann's Ladies Guild will be co-hosting the DCCW Board in January at Saint Olaf's. They are busy getting ready for their fundraiser Mardi Gras Luncheon; this will be held on February 10th and is known to be a great time.

Saint Marguerite's Council co-sponsored a wonderful Christmas dinner with their Knights of Columbus. At their January meeting they will be hearing from 180 Ministries operating in Tooele County, a faith-based residential program for women 18 years or older with life-controlling behaviors and/or addictions. In February they have invited speakers from Mountain West Medical Center and Switchpoint Community Resource Center as part of their annual baby shower for under-resourced women.

Saint Olaf's Council worked with Saint Olaf's youth group to carry on their annual stocking stuffer project in December. They had a great turn out where backpacks were stuffed with winter items and toiletries to be given to the Weigand Homeless Shelter. In January they participated in Saint Olaf's Three Kings celebration by donating king's cakes and helping serve and clean up. They are currently looking forward to their annual fundraiser tea on February 3rd that brings women together for a wonderful afternoon of treats and fellowship.

Saint Patrick's Council did a sub for Santa for the men at the rescue mission and donated items for children's Christmas gift bags for their parish family Christmas party. They help with Bingo and are continuing to raise money for their new building.

Saint Vincent de Paul has been very busy. They are hosting coffee and donuts every other Sunday, stuffing bulletins, and serving as Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. They are studying the Eucharistic Study provided by the NCCW. They presented Nativity holy cards to all the youth at the Mass. They donated to their parish for unexpected renovation expenses. They are hosting a ways and means Bunco on Saturday January 27th and will have a guest speaker from the Inn Between at their January meeting.

The Salt Lake Deanery has set March 9th as the date for our annual spring luncheon at Saint Vincent de Paul with Saint Patrick's council co-hosting. This is always a great event with a guest speaker, gift baskets, and a cookie walk. We extend an invitation to all who would like spend a fun afternoon with women of faith.



**Salt Lake Deanery
Spring Luncheon**

MARCH 9, 2024
Saint Vincent de Paul
1375 Spring Lane,
Salt Lake City, Utah

Spring

11 AM Social—12 PM Lunch
Cost: \$15/person (\$20 Day of Event)

Sponsored by
Salt Lake Deanery CCW
Contact: Stacey Oliveto
soliveto@connect2.com

**Raffle Prizes, 50/50
Drawing, Cookie
Walk**

WASATCH DEANERY
Annette Pressley, President
St. Thomas More, Cottonwood Hts.
tennis1054@aol.com

Per the calendar the season of Advent is behind us, but I pray that the Spiritual Advent is still with us and will remain as we venture through Ordinary Time and forge ahead into the Lenten Season. Our affiliates celebrated Thanksgiving and Christmas in many ways with fellowship, service, prayer. We are closing the books on our Saintly Doodle Calendar sales. While our sales were not quite what we had hoped, we were able to donate 50 calendars to the Prison Ministry and 50 to St. Joseph Villa. Both were very appreciative. We look forward to the DCCW Convention in April after a prayerful and service filled Lent.

St Francis of Assisi held a 'Friendsgiving' meeting a few days before Thanksgiving and then joined by our local K of C councils served the Thanksgiving meal at the Food and Care Coalition (FACC) in Provo, which our parish helped found. It was incredible to serve those in our community who wouldn't have had much celebration otherwise. We held our annual Christmas boutique in December, and it was a great success! Our meeting in December was a Christmas party, complete with imaginative prayer, snacks, and an ornament exchange. The Women of St Francis are planning a goods drive to benefit the FACC over Easter.

Blessed Sacrament continues to host First Friday Adoration and to meet monthly. In November our Community Service chair organized a collection of items for a homeless shelter in Sandy. Coats, jackets, hats, gloves, blankets, throws, and towels were delivered. They also participated in the Box of Joy program. The November Holiday Blessings Boutique was extremely well attended. There were 50 artisan/crafters, food, and raffle. In December, CCW with Knights organized their annual Parish Christmas Party and held a CCW potluck Christmas Party complete with wine exchange and making hygiene kits for a homeless shelter in Sandy. New officers for 2024 are: Co-Presidents - Sharon Martin & Katherine Martin, Vice President - Mary Kay Noland, Secretary - Rose Stehno, and Treasurer - Olivia Causse. At their end-of-year donation meeting, they donated over \$15,000 to various local and national charities and parish/diocesan programs.

Saint Peter CCW reached out to our home-bound members in December with a visit and presents including a warm soft throw and a house plant! In January we had our Epiphany party complete with a King Cake. Despite the heavy snow we had a great turn out of 16 ladies! We started our TV Raffle and will continue the Raffle until February 13th when we will meet to celebrate Mardi Gras and have a Pampered Chef demonstration with profits to the SPCCW. Lydia Farnell will present her service idea to make Blessing Bags, which are kept in their cars to give to the homeless.

Saint Martin de Porres hosted B.A.C.A. Bikers Against Child Abuse in November and presented them with fleece blankets to distribute. In December we had an Ornament Exchange Christmas Party. At our first meeting of 2024 Sumi Nungwa will speak about our sisters and brothers of the Hope and Navajo tribes needs and wants. A medical supply collection for the Sumi Nungwa has begun and will last through February 2024. In January we will have our first youth board meeting with four students that are ready to lead the youth girls of St. Martin de Porres. We could not be prouder.

Sts. Peter & Paul CCW meets on the First Saturday of the month, following Rosary and mass. This is a Spanish-speaking CCW group. In December, Melissa Suarez, Peace and Justice Coordinator, spoke on her ministry in the parish. In January, we met to work on two projects for our parish – Miraculous Medal holy cards and medals, and rosaries for our Little Missionaries and the First Communion classes. In February, we will celebrate Candlemas with a traditional Mexican breakfast and plan our 40 Days for Life in the parish. In March, Ursula Quintana, the Flame of Love Director for the Diocese, will speak about the Movement in Utah.

St. John the Baptist CCW gathered on the outside patio in September to reconnect after the summer off. In November, we hosted a baby shower for St. Martha's Baby Project. Many gifts were donated. Judith Puhr explained the purpose and history of St. Martha's baby Project. Late November was our Christmas party with a potluck, raffle prizes, games, and an ornament exchange. January will bring fun times with Games & Goodies.

Ladies of Saint Thomas More hosted Meet and Mingle in November and December. We played Bunco in December. The annual Christmas Luncheon and Boutique was well attended. We had almost 300 women attend the Luncheon and around 60 vendors at the Boutique. We continue to attend and appreciate Adoration on the first Saturday of the month. At our January Meet and Mingle, we made over 125 Valentines which will be distributed to the Carmelites, Seminarians, Assisted Living, and parishioners in need.

Saint Francis Xavier has been meeting on the second Monday of the month since October. We are striving to recruit new members and to be more active in the parish. We are having a potluck February 12 for fellowship and to attract new members.

St Joseph the Worker CCW held their annual Christmas party in December complete with a festive potluck, Christmas music, the Right Left Nativity Christmas game, and secret Christmas ornament gifts. Officers oversaw the Gift of Drummer for CCS homeless. They collected 71 boxes of warm clothing and, also, collected toiletries. Our January theme was out with the old and in with the new. We held a jewelry exchange, and the leftover jewelry was donated to the Weigand Resource Center. They discussed our upcoming bake sale in February to sell boxes of heart shaped cookies. We are still making the prayer shawls as our service project.

SOUTHWEST DEANERY
Mary Skomal, President
St. George Parish, St. George
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Christ the King Catholic Women's Council

- ◆ The CWC hosted a successful Halloween trunk or treat in the church parking lot, with 16 decorated cars, with over 200 costumed children.
- ◆ During November, the CWC provided a table in our Gathering Space with the names of parishioners who passed away during the previous year. The CWC recently hosted two funeral receptions. The first was for Phillip Rish, son of our CWC President, Donna Rish. The second was to honor long-time parishioner, Cheryl Heyborne. Although she was blind from birth, Cheryl was an active member of our parish, our CWC, and the Cedar City community. Her passing left us with broken hearts.
- ◆ Our CWC ladies baked dozens & dozens of cookies for the annual Christmas pageant presented by the children in our Faith Formation program.
- ◆ A great time was had by the 90 parishioners who attended the CWC-sponsored Christmas party at Rusty's Ranch House. What a fun way to celebrate together as a parish family.
- ◆ This year, we have continued to pray the Rosary before each of our monthly CWC meeting.
- ◆ CWC continues to take our turn hosting the monthly coffee and donuts after Mass, and providing a home-cooked meal once a month for our SUU Newman Club students.
- ◆ The CWC is excited about the opportunity to work alongside our Southwestern Deanery sisters as we host the 2024 DCCW Convention. Our plans are coming along nicely

Saint George Women's Group

They had a very busy last quarter of 2023. **October** Diaper Drive for the benefit of the Well Pregnancy Resource Center (formerly known as the Hope Pregnancy Care Center) raised \$ 2617 in monetary donations; 7405 diapers and 1,320 baby wipes were donated, together with multiple bags of clothing. The Well Pregnancy Resource Center reported that the donated diapers represent about 50% of what they use for the entire year. **December** bake sale generated \$ 2450 in funds, which will all be donated to different charity causes. So far, \$ 120 was given to Cub Scouts for their Pinewood Derby and \$500 was sent to Andre Sicard, a newly ordained Priest. \$1,187 was donated by the group to purchase contents for the DCCW Convention swag bags. They also combined forces with Christ the King Women's Group to work on a massive, three-day project to handcraft very special items for Convention bags. We are confident that fruits of our labor will be a big hit at the DCCW Convention!

The group's annual Christmas Giving Tree was, as usual, a big success. Thanks to the tireless fundraising efforts of Mary Skomal, current President of the Southwest Deanery and past President of Saint George Women's Group, every child registered for the Christmas Giving Tree program received a \$20 gift card to a local store, so they could select their own present.

Saint George Women's Group started a tradition of doing Mass intentions for the sick current and former members of the group. The Group's Sunshine Committee continues to give Prayer Shawls to the sick and bereaved parishioners and to Catholic residents of local assisted living facilities.

Women's Group is gearing up for the Ministry Fair spearheaded by the Group's Vice-president Suzanne DeMaio, which is coming up mid-February. Women's Group will have a fun and interactive booth with printed information about the Group's activities, prize drawings and tasty treats.

As you can see, both parishes have been very busy, as I am sure all the others were also. On the first weekend in March, the SW Deanery is having the Eucharistic Miracles Display at St. George Catholic Church. It will be in the afternoon on Sat., until after the 7:00 Spanish Mass and Sunday from 10:00 until after the 2:00 Spanish. Fr. Vidal will be bringing down the relic and a couple of posters on Feb. 24th from 9:00 to about 2:30. This will be a nice introduction to the display.

We are preparing for the convention. Everything is coming along just fine.



This week the Southwest Deanery lost another active CCW member, Trish (Patricia) Christianson. Trish was a past president of St. George CCW and an integral part of the SW Deanery serving multiple terms as treasurer. Our hearts and prayers go out to her family and all who loved her especially her CCW sisters. May Trish rest in peace.



Blessed Sacrament packing up Boxes of Joy



DCCW November Meeting



St Peter's CCW Epiphany party



DCCW November Meeting



St. Helen's Christmas Tree Donation



St Thomas More Valentine Card service project



Cathedral of the Madeleine Tour lead by Colleen Gudreau



Blessed Sacrament Packing Hygiene Kits



"Here's to strong women, may we know them. May we be them. May we raise them."

- Unknown -



DCCW Past Presidents Christmas Luncheon



Blessed Sacrament CCW Christmas Party

PICTURES, PICTURES, PICTURES!

Want to see your CCW in the *Intermountain Catholic* newspaper? As space allows, Marie Mischell, Editor, would like to publish pictures of your ladies group activities. Email pictures with caption information to:

marie.mischel@dioslc.org.

Want to see your ladies on the DCCW website? Send pictures to our Website Editor, Angela Martinez, at: omartini25@comcast.net.

Want to see your ladies in the AWARE? Send pictures to the Aware Editor, Bonnie Siegrist, at: utahbonnie@comcast.net.

Publicize the good works and good times of your ladies group and share activity ideas!



What to Give Up:

A Lenten Reflection

- Give up complaining—focus on gratitude.
- Give up pessimism—become an optimist.
- Give up harsh judgments—think kindly thoughts.
- Give up worry—trust Divine Providence.
- Give up discouragement—be full of hope.
- Give up bitterness—turn to forgiveness.
- Give up hatred—return good for evil.
- Give up negativism—be positive.
- Give up anger—be more patient.
- Give up pettiness—become mature.
- Give up gloom—enjoy the beauty that is all around you.
- Give up jealousy—pray for trust.
- Give up gossiping—control your tongue.
- Give up sin—turn to virtue.
- Give up giving up—hang in there!

GOOD FOR A LAUGH



Happy Ash Wednesday

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THE AWARE NEWSLETTER

Bonnie Siegrist, Editor
Blessed Sacrament, Sandy

The AWARE is published 3 times per year (Fall, Winter & Spring) and is free of charge. **Please advise us of any postal/ email address changes, additions or deletions.**

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THANKS FOR READING ♥